

Legislative Analysis

Chamber Outlines Bill Positions

By Vanessa Green Sindors, president and CEO, Indiana Chamber of Commerce



We are working with Gov. Mike Braun, lawmakers and other stakeholders to advance bills that move the state further ahead and increase its competitiveness, while also championing small business and defending against legislation that hinders economic growth and free enterprise. Together, these actions will enable Indiana to rise even higher on the list of best states to do business and be a place where more people want to live and work.

The Indiana Chamber will be championing policies that fall under the six pillars of its latest visioning plan for the state, *Indiana Prosperity 2035* (IP35): Workforce, K-12 Education, Economic Growth, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Superior Infrastructure and Energy, Quality of Place Strategies and Healthy, Prosperous Citizens and Communities.

This first edition of the Indiana Chamber's *2025 Legislative Analysis* outlines our positions on key bills that affect Indiana businesses and future economic prosperity for communities, families and individuals throughout the state. Indiana Chamber policy committees and executive groups, composed of statewide volunteer leaders, meet throughout the year and help define the positions that ultimately get matched to actual legislation.

Our 2025 top priorities impact economic prosperity and the state's talent pipeline. These include initiatives to improve workforce readiness, the tax climate, childcare options, student performance, energy and healthcare affordability and accessibility, entrepreneurial/small business infrastructure, as well as economic development across the state. These goals align with IP35 and also were informed by the results of an Indiana Chamber survey of member companies at the end of 2024.

Please contact our public affairs team with any questions about the bills found in this *Legislative Analysis*.

Tax Climate

Contact: David Ober

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HB 1005 HOUSING AND BUILDING MATTERS (D. Miller)

Chamber Position: Support

Promoting housing development by addressing delays and inefficiencies in permitting and inspection processes, which are significant barriers to growth, is an important step. By creating clear timelines and expanding inspection options, this bill reduces costs and uncertainty for developers, supporting efforts to meet workforce housing demands. Additionally, prioritizing



infrastructure funding for communities with pro-housing policies encourages local governments to adopt practices that facilitate economic development and address housing shortages.

HB 1402 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE (Thompson)

Chamber Position: Support

Modernizing Indiana's tax framework would reduce the financial burden on businesses, fostering a more competitive environment for investment and growth. By phasing out business personal property taxes and restructuring local income taxes, it provides long-term tax relief for employers while streamlining tax administration. These reforms enhance



Indiana's ability to attract new businesses and retain existing ones, benefiting employers, employees and the state economy.

HB 1461 ROAD FUNDING (Pressel)

Chamber Position: Oppose in Part

Providing much-needed infrastructure funding for local governments by increasing flexibility in transportation taxes and targeting grant opportunities is beneficial. This bill would also provide local units with a means of securing additional revenue for road and bridge projects, enhancing the state's transportation network and economic development. However, the bill introduces complex new taxes, including the county option retail delivery fee. These could create additional financial burdens on businesses and taxpayers, potentially complicating local tax systems and leading to higher costs without clear benefits for the broader community.

HB 1601 QUANTUM RESEARCH TAX INCENTIVES/READI GRANTS (Soliday)

Chamber Position: Support

Incentivizing significant investments in cutting-edge technologies, such as quantum computing and defense infrastructure, enhances Indiana's economic competitiveness and positions the state as a leader in advanced industries.



SB 1 PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (Holdman)

Chamber Position: Support in Part/Oppose in Part

This legislation provides much-needed property tax relief and enhances transparency for taxpayers. However, shifting the cost of local government disproportionately to commercial taxpayers raises concerns about fairness and potential impacts on businesses. Local governments play a critical role in providing essential services that support both residents and businesses, and property tax reforms should balance relief with the need to maintain robust local services and infrastructure.



SB 9 MAXIMUM LEVY GROWTH QUOTIENT (Baldwin)

Chamber Position: Support

Providing a more consistent and equitable framework for calculating property tax levy growth and including school corporations within the process are advisable steps. By aligning Max Levy Growth Quotient calculations across counties and civil taxing units, this bill ensures transparency and predictability for taxpayers while supporting local governments and schools in planning for growth. Additionally, it enables much-needed differentiation between counties, reflecting local economic conditions and individual earnings growth, ensuring property tax policies are more responsive to regional needs and realities.

