



March 6, 2020

The end is near & we need your help

There is less than a week left of the 2020 Legislative Session.

However, there is plenty left to do before time runs out to make critical decisions impacting the Hoosier state.

Senate Bill 148 mainly deals with zoning and manufactured homes, but an amendment in conference committee could put tension on the landlord and tenant relationships.

Study shows that affordable housing remains out of reach for many Hoosiers, which means lots of people in Indiana are renting instead of buying the roof over their head. This includes the disability population, where trying to find affordable and accessible housing can be difficult.

The amendment being considered for SB 148 would not allow municipalities (cities/towns) to govern over the tenant/landlord relationship. This greatly impacts the ordinance just approved by the Indianapolis City-County Council, which protects tenants from predatory landlords.

If this amendment goes through and the General Assembly and the governor approve, then this legislation goes into effect immediately. There is no waiting around for July 1st when most new laws go into effect.

Please contact your state representative and state senator to let them know your thoughts against amending language into SB 148. The proposed amendment would take away fining landlords for retaliating against their tenants and not allow cities to demand tenants be informed of their basic housing rights.

[To find your legislator, click here.](#)

Bills to watch this week:

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

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

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



Mark Your Calendars

- **March 11th-
Anticipated Sine Die
(Last day of session)**

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.

This bill passed both chambers unanimously and heads to the governor for his signature or a veto!

**HB 1176- First Steps- Reps. Clere, DeVon, Vermilion, Summers
Sponsored by Sens. Ruckelshaus, Grooms, Houchin,
Breux, 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.

Rep. Clere filed a motion to concur. The House now needs to vote on the changes made by the Senate.

**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.

This bill is being amended in conference committee to allow for someone with experience in Special Education to be put on the State Board of Education.

Bill Status Update

**HB 1002- Teacher Evaluations- Reps. Cook, McNamara, Bartels, Smith
Sponsored by Sen. Raatz**

This decouples teacher evaluations from ILEARN test scores. **This bill passed out of the Senate 49-1 and now heads to the Governor.**

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

Ensures that facility or provider in a facility within your insurance network may not charge more than allowed according the rate allowed by the network plan. **This bill is now in conference committee.**

**HB 1004- Balance Billing for Medical Care- Reps. Smaltz, Barrett, Lehman, Carbaugh
Sponsored by Sens. Charbonneau, Bassler, Breux**

There is a lot in this bill about the trainings teachers have to go through. **This bill is now in conference committee.**

**HB 1006- Regulation of tobacco products- 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,
Shackleford, Smith, Soliday, Vermilion, Zent, Ziemke
Sponsored by Sen. Charbonneau**

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 passed out of the Senate 39-11 with amendments. The House either has to concur or dissent for this bill to move forward.**

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 1008- Occupational License Endorsement- Reps. Carbaugh, Morris, Wesco
Sponsored by Sens. Messmer, Busch

Allow for the licensure of a person with an out-of-state license if the person has established a residency in Indiana, passed an equivalent board certification exam, is in good standing, paid the fees and is practicing within the same field. **This bill is in conference committee.**

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 1042- Pharmacy Benefit Managers- Reps. Davisson, Karickhoff, Shackelford, Clere
Sponsored by Sens. Brown, Holdman, Charbonneau, Randolph

Requires Pharmacy Benefit Managers to obtain a license to practice from the Department of Insurance and gives the Department authority over Pharmacy Benefit Managers. **This bill passed unanimously out of the Senate and is now in conference committee.**

HB 1066- Education Matters- Reps. Thompson, Behning, Smith
Sponsored by Sen. Raatz

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 in conference committee.**

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 in conference committee.**

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

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 in conference committee.**

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

Sponsored by Sens. Ruckelshaus, Grooms, Houchin, Breaux

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.

Rep. Clere filed a motion to concur and is waiting for the House to approve the amendments made by the Senate.

HB 1207- Reps. Davisson, Barrett

Sponsored by Sens. Grooms, Ruckelshaus, Rogers, Bohacek

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 in conference committee.**

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

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

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

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

An ambulance service provider transporting an individual to an in-network provider or from an in-network facility to another facility shall not charge more than allowed within the network plan. Allows electronic claims to be paid by an insurance provider. Also, allows for a person to not have to pay more for an out-of-network emergency visit if the same kind of visit is covered at an in-network facility. **This bill is in conference committee.**

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 parody with Federal regulations. It also updates the penalties to those selling to underage users to anyone being under the age of 21. **This bill passed out of the House 78-16 and heads back to the Senate for them to approve of the amendments made in the House.**

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 4- All Payers Claims Database- Sens. Charbonneau, Ruckelshaus, Melton, Stoops, Glick, Randolph

Sponsored- Reps. Schaibley, Kirchhofer

Establishes an All Payers Claims Database advisory committee to perform duties to assist the Department of Insurance with the creation and implementation of the database. Requires annual reporting from the Department to the governor, state budget agency and general assembly. **This bill is in conference committee.**

