



March 13, 2020

Urge Congress to Include People with Disabilities in Coronavirus Relief Legislation

People with disabilities need immediate support especially as they are more likely to have underlying health conditions, meaning they could be disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

Legislation is moving through at the federal level in response to the Coronavirus. We need legislation to expand access to health care and ensure Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) can continue to do their work and take care of people with disabilities.

Please ask your Members of Congress to include:

- Increased federal reimbursement for state Medicaid programs to help states respond to the Coronavirus
- Ability to access a 90-day supply of medication and medical supplies
- Emergency requirements for all health insurers to cover testing
- Expanded nutrition assistance
- Workforce support, including paid sick leave and paid leave for all workers

This legislation is vital so that people with disabilities do not face being institutionalized, which would put their health at risk and violate their rights.

Coronavirus Relief Legislation is critical and people with disabilities need to be included!

2020 Legislative Wrap-Up

In the early hours of Thursday morning, the General Assembly voted on their last bills of the 2020 legislative session to end another year of policymaking.

The Arc of Indiana had three major bills make it through the legislative process and are awaiting a signature from Governor Holcomb to become a new Indiana law:



Mark Your Calendars

- **July 1st- Laws signed into law will be in effect**

**HB 1341- Students with Disabilities- Reps. Pfaff, Clere
Behning, Burton
Sponsored by Sens. Kruse, Jon Ford,
Stoops, J.D. Ford, Raatz, Niezgodski,
Rogers, Randolph, Crane**

Requires the State Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities to come up with a plan to reach out to students who left school from the year 2003 with an IEP and provide resources to them on how to obtain a diploma and skill up their talents for a better-paying job.

**HB 1176- First Steps- Reps. Clere, DeVon, Vermilion,
Summers
Sponsored by Sens. Ruckelshaus,
Grooms, Houchin, Breaux, J.D. Ford,
Stoops**

This bill updates the Interagency Coordinating Council to allow for a Vice Chair on the Council, language in statute to provide for habilitative and rehabilitative services and requires insurance providers upon new issuance of insurance cards to put on the card an indicator if the plan is self-insured or fully insured.

**SB 346- Students with Disabilities- Sens. Houchin,
Rogers, Kruse, Stoops, Freeman, Randolph,
Bohacek, Messmer, Brown, Raatz
Sponsored by Reps. Behning, Burton,
Clere, DeLaney**

Requires accommodations laid out within a student's IEP to be used within the statewide assessment, once the assessment has been split into reading and reading comprehension categories.

Bills of concern

**HB 1279- Local transportation projects- Reps. Soliday, Pressel, Harris
Sponsored by Sens. Mishler, Charbonneau, Melton, Tallian, Niezgodski, Buck**

This bill would withhold funds from Marion County if 10% of the annual public transportation projects are not paid from sources other than taxes and fares. This would have been a major barrier into continuing funding projects like the Red, Blue and Purple lines, which are major public bus routes. This piece of the bill was amended in while the bill was in the Senate, and the House killed the bill while it was in the Rules Committee.

**SB 148- Zoning and housing matters- Sens. Doriot, Rogers, Young
Sponsored by Reps. Miller, Pressel, Stutzman**

Last minute in conference committee the Apartment Association pushed to have language put into the bill prohibiting local governments from regulating certain aspects of landlord-tenant relationships when it comes to privately owned real property unless the regulation is authorized by the General Assembly. This also does not allow for a landlord to take retaliatory actions in response to a tenant, and does not allow for local governments to adopt or enforce ordinances or regulations when it comes to retaliatory acts by landlords. The General Assembly is usually in favor of less “big” government and more for local control of issues, which is why this is out of character of the legislature to passing such legislation. We are all for more laws equalizing the tenant-landlord relationships and believe every tenant should know their rights. This bill passed the House 64-32 and the Senate 29-19 before heading to the governor’s desk.