SB 314 PASS THROUGH ENTITY TAX (Baldwin)

Chamber Position: Support

Simplifying tax compliance for pass-through entities and their owners by addressing multi-state income taxation and ensuring that applicable tax credits are recognized is a practical step forward. These changes reduce administrative burdens, eliminate duplicative taxation and provide clarity, making Indiana more competitive for businesses operating across state lines.

SB 345 PROPERTY TAX MATTERS (Rogers)

Chamber Position: Support

The Chamber supports incentivizing employers to invest in childcare solutions, addressing a critical workforce need and supporting employee retention and productivity. By refining property tax exemptions and assessment practices, this bill encourages community investment in early childhood education and critical infrastructure while ensuring equitable taxation. These measures promote economic growth, workforce development and the overall wellbeing of Indiana families and businesses.

SB 357 ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION (Rogers)

Chamber Position: Support

Aligning Indiana's depreciation provisions with federal Section 179 simplifies tax compliance for businesses and promotes investment in capital assets by increasing the deduction threshold. This change reduces costs for businesses, encourages growth and modernization, and enhances Indiana's competitiveness as a business-friendly state.

SB 443 BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX (Freeman)

Chamber Position: Support

Reducing the tax burden on businesses by increasing the personal property tax exemption threshold and phasing out the minimum valuation percentage is a needed step. By also offering a tax credit to offset potential real property tax increases, this legislation ensures fairness while promoting investment and economic growth, making Indiana more attractive for businesses of all sizes.



SB 451 INCOME TAX RATE (Holdman)

Chamber Position: Support

Providing meaningful tax relief for individuals and the more than 500,000 pass-through entities that drive Indiana's economy is important. By tying reductions to revenue growth benchmarks, this legislation ensures responsible implementation, balancing fiscal stability with enhanced competitiveness for residents and businesses alike.

SB 494 STATE AND LOCAL TAX CAPTURE AREAS (Mishler)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

The Chamber supports improvements to the Innovation Development District program, improved cooperation with local units and transparency. However, some provisions in the bill may result in restrictions that could chill the establishment and benefits of the program.

Economic Growth/Tech

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HB 1103 FOREIGN TRADE OFFICES (Commons)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Prohibiting the Indiana Economic Development Corporation from establishing a trade office in China would infringe upon executive authority and strategy for growing Indiana's trade partners.

HB 1172 OFFICE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION (Teshka)

Chamber Position: Support

Establishing a tangible "front door" for entrepreneurs and those that support them will result in a return on the state's investment. This office will create economic opportunities in every community in the state, including those that may have been previously underserved. From a practicality standpoint, this office should consolidate and house the many different steps an entrepreneur must take when launching a business.



HB 1223 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (Karickhoff)

Chamber Position: Support

By incentivizing tourism development, this legislation fosters economic growth and attracts visitors, which benefits industries such as hospitality and retail. The sales tax rebate encourages private investment in high-impact projects, while tourism improvement districts empower communities to fund and manage targeted improvements. By boosting tourism infrastructure, this measure strengthens Indiana's appeal as a destination, benefiting employers reliant on a thriving local economy and workforce.

HB 1321 / SB 11 SOCIAL MEDIA USE BY MINORS (King; Bohacek)

Chamber Position: Oppose in Part

With an understanding that certain content can be harmful to minors, the Chamber supports initiatives that educate minors

about remaining safe online. However, this bill would place undue burdens on social media operators and exposes them to civil liability merely for providing access to material that is considered constitutionally protected speech.

HB 1576 SMALL TOWN OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE (Goss-Reaves)

Chamber Position: Support

This is a welcome approach with various creative solutions to spur economic development in small towns throughout Indiana. Many of them are overlooked for large-scale state investments but yet offer high quality of life and quality of place that are attractive to employers that would take advantage of the redevelopment tax credit program.

HB 1628 PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS (Snow)

Chamber Position: Support

Addressing significant barriers to economic development and energy availability and reliability caused by inconsistent and burdensome local regulations is necessary. By centralizing oversight at the state level, this bill removes unnecessary roadblocks imposed by local governments, streamlining the development of critical infrastructure projects. This ensures timely investments in energy, water and utility infrastructure that are essential to meeting the needs of Indiana's growing economy and supporting long-term resource reliability for residents and businesses alike.



