



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

**SB342** Pregnancy Accommodations, authored by Sen. Alting from Lafayette. This bill would give minor modifications to pregnant workers to protect the pregnant workers and their unborn babies. There is some misunderstanding about what this bill will do and what it will require. The modifications cannot place an undue burden on the employer and the modifications are neither prescribed nor mandated. Some examples of possible accommodations include allowing water and bathroom breaks or giving a stool or chair to a worker who stands several hours. The bill will not only protect the mothers and unborn babies, it will also allow employers to retain valued employees. Healthy pregnancies can reduce premature births and the medical costs associated with medical complications and neonatal intensive care. This bill needs your support. Please join the ICC and call your Senator. Ask them to protect and support **SB342**.

<http://indianacc.org/signup.html>

**SB299** Fetal Remains, authored by Sen. Brown from Fort Wayne. This bill augments HB1337 which passed in 2016 and was upheld by the United States Supreme Court in May of 2019. That bill required fetal remains to be treated with dignity by either being interned or cremated. **SB299** requires facilities, that either perform the abortion or provide the chemicals for an abortion, to inform the woman of her right to a humane and dignified disposition of the fetal remains. ICC continues to support this bill and encourages readers to do the same.

**SB312** Parents with a Disability, authored by Sen. Niezgodski from South Bend. This bill ensures that a person will maintain the right to parent their child despite having a disability. This would ensure a disabled parent's rights in matters of custody, parenting time, adoption, foster care and guardianship. The bill also instructs the department of child services to implement disability awareness training. This bill will have a second reading on 2/3/2020. In support of the family, the ICC supports this measure.

**HB1317** Healthcare Advance Directive, authored by Rep. Kirchhofer from Beech Grove. It allows an individual to make a health care advance directive that gives instructions or expresses preferences or desires concerning any aspect of the their health care or health information and to designate a health care representative to make health care decisions and receive health information. This bill will go a long way to help reduce some of the confusion and redundancy of having a health care power of attorney, a healthcare representative, and or a general power of attorney. The ICC supports this measure which passed the house with 94 votes in favor and none opposed.

**SB2, HB1001** School Accountability, authored by Sen Raatz from Richmond and Rep DeVon from Granger, respectively. These bills would hold harmless a school and not allow test scores to lower the school's letter grade score of A-F given by the state from the previous year.

**SB455** School Accreditation, authored by Sen Buchanan from Lebanon. These are just a few of the 63 education bills that were highlighted in the Catholic newspapers this week.

**Please assist the ICC's efforts by contacting your legislator.** Information on how to contact your legislator can be found on 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](#).**