The Arc of Indiana Bill Tracker

HB 1002- Teacher Evaluations- Reps. Cook, McNamara, Bartels, Smith Sponsored by Sens. Raatz, Buchanan, Stoops, Randolph, Buck

This decouples teacher evaluations from ILEARN test scores. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1003- Education Matters- Reps. Jordan, Thompson, Cook, DeLaney Sponsored by Sens. Raatz, Buchanan, Rogers, Melton, Randolph

State Board of Education shall determine timing, frequency and method for teacher training requirements to obtain or renew a teaching license. Establishes new accreditation requirements for public and private schools. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1004- Health Matters- Reps. Smaltz, Barrett, Lehman, Carbaugh Sponsored by Sens. Charbonneau, Bassler, Breaux, Randolph, Spartz

FSSA and a managed care organization may not prohibit a provider from participating in another insurance network. Defines “weighted average negotiated charge” and requires hospitals and ambulatory outpatient surgical centers to report this charge. Requires health care providers to provide a “good faith” estimate for the total price of nonemergency services. An out-of-network practitioner providing health care services to a covered individual in an in-network facility may not charge more for the health care services provided to that covered individual. Sets penalties for violating the requirements set forth in this bill. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1006- Minimum age to marry and emancipation of minors- Reps. Kirchhofer, Bosma, Huston, Huston, Bacon, Brown, Cherry, Aylesworth, Abbott, Baird, Barrett, Bartlett, Bauer, Campbell, Candelaria Reardon, Clere, Cook, Deal, Engleman, Errington, Frye, Karickhoff, Leonard, Manning, McNamara, Negele, Schaibley, Shackelford, Smith, Soliday, Vermilion, Zent, Ziemke, DeVon Sponsored by Sens. Charbonneau, Crider, Randolph

At the beginning of this session this bill had updates to Indiana’s tobacco laws, but at the end of the day all of that language was put into Senate Bill 1. This bill now raises the legal age to marry from 15 years of age to 16 and that an individual under the age of 18 may only marry a spouse not more than four years older than them. The court issuing the marriage license for the underage individual must also complete emancipation forms. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1007- Fiscal Matters- Reps. Brown, Huston, Cherry

Sponsored by Sens. Mishler, Holdman, Charbonneau

Adds standards to sports wagering, and provides cash funding to bonded projects to pay off the state's debt. These projects include various building projects at Indiana's high education facilities. This bill has been signed by the governor.

HB 1009- Welfare matters- Reps. Goodrich, Huston, DeVon, Pryor

Sponsored by Sen. Messmer, Jon Ford, Ruckelshaus, Breaux, J.D. Ford, Randolph, Alting, Spartz

Provides money earned by a child or a member of the child's family as a student participating in a paid internship, work-based learning or a postsecondary work experience be disregarded when determining eligibility for TANF, SNAP and Medicaid. This bill passed out of the Senate unanimously without any amendments and heads to the Governor to become law or veto.

HB 1066- Education Matters- Reps. Thompson, Behning, Smith

Sponsored by Sens. Raatz, Buchanan, Leising

Among multiple other things in the bill, this would allow for a teacher at a school to offer a presentation to students on autism, behaviors of autism and how to interact with a child with autism. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1092- Medicaid Deadline- Rep. Ziemke

Sponsored by Sen. Charbonneau, Crider, Randolph

Requires by July 1, 2020, for FSSA to amend the state Medicaid plan to include certain reimbursements. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1093- Electronic document filing- Reps. Ziemke, Pressel, Miller, Austin

Sponsored by Sen. Perfect, Bassler, Randolph, Rogers

This bill would allow for a person to electronically file or a submit a document to the state agency as an option to filing or submitting a document that is required by state statute rule. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1129- Infant Screening- Reps. Lauer, Barrett, Fleming, Gutwein

Sponsored by Sens. Brown, Walker, Bohacek, Tomes, Becker

Requires every infant to be screened for Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). This bill is headed to the governor for his signature or a veto.

HB 1153- Governor's Workforce Cabinet- Reps. Goodrich, Behning, Klinker, Lucas

Sponsored by Sen. Raatz, Kruse, Koch, Randolph, Buck

The Governor's Workforce Cabinet would have to create a comprehensive strategic plan to ensure alignment of primary, secondary and post-secondary education systems with Indiana's workforce training programs and employer needs. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1176- First Steps- Reps. Clere, DeVon, Vermillion, Summers

Sponsored by Sens. Ruckelshaus, Grooms, Houchin, Breaux, J.D. Ford, Stoops

This bill updates the Interagency Coordinating Council to allow for a Vice Chair on the Council, language in statute to provide for habilitative and rehabilitative services and requires insurance providers upon new issuance of insurance cards to put on the card an indicator if the plan is self-insured or fully insured. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1207- Reps. Davisson, Barrett