HB 1683 / SB 465 CERTIFIED TECHNOLOGY PARKS (Lopez; Bassler)

Chamber Position: Support

Certified Technology Parks (CTPs) having the realistic ability to recoup \$500,000 better reflects the financial assistance that highly functioning CTPs need to continue providing high-quality services to their tenants. The Senate version supports Indiana's innovative defense industry.

SB 251 INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Deery)

Chamber Position: Oppose in Part

Imposing undue burdens on Indiana's economic development agency that is responsible for driving growth and prosperity throughout the state may create barriers for executive action and the execution necessary to attract and retain investments in our communities. The Chamber agrees with measures to improve transparency and collaboration with local units.

SB 347 INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Buchanan)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

This would help replace local property tax revenue lost due

to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation's (IEDC) purchase and ownership of property which subsequently became tax exempt. However, there should be some accounting for the increase in surrounding property tax levies and economic impact to the community resulting from IEDC's ownership and investments.

SB 377 FUNDING FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Goode)

Chamber Position: Support

This legislation could serve as a vehicle bill for continued investment in regional economic development and increase transparency into the funding and distribution of money for projects supported by state agencies. The Chamber strongly encourages continued investments in regional growth.



SB 516 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION (Buchanan)

Chamber Position: Support

This is similar to HB 1172, which creates the office of entrepreneurship and innovation. Additionally, this bill would improve transparency for taxpayer-supported economic development initiatives and eliminate restrictions on funds captured by local communities.



Education/Workforce

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HB 1002 K-12 REGULATORY REFORM (Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

This House priority bill is a K-12 education regulatory measure, removing various provisions in Indiana Code Title 20 that are outdated, unnecessary, unfunded, contradictory or otherwise burdensome for public schools. It also removes statutory requirements on education credentials and experience for the secretary of education. The Chamber supports this first step in an anticipated multi-year effort to clean up a host of unnecessary and problematic K-12 school regulations, reduce work and costs for schools, and build a more manageable and effective regulatory framework.



HB 1059 HIGH VALUE WORKFORCE READY CREDIT-BEARING GRANTS (Ledbetter)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

In a rapidly changing economy and workforce, workers already holding degrees may wish to pursue credential or degree programs in another field to improve their career

opportunities and meet industry needs. This measure recognizes that and expands eligibility for the state's workforce ready credit-bearing grant program to include such individuals. The Chamber would support some priority-setting for the credential and degree tracks in high-need skills and industries.

HB 1071 / HB 1222 / SB 168 RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR NON-CITIZENS (Harris Niezgodski)

Chamber Position: Support

It would be beneficial to extend in-state tuition rates for state educational institutions to legally residing non-citizen residents who have attended an Indiana high school for at least three years and earned an Indiana high school diploma. Given Indiana's acute labor shortage, low education attainment rate and related workforce challenges, the Chamber supports efforts to increase access and affordability of postsecondary education and training, including measures to lift the skills of immigrants in the state.

HB 1102 RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS (Commons)

Chamber Position: Support

Expanding eligibility of quality, educational pre-K providers to include religiously affiliated non-profit preschool programs could help meet the serious shortfall in affordable pre-K programs available.

HB 1253 CHILDCARE (Heine)

Chamber Position: Support

This is another positive step that provides flexibility and greater efficiencies to address some of these very real supply challenges Indiana continues to face for childcare centers. By setting up a license category for multisite childcare centers operating under one owner, this bill helps streamline the application process for the owner while also reducing the administrative burden to the state – all making the process less burdensome and more efficient, so we can get more childcare centers online in Indiana, faster.



HB 1430 EMPLOYEE CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (Dant Chesser)

Chamber Position: Support

This legislation addresses a critical workforce need by making childcare more accessible and affordable for employees, helping employers attract and retain talent. By incentivizing employer contributions and matching them with state funds, the program strengthens families and communities while reducing workforce barriers, promoting economic growth and enhancing Indiana's competitiveness.

HB 1498 SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY

(Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

The Chamber strongly supports school accountability and reporting measures, including the implementation of a newly developed, user-friendly A to F rating model that incorporates a variety of new measurements and data reporting. Parents, taxpayers and employers need a clear and relatable means to evaluate and compare school performance, as well as for the development of data-driven improvement strategies.