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

Sponsored- Reps. Schaibley, Barrett, Kirchhofer, Shackelford

Prohibits health provider contracts from prohibiting disclosers of health care service claims data to the employer providing the coverage. **This bill passed out of the House unanimously and a motion to concur with the changes made in the House has been filed.**

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. **The Senate concurred unanimously on the changes made in the House, so 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. **The Senate concurred unanimously on the changes made in the House, so 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

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 in conference committee.**

SB 243- Credentialing, billing and employment contracts- Sens. Brown, Charbonneau

Sponsored- Reps. Lehman, Morris, Schaibley

Requires a provider to include the service facility location in order to obtain Medicaid reimbursement from FSSA or the managed care organization. Specifies requirements for credentialing a provider for the Medicaid program, an accident and sickness insurance policy and a health maintenance organization contract. **This bill is in conference committee.**

SB 246- Mental Health Services- Sens. Crider, Merritt, Becker, Mrvan, Buck, Raatz, Rogers, J.D. Ford, Melton, Randolph, Stoops

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 in conference committee.**

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- Reps. Pressel, Heine, Jackson**

Transfers responsibility for the 211 housing 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- Reps. Kirchhofer, Cherry, Hatfield, Goodin

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

SB 289- Criminal history check of child service providers- Sens. Grooms, Walker, Houchin, Donato, Randolph, Kruse

Sponsored- Reps. Lindauer, Mayfield, Cook, DeVon

Provides that certain individuals can begin work at a child caring institution, group home or child placing agency if an in-state child protection index check; a national sex offender registry check; an in-state local law enforcement records check; and a fingerprint based check of national crime information databases; have been completed and an out-of-state child abuse registry check and out-of-state local law enforcement records check have been requested. **This bill is in conference committee.**

SB 295- Various Education Matters- Sens. Raatz, Crane, Zay, Randolph, Grooms

Sponsored Rep. Behning

Directs the State Board of Education to establish the Indiana Innovation Council and to define the membership and their various duties. **This bill is in conference committee.**

SB 346- Students with Disabilities- Sens. Houchin, Rogers, Kruse, Stoops, Freeman, Randolph, Bohacek, Messmer, Brown, Raatz

Sponsored Reps. Behning, Burton, Clere

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 in conference committee.**

SB 395- Uniform Consumer Credit Code (UCC)- Sens. Bassler, Ruckelshaus

Sponsored- Rep. Burton

Changes the maximum authorized credit service charge from a blended rate based on the amount financed, to a maximum rate of 36% per year on the unpaid balance of the principal. **This bill is in conference committee.**

Ending of an era

Speaker of the House Brian C. Bosma will be turning over the gavel to the upcoming Speaker Todd Huston on Monday.

Bosma is the longest reigning Speaker of the House in Indiana history. He has been a state representative since 1986, and currently represents House District 88, which includes the Northeast portion of Marion County, a portion of southern Hamilton County and the western part of Hancock County.

Bosma is a graduate of the Purdue School of Engineering and Indiana University School of Law. He has practiced municipal and construction law at the Indianapolis firm of Kroger, Gardis & Regas for 35 years.

Since first elected speaker in 2004, Speaker Bosma's record of reform is unparalleled. His time in leadership is marked by significant policy achievements, turning Indiana in a new direction. Indiana has the best economic, regulatory and business tax environment in the Midwest, and has one of the top five business environments in the nation. Notable policy accomplishments include passing a historic 20-year, fully funded roads plan, cutting or eliminating 14 taxes in the last 15 years, passing property tax reform and right-to-work, and empowering parents through implementing and expanding school choice. Under conservative leadership, Indiana has strong reserves and AAA credit rating, making it the fiscal envy of the nation.

Brian and Cheryl Bosma have been married for 37 years and are the proud parents of Allison and Chris. Chris and his wife, Katherine, live in Indianapolis where Chris is completing his medical residency. Allison and her husband, Spencer, live in Fort Collins, Colorado, where she is a fourth-grade teacher. Brian is also the founding director of Bosma Industries for the Blind, which employs over 125 blind and visually impaired Hoosiers statewide.



State Rep. Todd Huston from Fishers will now be taking the gavel to lead the Indiana House of Representatives. He has been in office since 2012 and represents House District 37, which includes the City of Fishers and a portion of Hamilton County.

He has his bachelor's degree in political science from Indiana University and is a senior vice president at the State and District Partnerships at the College Board.

Speaker-Elect Huston previously served on the Hamilton Southeastern School Board, Hamilton Southeastern Schools Foundation Board, Fishers Planning Commission and the Indiana Leadership Forum Board of Directors. Former Governor Mitch Daniels twice called on Huston to serve the state, first with a four-year term as a member of the Indiana State Board of Education, and from

2006-2009 as a member of the Indiana Education Roundtable.

Rep. Huston and his wife, Denise, reside in Fishers and have two children, Elizabeth and Jake.