Sponsored by Sens. Grooms, Ruckelshaus, Rogers, Bohacek, Buck, Leising

State employee plan, health maintenance organizations, insurer or pharmacy benefit managers may not require a pharmacy or pharmacist to collect a higher copayment for a prescription drug than the health plan allows for them to obtain. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1209- Reimbursement for emergency medical services- Reps. Kirchhofer, Fleming, Shackelford, Barrett

Sponsored by Sens. Crider, Garten, Randolph

Requires the state employee health plan, Medicaid, policies of accident and sickness insurance and health maintenance organization contracts providing coverage for emergency medical services to reimburse for services rendered by an emergency medical services provider, within the emergency medical services provider organization's scope of practice, performed or provided as advance life support and performed or provided during a 911 response. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1210- Various health matters- Reps. Zent, Fleming, Barrett, Shackelford

Sponsored by Sens. Charbonneau, Crider, Randolph

Establishes penalties for interfering with an investigation and enforcement of a home health agency by the Department of Health. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1264- Childcare background checks - Reps. May, Wright, Klinker

Sponsored by Sens. Houchin, Grooms, Mrvan, J.D. Ford

Requires employees and volunteers of a childcare facility to submit to a national criminal history background check. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1283- Trauma response instruction for teachers- Reps. DeVon, McNamara, Thompson, Pfaff

Sponsored by Sens. Rogers, Raatz, Kruse, Donato, Melton, Randolph, Crane

Applicants for a teacher's license must prove they have completed education and trauma training. The training program must instruct on recognition of social, emotional and behavioral reactions to trauma. This bill is headed to the governor.

HB 1341- Students with Disabilities- Reps. Pfaff, Clere, Behning, Burton

Sponsored by Sens. Kruse, Jon Ford, Stoops, J.D. Ford, Raatz, Niezgodski, Rogers, Randolph, Crane

Requires the State Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities to come up with a plan to reach out to students who left school from the year 2000 with an IEP and provide resources to them on how to obtain a diploma and skill up their talents for a better-paying jobs. This bill passed unanimously out of the House and Senate and is now headed to the governor.

HB 1372- Insurance Matters- Reps. Carbaugh, Lehman, Austin

Sponsored by Sen. Bassler, Zay

Health insurance providers must cover pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS). This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 1- Tobacco and Vaping- Sens. Charbonneau, Bray, Ruckelshaus, Stoops, Mrvan, Randolph

Sponsored by Reps. Kirchhofer, Huston

Updates the state's legal age of purchasing tobacco products to 21 to be in parity with Federal regulations. It also updates the penalties to those selling to underage users to anyone being under the age of 21. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 2- School Accountability- Sens. Raatz, Bray, Kruse, Rogers, Melton, Doriot, Ruckelshaus

Sponsored- Rep. DeVon, Carbaugh, Kirchhofer, Smith

Decouples school ratings from being connected to ILEARN test scores. This bill has been signed into law by the governor.

SB 5- Health Provider Contracts- Sens. Charbonneau, Ruckelshaus, Stoops, Glick, Randolph, Spartz

Sponsored- Reps. Schaibley, Barrett, Kirchhofer, Shackelford

Prohibits health provider contracts from prohibiting disclosures of health care service claims data to the employer providing the coverage. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 21- Prescriptions by out-of-state physician assistants- Sens. Rogers, Grooms, Charbonneau, Brown, Leising, Becker, Busch, Mrvan, Niezgodski, Crider, Doriot, J.D. Ford, Mishler, Randolph

Sponsored- Reps. Davisson, Kirchhofer, Stutzman

Pharmacists have a duty to honor all prescriptions issued by an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant licensed under the laws from another state. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 50- Various trust and probate issues- Sens. Freeman, Koch, Randolph

Sponsored- Rep. Torr

Makes technical corrections to trust and probate codes. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 139- Adult Guardianship Services- Sens. Lanane, Becker, Koch, Stoops, Buck, Freeman, Rogers, Glick, Randolph, Kruse

Sponsored- Reps. Cook, Bauer, Hamilton

Combines the volunteer advocates for seniors program and the volunteer advocates for incapacitated adults programs into one program. Require a person-centered plan when submitting a progress report to the court. This bill passed unanimously out of the House and heads to the governor.