HB 1514 HIGH VALUE WORKFORCE READY CREDIT-BEARING GRANT

(Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

The Chamber supports expanding the eligibility for the state's workforce ready grant program to further support Hoosier workers pursuing valuable, high-quality training and certificate programs.



HB 1515 STEM TEACHER RECRUITMENT GRANTS (Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

Ensuring that charter schools also have access to STEM teacher recruitment grants available to traditional public schools is very important in attracting teaching talent to help students excel in critical STEM course offerings and diploma expectations.

HB 1525 SCHOOL AGE CHILDCARE (DeVon)

Chamber Position: Support

This measure would help expand childcare access. It supports working families by increasing statewide funding for the School Age Child Care Program, which provides vital before- and after-school care for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. By waiving the 10% matching requirement for program sponsors and allowing grant funds to cover transportation costs, it expands access and grows program capacity, enabling more parents to participate fully in the workforce while ensuring safe, reliable care for their children.



HB 1634 MATH EDUCATION (Teshka)

Chamber Position: Support

Less than half of Indiana's K-12 students are proficient in mathematics. The Chamber supports this bill's important and ambitious vision for rapid improvements in mathematics. Early assessment and intervention with students, automatic enrollment in advanced classes and improvements in teacher preparation are key.



SB 36 SCHOOL COUNSELORS (Leising)

Chamber Position: Support

Increasing the hours student counselors spend providing educational and career counseling services to students relative to non-counseling duties is an important goal. This is particularly crucial as new high school graduation and diploma rules are implemented.

SB 255 TEACHER INITIAL PRACTITIONER LICENSE (Deery)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

To address the serious shortage of teachers (particularly in STEM subjects), the Chamber supports the expansion of teacher initial practitioner licensing for individuals with demonstrated credentials in subject areas. The Chamber does not have a position on other provisions in the bill, including adjustments to religious instruction, bullying and discipline, which are unrelated to teacher licensure.

SB 365 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DATA (Raatz)

Chamber Position: Support

The Chamber supports this effort to significantly expand data collection and analysis on these important workforce development, training and education programs to measure impact and inform policy and program decision making.



SB 366 PRE-K AND EDUCATION MATTERS (Rogers)

Chamber Position: Support

Encouraging public schools to expand pre-K childcare programs is an important strategy to grow the available slots for families looking for pre-K educational childcare. The Chamber supports various other provisions in the bill, including expansion of the teacher incentive program rewards.



SB 448 HIGHER EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS (Goode)

Chamber Position: Support

Among other things, this bill requires the secretary of education to establish a plan to develop market-driven stackable credentials and qualifications framework. The Chamber supports this and overall strengthening of postsecondary credential, training and degree programs, particularly to align with the identified skill needs and opportunities for employers. To plan and build such programs aligned from high school and beyond, including with valuable apprenticeship programs, is an important goal.

SB 463 CHILDCARE MATTERS (Charbonneau)



Chamber Position: Support

Among other things, the bill extends the employer childcare tax credit, establishes the Local Childcare Assistance Program and expands the micro-center pilot program. All support Indiana's families and employers in building a more productive workforce.

Free Enterprise

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HB 1300 WAGE HISTORY AND WAGE RANGE (Errington)

Chamber Position: Oppose

This bill prohibits, with certain exceptions, an employer from relying on the wage history of an applicant in the hiring process and in determining wages. Among other things, this legislation imposes mandates – and potential civil penalties – on employers that would negatively impact their competitiveness. It's simply too cumbersome for employers and would be detrimental for businesses.

HB 1338 EMPLOYMENT AND VACCINATIONS (Borders)

Chamber Position: Oppose

The Chamber opposes any legislation that would prohibit employers' right to hire and discipline employees under Indiana's "at-will" status. Secondly, this legislation creates an unnecessary right of action against employers that could be abused in the court system. The Chamber opposes this bill and all others that interfere with an employer's right to determine workplace rules and health and safety policies.

HB 1374 REPEAL OF RIGHT TO WORK (Boy)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Led by the advocacy leadership of the Indiana Chamber, the right-to-work statute was passed in 2012. Repealing the law would be detrimental for businesses. Further, it would remove an individual's right to choose whether or not they wish to join a union.

SB 93 COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE (Dernulc)

Chamber Position: Oppose

The result of requiring common construction wage would be increased competition from firms outside of Indiana, as well as increased costs to employers and to taxpayers.

