



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

During this short session of the Indiana General Assembly, legislation has reached the crossover period. Bills making it out of its chamber of origin will move to the other side of the chamber. The following bills which originated in the House will pass over to the Senate and bills originating in the Senate will pass to the house.

Below is the standing or disposition of a few of the 136 bills that were of interest to the Church community:

SB249 Exploitation of Dependents and Endangered Adults. Authored by Sen. Young from Indianapolis, passed out of the senate. This bill would penalize individuals who recklessly exert power or control over the property of a dependent or endangered adult. It passed unanimously out of the senate.

SB299 Fetal Remains authored by Sen. Brown from Fort Wayne. This bill gives structure to the Indiana Department of Health for the dignified cremation or burial of fetal remains.

SB327 Reporting of Consumer loans by unlicensed lenders. Authored by Sen. Zay from Huntington will also be heard in the house. This bill requires lenders not licensed in Indiana, to report information contained in the loans made to residents of Indiana.

SB312 Parents with Disabilities authored by Sen. Niezgodski of South Bend. This bill acknowledges and affirms the need to respect the rights of disabled parents in matters before the State. It also allows for disability awareness training in the Department of Child Services. This also passed unanimously.

SB395 Uniform Consumer Credit Code authored by Sen. Bassler from Washington. Limits finance charges and nonrefundable fees on applicable consumer loans.

HB1009 Various Welfare Matters authored by Rep. Goodrich from Noblesville, prevents a family receiving public assistance from being penalized if an 18-year-old family member has a paid internship. This will now be heard in the senate.

HB1001 School Accountability authored by Rep. DeVon from Granger. This education bill and many others were tracked by the Indiana Nonpublic Education Association (INPEA.) This bill would hold a school harmless and not give a performance grade in 2018-2019 lower than the grade earned in 2017-2018.

HB1002 Teacher Evaluations authored by Rep. Cook from Cicero. This bill removed in part, the requirement that a school's performance evaluation must in part, be based on objective measures of student achievement.

HB1006 Education Matters authored by Rep Kirchofer from Beech Grove. This bill included multiple items and had multiple amendments. It allows for expanded background checks in lieu of a nationwide background check for childcare centers. Additionally, this bill allows another school for matters of safety, to obtain a copy of a transferring student's disciplinary records. This bill also requires schools to provide information and instruction to students about autism.

HB1317 Health Care Advance Directive authored by Rep Kirchhofer from Beech Grove. Allows a person to make a health care advance directive and to appoint a healthcare representative. This passed unanimously.

SB342 Pregnancy Accommodations authored by Sen Alting from Lafayette. This bill which would have given minor work modifications for pregnant workers who with a doctor's statement, requested them. Sen. Zay from Huntington proposed an amendment which effectively killed the bill this session by sending it to a summer commission to study the fiscal impact on businesses. This is was done despite testimony given on the minimal financial impact experienced by businesses in some of the 27 states which have a pregnancy accommodation bill.

The following bills of interest to or supported by the ICC did not advance out of their committee or chamber and are now considered dead bills.

HB1056 Parental Notice of Juvenile Arrest at School authored by Rep. Boy from Michigan City

HB1130 Leave for miscarriages authored by Rep. Stutzman from Middelbury. This bill would have given a woman two days of unpaid leave after suffering a miscarriage.

SB116 Human Trafficking authored by Sen. Crider. This bill this would have removed the requirement that money for trafficking be paid to a third party. Additionally, the penalties would have increased if the tracking victim was less than 18 years old.

SB11 TANF Eligibility authored by Sen. Ford this bill would have increased benefits and legibility for the first time since 1988 for needy families.

SB419 and **HB1083** Driving Cards, authored by Sen. Niezgodski and Rep. Campbell. These bills would have allowed undocumented persons to drive legally after passing a driving test and proving financial responsibility.

The following bills were opposed by the ICC because they were in opposition to the Church's teaching regarding the respect and dignity of life. They were died while in the house

HB1020 End of Life Options, authored by Rep. Pierce from Bloomington. This was essentially physician-assisted suicide.

HB1141 Birth Control Prescriptions, authored by Rep. Fleming of Jeffersonville. This would have allowed pharmacists to prescribe and dispense contraceptives.

HB1413 Assisted Reproduction and Gestational Surrogacy, authored by Rep. Eberhad from Shelbyville. This would have allowed contracts for surrogacy to be enforceable contracts.

Please assist the ICC's efforts by contacting your legislator. Click [here](#) to find your legislator. ICC Archived I-CAN Updates, ICC positions and other background information can also be accessed on the ICC website and by clicking [here](#) **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](#).**