SB 238- Various human services matters- Sens. Brown, Gaskill

Sponsored- Rep. DeVon

Amends the definition of “early intervention services” to include additional services and qualified personnel for purposes of the First Steps program. Requires childcare ministries to have at least one individual who always maintains a CPR certification present that a child is in the care of the childcare ministry and requires employees and volunteers who are caregivers to maintain current first aid certification. This bill passed out of the House unanimously and heads to the governor’s desk.

**SB 241- Pharmacy Benefit Managers regulation- Sens. Brown, Charbonneau, Merritt, Stoops, Tomes, Mishler, Ruckelshaus, Grooms, Taylor, Spartz
Sponsored- Rep. Lehman, Davisson, Clere, Shackelford**

Requires a Pharmacy Benefit Manager to obtain a license issued by the Department of Insurance and sets forth requirements of the Pharmacy Benefit Manager. This bill is headed to the governor.

**SB 246- Mental Health Services- Sens. Crider, Merritt, Becker, Mrvan, Buck, Raatz, Rogers, J.D. Ford, Melton, Randolph, Stoops, Grooms
Sponsored- Rep. Cook, Schaibley, Shackelford, Hatfield**

Requires a school corporation to certify to the Department of Homeland Security that the school corporation has an understanding in place with a community mental health center or provider certified or licensed by the state to provide mental and behavioral health services to students before applying for a grant from the Indiana secured school fund. Provides that the community mental health center or provider may be employed by the school corporation. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 249- Exploitation of dependents and endangered adults- Sens. Young, Koch, J.D. Ford, Randolph, Becker, Leising, Crane

Sponsored- Rep. McNamara, Lehman, Speedy

Defines a “person in position of trust” and “self-dealing.” Provides that a person commits exploitation of a dependent or an endangered adult if the person recklessly uses or exerts control over the personal services or property of an endangered adult or dependent, a person in a position of trust commits exploitation, if the person recklessly engages in self-dealing with the property of the dependent or endangered adult. Increases the penalty if the person has a prior unrelated conviction. This bill passed out of the House unanimously and heads to the governor’s desk.

**SB 267- 211 Services- Sens. Bohacek, Alting, Merritt, Ruckelshaus, J.D. Ford, Randolph
Sponsored- Reprs. Pressel, Heine, Jackson**

Transfers responsibility for the 211 human services information dialing code from the Indiana housing and community development authority to FSSA. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 273- Behavioral Health Commission- Sens. Crider, Ruckelshaus, Becker, Grooms, Randolph, Crane, J.D. Ford

Sponsored- Reprs. Kirchhofer, Cherry, Hatfield, Goodin

Establishes the Indiana Behavioral Health Commission. This bill is headed to the governor.

**SB 295- Various Education Matters- Sens. Raatz, Crane, Zay, Randolph, Grooms
Sponsored Rep. Behning**

The Department of Workforce Development must implement a new Indiana Career Explorer Program beginning July 1, 2021. Also, amends the grade levels to participate in the program. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 346- Students with Disabilities- Sens. Houchin, Rogers, Kruse, Stoops, Freeman, Randolph, Bohacek, Messmer, Brown, Raatz
Sponsored Reps. Behning, Burton, Clere, DeLaney

Requires text-to-speech, screen reader and human reader accommodations laid out within a student's IEP be used on the statewide assessment once the assessment has been updated to have a reading and reading comprehension tests. This bill is headed to the governor.

SB 398- Various education matters- Sens. Raatz, Rogers, Kruse
Sponsored by Reps. Jordan, Klinker

Establishes the high school equivalency pilot program for Richmond Community Schools, MSD Washington Township Schools and MSD Warren Township Schools allowing a student who has completed less than 50% of the required number of credits necessary to graduate upon entering their fourth year of high school to participate in the program to earn a high school equivalency. This student will not be counted in the school's graduation rate. Allows a school corporation to contract with adult education providers to provide services under the program if the adult education providers meet certain requirements. This program will be paid from the school's budget or through gifts, donations and grants. Provides that an eligible student enrolled in a school corporation may not be a student in an adult education center or adult high school. The schools within the program must report back to the General Assembly. This bill is headed to the governor.

Moving Forward

We are looking forward to having ceremonial bill signings with Governor Holcomb, legislators and stakeholders involved in passing The Arc of Indiana's priority legislation.

Most bills go into effect July 1, 2020. I will give another recap closer to that date to remind you of some changes taking effect from this past session.