SB 229 / SB 501 EXPANDED REQUIRED DISCUSSION ITEMS IN SCHOOL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Bohacek; Ford)

Chamber Position: Oppose

The Chamber strongly opposes efforts to expand the scope of the state's public school collective bargaining law, including the expansion of bargainable items beyond wages and benefits pursuant to the 2011 reforms of Public Law #217.

SB 230 MANDATORY BARGAINING ON SCHOOL SAFETY MATTERS (Bohacek)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Expanding the scope of the state's teacher collective bargaining law to require a school employer to discuss matters related to school safety and associated working conditions with the exclusive bargaining agent (union) is not advisable. The reasoning is similar to SB 229.

Healthcare

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HB 1003 HEALTH MATTERS (Barrett)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

The Chamber supports several provisions of this bill, including the changes to prior authorization, which are reasonable and targeted measures to streamline processes and reduce unnecessary delays. The language on provisional credentialing for physicians will improve workforce mobility and help address physician shortages in Indiana. The Chamber also supports the timely provision of good faith estimates to patients, ensuring they have the necessary information to make informed decisions about their care. Robust negotiations between health carriers and providers are essential for controlling costs, and enhanced information sharing during these negotiations will ultimately benefit employers and employees. While the bill emphasizes transparency and disclosure in health provider contract negotiations, there are concerns about provisions that could unnecessarily impact contracting rights.

HB 1004 NON-PROFIT HOSPITALS (Carbaugh)

Chamber Position: Oppose

The Chamber opposes taking a simplistic approach to addressing healthcare costs by tying nonprofit status to a rigid Medicare-based pricing threshold. This legislation redefines community benefits for nonprofit hospitals, limiting them primarily to uncompensated care under specific conditions. It requires nonprofit hospitals to report billed services and pricing data compared to Medicare reimbursement rates

annually and hospitals charging more than 200% of Medicare rates lose their nonprofit status.

HB 1145 DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA (VanNatter)

Chamber Position: Oppose

The Chamber opposes the legalization of marijuana. Marijuana use is associated with an increase in industrial accidents, disciplinary problems and absenteeism. Any association of marijuana with workplace issues raises concerns for employers.

HB 1182 CHOICE OF PHYSICIAN FOR WORKER INJURY OR DISEASE (Moseley)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Indiana has one of the best workers' compensation systems in the nation. Under Indiana law, the employer chooses the physician. This legislation would give that right to the employee. There would be significant cost consequences to the system if this bill is enacted.

HB 1252 LIMITATION ON COST SHARING (Smaltz)

Chamber Position: Oppose

By requiring amounts paid by third-party providers on behalf of insured individuals to count toward deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums, this legislation accelerates when these limits are reached, leading to higher utilization and increased claims. This dynamic will put upward pressure on premiums, forcing employers to bear higher costs or reduce benefits for plan participants. Employers and their employees, who already face rising healthcare expenses, need policies that encourage cost-effective solutions – not measures that drive up premiums and erode plan flexibility.

HB 1586 MEDICAID FUNDING (Barrett)

Chamber Position: Support

This aligns with the Chamber's position to reduce cost-shifting onto private payers by increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates through a state-directed payment model. It ensures hospitals receive adequate funding while leveraging federal dollars, promoting financial stability in the healthcare system without imposing additional burdens on Indiana's state budget.

HB 1632 HEALTH CARE ENTITY MERGERS (Smaltz)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Granting the attorney general authority to impose significant penalties creates an overly punitive and burdensome framework that discourages necessary healthcare mergers and acquisitions. These penalties coupled with extensive reporting requirements, risk delaying or obstructing

transactions that could improve care access, reduce costs and enhance system efficiency – ultimately harming Indiana's healthcare landscape. A more balanced approach is needed to ensure transparency without deterring beneficial consolidation efforts.

SB 140 PHARMACY BENEFITS (Charbonneau)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Mandating excessive and prescriptive contractual terms, including minimum dispensing fees, will unnecessarily increase costs for employers and employees. The required professional dispensing fee and overly broad regulatory interventions could disrupt market-driven negotiations, creating additional financial burdens without addressing systemic challenges in healthcare.

SB 322 SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS (Charbonneau)

Chamber Position: Support

Addressing the significant public health and economic impacts of tobacco use by preventing access to tobacco products for younger generations is imperative. Reducing tobacco use promotes a healthier, more productive workforce, lowering healthcare costs for employers and contributing to overall economic growth and community well-being.

