



January 9, 2020

*Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) is the public policy voice of the Catholic bishops in Indiana regarding state and national matters.*

In a firm and persevering determination to commit ourselves to the common good, the ICC welcomed the beginning of this short session of the Indiana General Assembly (by law slated to end March 14). This session began against the backdrop of the announcement that long-time Speaker of the House and Indianapolis resident, Brian Bosma, would be stepping down at the end of this session and that Todd Huston from Fishers had been appointed Speaker-Elect.

Notwithstanding this future change in leadership on one side of the chamber, the session began with numerous bills filed. Many have been referred to committees.

Some of the bills that we are currently following deal with the Family and Children.

**HB1056** authored by Rep. Patricia Boy from Michigan City, would require law enforcement to notify a parent or guardian of a child's arrest on school property or at a school-sponsored event. In keeping with the respect for parents' rights, the ICC supports this bill.

**HB1130**, authored by Rep. Christy Stutzman from Middlebury. This bill would allow a worker who suffers a miscarriage to have two days of unpaid leave. This guaranteed leave could reduce the stress of worrying about losing a job due to absence following the tragedy of a miscarriage. ICC also supports this bill.

**HB1009**, authored by Rep. Chuck Goodrich from Noblesville, provides that money earned by a dependent child during a temporary internship be disregarded when determining the family's eligibility for public assistance. A youth working and learning should not have to worry that their ambition will negatively impact their family. Families are a sign of God's presence; therefore, ICC supports this bill which could alleviate harm or tension in the family.

In the Spirit of Service, these and other bills will be monitored, supported, and when necessary, vigorously opposed.

**Please assist the ICC's efforts by contacting your legislator.** Information on how to contact your legislator can be found at the ICC website [www.indianacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org). Archived I-CAN Updates, ICC positions and other background information can also be accessed on the ICC website. **More detailed information regarding these and other bills, as well as detailed information about the legislative process and the Indiana General Assembly can be obtained by clicking [here](#).**