SB 480 PRIOR AUTHORIZATION (T. Johnson)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Prior authorization is a critical tool for managing healthcare utilization and claims experience. By limiting these controls, the bill is likely to result in increased healthcare costs, driving up insurance premiums for employers and employees. These additional costs could force employers to modify or reduce health benefits.

Energy/Environment

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HB 1007 ENERGY GENERATION RESOURCES (Soliday)

Chamber Position: Support

Encouraging the development of advanced nuclear reactor technology in Indiana is important for energy diversification. The bill also establishes a balanced framework for utilities to recover project costs while protecting ratepayers. By strengthening resource planning and enabling proactive oversight of generation capacity, the bill supports employers' need for reliable energy.



HB 1286 PFAS CHEMICALS (Cash)

Chamber Position: Oppose

This legislation uses an overly broad and scientifically inaccurate definition of PFAS, failing to recognize the critical distinctions within the broad class of PFAS chemicals. Not all PFAS are the same and grouping them together disregards the distinct properties and uses of individual substances. The bill also imposes an unnecessary and burdensome registration process, along with excessive civil penalties for noncompliance.

SB 4 WATER MATTERS (Koch)

Chamber Position: Support

Ensuring proper oversight of water resource management and infrastructure development, balancing the needs of utilities, businesses and residents, is important. By requiring state-level review and permitting for large-scale water transfers, this bill protects Indiana's critical water resources while enabling responsible economic growth and long-term planning.



SB 256 GROUND WATER (Deery)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Unnecessarily restricting water resource development with a broad moratorium on major ground water withdrawal facilities would potentially hinder economic growth and limiting opportunities for water-intensive industries. Senate Bill 4 already establishes a regulatory framework for interbasin water withdrawals, providing oversight without stifling investment. Indiana needs policies that balance resource stewardship with economic development.

SB 425 ENERGY PRODUCTION ZONES

(Koch)

Chamber Position: Support

Removing unnecessary local regulatory hurdles, streamlining the development of electric generation facilities on pre-designated sites, such as existing generation facilities or former mines, is helpful legislation. This bill complements HB 1628 by reinforcing a statewide approach to energy infrastructure, ensuring consistent regulation across jurisdictions. Together, these bills promote investment in Indiana's energy infrastructure, support economic growth and improve the state's ability to meet future energy needs.

SB 517 PURCHASE OF COAL-FIRED GENERATION FACILITIES

(Buchanan)

Chamber Position: Oppose

This bill places an unreasonable burden on electric utilities by requiring them to pursue the sale of retired coal facilities, even if it may not be in the best interest of their ratepayers.



If the utility does not make a good faith effort to sell the unit, they risk being disallowed cost recovery for new generation resources, creating significant uncertainty. Additionally, the potential requirement to purchase electricity from a sold facility adds unnecessary complexity and financial risk, ultimately raising costs for utilities and consumers.

SB 538 PFAS CHEMICALS (Zay)

Chamber Position: Support

Providing a clear, scientifically grounded definition of PFAS, ensuring that regulations are precise and targeted, is practical. By focusing on specific industrial uses and research processes, this bill avoids the pitfalls of overbroad regulation, promotes regulatory certainty for businesses and effectively addresses environmental and public health concerns in a balanced and responsible manner.

Business Law Reform

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HB 1032 FOREIGN INTERESTS (Haggard)

Chamber Position: Oppose

This legislation prohibits a prohibited person from entering into a contract for the provision of goods or services with the state, a state agency and a political subdivision. Among other things, the definitions for a "prohibited" and "controlling" person are overly broad and will cool foreign direct investment, cause current employees to move out of state and disrupt business financial interests.

HB 1424 CAUSES OF ACTION (Lehman)

Chamber Position: Support

This bill achieves two very important public policy objectives that would improve Indiana's business legal climate. First, it would preclude the government from pursuing frivolous charges against employers. Secondly, it would protect property owners and managers from civil liability for criminal acts with which they have no nexus.



HB 1625 PROHIBITION ON NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS (Judy)

Chamber Position: Oppose

A blanket prohibition on noncompete agreements, rather than pursuing reasonable reform, is a misguided approach. Noncompete agreements, when applied appropriately, help businesses protect trade secrets and investments in workforce training. A balanced reform approach would better address concerns while preserving legitimate uses of noncompete agreements.



SB 37 TORTS INVOLVING COMMERCIAL TRUCKING INDUSTRY (Glick)

Chamber Position: Support

The cost of insurance for transport companies has been skyrocketing, which raises the cost of delivery and the cost to the end consumer. The Chamber supports this bill as a reasonable way to address frivolous suits against trucking companies in the state.

SB 115 PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE PROGRAM (PoI)

Chamber Position: Oppose

This bill includes employer mandates to contribute to a state fund that excuses employees for certain family and medical purposes, which are outside the employer's own employment and leave policies.

SB 385 E-VERIFY PROGRAM (Goode)

Chamber Position: Oppose

An employer mandate to use E-Verify when it is optional, according to federal law, is unnecessarily onerous for the business community.

SB 475 PHYSICIAN NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS AND REFERRALS (Busch)

Chamber Position: Oppose

A blanket prohibition on noncompete agreements removes a critical tool for protecting employer investments in physician recruitment and training. The reason is similar to HB 1625.

State Budget

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HB 1001 STATE BUDGET (Thompson)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

The budget bill appropriates funds for state operations, education, Medicaid and various services while introducing several new programs and tax incentives. Its highlights include establishing revolving funds for primary care access and rural capital investments, creating long-term care and farm savings account programs, providing expanded childcare assistance and extending hospital and health

facility assessment fees. It also introduces new and expanded tax credits, deductions for retirement benefits and sales tax exemption periods for school supplies, outdoor equipment and more. It includes significant investments in workforce development, childcare access and education, which align with priorities to grow Indiana's economy and enhance competitiveness. However, key programs and tax incentives critical to economic growth, such as the Manufacturing Readiness Grant, have been significantly reduced, and the Direct Flights Program has been eliminated, potentially limiting support for vital business and economic development initiatives.

HB 1224 / SB 296 DRIVING PRIVILEGE CARDS (Karickhoff; Doriot)

Chamber Position: Support

Driving privilege cards will improve public safety and increase the number of insured drivers. Further, undocumented residents of Indiana who hold driving cards will feel a greater sense of security and responsibility when driving and/or interacting with authorities.

Various Matters

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HB 1615 MILITARY BASE DEVELOPMENT (Lindauer)

Chamber Position: Support

Strengthening Indiana's military and defense infrastructure, enhancing the state's ability to support national security operations and attracting federal investments are all positive measures. By fostering infrastructure development and incentivizing private capital in the defense industry, this bill positions Indiana as a leader in defense innovation and economic growth.

SB 116 UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (PoI)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Significantly increasing unemployment compensation would increase the strain on the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and reduce individuals' incentive to return to work.

SPECIAL EVENT: Chamber Day at the Statehouse / Chamber Day Reception

The Indiana Chamber is partnering with the Indiana Chamber Executives Association to host the newly reimagined 2025 Chamber Day at the Statehouse on March 11 in Indianapolis.

Highlights include Statehouse meetings with legislators, best practice sharing and a networking reception from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Indiana Roof Ballroom that features an address from new Gov. Mike Braun.

Reserve your spot for the Chamber Day Reception or entire Chamber Day at the Statehouse event! Go to www.indianachamber.com/specialevents.

2025 Quick Reference: Chamber Positions

House Bills

NOTE: Chamber Priority Bills in Bold

Bill	Bill Title	Position
HB 1001	STATE BUDGET	Support in Part
HB 1002	K-12 REGULATORY REFORM	Support
HB 1003	HEALTH MATTERES	Support in Part
HB 1004	NON-PROFIT HOSPITALS	Oppose
HB 1005	HOUSING AND BUILDING MATTERS	Support
HB 1007	ENERGY GENERATION RESOURCES	Support
HB 1032	FOREIGN INTERESTS	Oppose
HB 1059	HIGH VALUE WORKFORCE READY GRANTS	Support in Part
HB 1071	RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR NON-CITIZENS	Support
HB 1102	RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS	Support
HB 1103	FOREIGN TRADE OFFICES	Oppose
HB 1145	DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA	Oppose
HB 1172	OFFICE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION	Support
HB 1182	CHOICE OF PHYSICIAN FOR WORKER INJURY OR DISEASE	Oppose
HB 1222	RESIDENT TUITION RATE FOR NON-CITIZENS	Support
HB 1223	TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	Support
HB 1224	DRIVING PRIVILEGE CARDS	Support
HB 1252	LIMITATION ON COST SHARING	Oppose
HB 1253	CHILDCARE	Support
HB 1286	PFAS CHEMICALS	Oppose
HB 1300	WAGE HISTORY AND WAGE RANGE	Oppose
HB 1321	SOCIAL MEDIA USE BY MINORS	Oppose in Part
HB 1338	EMPLOYMENT AND VACCINATIONS	Oppose
HB 1374	REPEAL OF RIGHT TO WORK LAW	Oppose
HB 1402	LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE	Support
HB 1424	CAUSES OF ACTION	Support
HB 1430	EMPLOYEE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP	Support
HB 1461	ROAD FUNDING	Oppose in Part
HB 1498	SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY	Support
HB 1514	HIGH VALUE WORKFORCE READY CREDIT-BEARING GRANT	Support
HB 1515	STEM TEACHER RECRUITMENT GRANTS	Support
HB 1525	SCHOOL AGE CHILDCARE	Support
HB 1576	SMALL TOWN OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE	Support
HB 1586	MEDICAID FUNDING	Support
HB 1601	QUANTUM RESEARCH TAX INCENTIVES/READI GRANTS	Support
HB 1615	MILITARY BASE DEVELOPMENT	Support
HB 1625	PROHIBITION ON NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS	Oppose
HB 1628	PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT MATTERS	Support
HB 1632	HEALTH CARE ENTITY MERGERS	Oppose
HB 1634	MATH EDUCATION	Support
HB 1683	CERTIFIED TECHNOLOGY PARKS	Support

Senate Bills

NOTE: Chamber Priority Bills in Bold

Bill	Bill Title	Position
SB 1	PROPERTY TAX RELIEF	SIP/OIP*
SB 4	WATER MATTERS	Support
SB 9	MAXIMUM LEVY GROWTH QUOTIENT	Support
SB 11	MINOR ACCESS AND USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA	Oppose in Part
SB 36	SCHOOL COUNSELORS	Support
SB 37	TORTS INVOLVING COMMERCIAL TRUCKING INDUSTRY	Support
SB 93	COMMON CONSTRUCTION WAGE	Oppose
SB 115	PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE PROGRAM	Oppose
SB 116	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	Oppose
SB 140	PHARMACY BENEFITS	Oppose
SB 168	RESIDENT TUITION RATE FOR NON-CITIZENS	Support
SB 229	EXPANDED REQUIRED ITEMS IN SCHOOL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING	Oppose
SB 230	MANDATORY BARGAINING ON SCHOOL SAFETY MATTERS	Oppose
SB 251	INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	Oppose in Part
SB 255	TEACHER INITIAL PRACTITIONER LICENSE	Support in Part
SB 256	GROUND WATER	Oppose
SB 296	DRIVING PRIVILEGE CARDS	Support
SB 314	PASS THROUGH ENTITY TAX	Support
SB 322	SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS	Support
SB 345	PROPERTY TAX MATTERS	Support
SB 347	INDIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	Support in Part
SB 357	ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION	Support
SB 365	CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DATA	Support
SB 366	PRE-K AND EDUCATION MATTERS	Support
SB 377	FUNDING FOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Support
SB 385	E-VERIFY PROGRAM	Oppose
SB 425	ENERGY PRODUCTION ZONES	Support
SB 443	BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	Support
SB 448	HIGHER EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS	Support
SB 451	INCOME TAX RATE	Support
SB 463	CHILDCARE MATTERS	Support
SB 465	CERTIFIED TECHNOLOGY PARKS	Support
SB 475	PHYSICIAN NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS AND REFERRALS	Oppose
SB 480	PRIOR AUTHORIZATION	Oppose
SB 494	STATE AND LOCAL TAX CAPTURE AREAS	Support in Part
SB 501	EXPANDED REQUIRED ITEMS IN SCHOOL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING	Oppose
SB 516	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/SMALL BIZ INNOVATION	Support
SB 517	PURCHASE OF COAL FIRED GENERATION FACILITIES	Oppose
SB 538	PFAS CHEMICALS	Support

* SIP/OIP = Support in Part/Oppose in Part