

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 second 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

(317) 264-6887 | dober@indianachamber.com

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 1461 ROAD FUNDING (Pressel)

Chamber Position: Support

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.



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 homestead 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 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 443 BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX (Freeman)

Chamber Position: Support

Reducing the tax burden on businesses by increasing the personal property tax exemption threshold is a needed step. 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.

Economic Growth/Tech

Contact: Adam H. Berry

(317) 264-6892 | aberry@indianachamber.com

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.



SB 11 SOCIAL MEDIA USE BY MINORS

(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.

SB 306 FILM AND MEDIA PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT (Zay)

Chamber Position: Support

The state's film and media tax credit attracts investment and talent to Indiana and will continue to help showcase different regions of our state through visual media. Making this tax credit transferable and extending its expiration date will help to maximize the potential of this incentive and make Indiana even more attractive to producers.

SB 465 CERTIFIED TECHNOLOGY PARKS

(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 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

Contact: Jeff Brantley

(317) 264-7544 | jbrantley@indianachamber.com

HB 1002 K-12 REGULATORY REFORM (Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

It is time to update, improve and reform the state's bloated K-12 schools regulatory statutes. This bill would remove 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 Indiana 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 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 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 1499 LITERACY AND EARN (Behning)

Chamber Position: Support

Requires the State Board of Education to incorporate oral language developments as a core component of literacy endorsements, updates evaluation of reading skills and exemptions for English language learners. Also includes a Chamber-sought adjustment in the minimum average hours an employer must provide to students participating in a workplace learning program under the EARN program.

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 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 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 448 HIGHER EDUCATION/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS (Goode)

Chamber Position: Support

Among other things, this bill requires the Indiana 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

This legislation provides crucial support to the childcare sector by extending the employer childcare expenditure tax credit, promoting further investment in childcare services. The flexibility in staff-to-child ratios and group sizes, while aligning with neighboring states' standards, will help childcare providers improve care quality and meet demand, benefiting both providers and families in Indiana.



Healthcare

Contact: David Ober

(317) 264-6887 | dober@indianachamber.com

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. The legislation revises the Hospital Assessment Fee (HAF) and establishes a new Managed Care Assessment Fee. It also redefines community benefits for nonprofit hospitals, limiting them primarily to uncompensated care under specific conditions. Additionally, it imposes an excise tax on hospital facility fees exceeding 265% of Medicare rates and requires nonprofit hospitals to

report billed services and pricing data compared to Medicare reimbursement rates annually. Hospitals charging more than 300% of Medicare rates risk losing their nonprofit status. The Chamber supports the HAF revisions, which help sustain Medicaid funding and hospital reimbursement rates. However, we oppose the other provisions in the bill, including the excise tax on facility fees and the nonprofit hospital pricing thresholds, which impose unnecessary financial and regulatory burdens on hospitals.

SB 140 PHARMACY BENEFITS

(Charbonneau)

Chamber Position: Oppose

Mandating excessive and prescriptive contractual terms, including minimum dispensing fees, imposes unnecessary costs on employers and employees. The required professional dispensing fee, combined with broad regulatory interventions, disrupts market-driven negotiations and limits flexibility in pharmacy benefits management. These provisions create additional financial burdens without effectively addressing the underlying challenges in healthcare affordability and access.

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

Contact: David Ober

(317) 264-6887 | dober@indianachamber.com

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.



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 425 ENERGY PRODUCTION ZONES (Koch)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

The Chamber supports efforts to reduce unnecessary permitting barriers and encourage investment in Indiana's energy infrastructure. Streamlining approvals for energy development on former generation sites and industrial land promotes economic growth and reliability. However, we oppose the exclusion of wind and solar projects from these reforms. All energy resources should be treated equitably to foster a competitive and diverse energy market.

Business Law Reform

Contact: Adam H. Berry

(317) 264-6892 | aberry@indianachamber.com

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 1531 VARIOUS IMMIGRATION MATTERS (Prescott)

Chamber Position: Support in Part

Addresses matters related to federal immigration laws, including enforcement and detainer requests. More relevant for the Chamber, and our membership, is the section that authorizes the Indiana Attorney General to prosecute employers who leverage an individual's immigration status to decrease labor costs to unfairly compete in the marketplace. Employing illegal aliens is not only illegal but harms the prospects for prosperity for Hoosier families and businesses. Absent reasonable, broader federal immigration reforms, the Chamber supports the use of state resources to protect fair competition. However, we must ensure the bill provides adequate immunity to employers who abide by best practices when recruiting, hiring and employing workers. The Attorney

General's investigation authority should be narrowly drafted to limit disruptions for employers who are making real efforts to comply with state and federal law.

SB 475 PHYSICIAN NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS AND REFERRALS (Busch)

Chamber Position: Oppose

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.

State Budget

Contact: David Ober

(317) 264-6887 | dober@indianachamber.com

HB 1001 STATE BUDGET (Thompson)

Chamber Position: Support

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 includes significant investments in workforce development, childcare access and education, which align with priorities to grow Indiana's economy and enhance competitiveness.

Various Matters

Contact: Adam H. Berry

(317) 264-6892 | aberry@indianachamber.com

HB 1615 MILITARY BASE DEVELOPMENT (Lindauer)

Chamber Position: Support

The Chamber supports policies that enhance Indiana's technology and innovation ecosystem. Expanding financial support for certified technology parks near military bases strengthens regional economic development, fosters high-tech job growth and maximizes the state's investment in research and business incubation.

2025 Quick Reference: Chamber Positions

House Bills

NOTE: Chamber Priority Bills in Bold

Bill	Bill Title	Position
HB 1001	STATE BUDGET	Support
HB 1002	K-12 REGULATORY REFORM	Support
HB 1003	HEALTH MATTERS	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 1103	FOREIGN TRADE OFFICES	Oppose
HB 1172	OFFICE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION	Support
HB 1253	CHILDCARE	Support
HB 1461	ROAD FUNDING	Support
HB 1498	SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY	Support
HB 1499	LITERACY AND EARN	Support
HB 1515	STEM TEACHER RECRUITMENT GRANTS	Support
HB 1531	VARIOUS IMMIGRATION MATTERS	Support in Part
HB 1601	QUANTUM RESEARCH TAX INCENTIVES/READI GRANTS	Support
HB 1615	MILITARY BASE DEVELOPMENT	Support
HB 1634	MATH EDUCATION	Support

Senate Bills

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

Bill	Bill Title	Position
SB 1	PROPERTY TAX RELIEF	SIP/OIP*
SB 4	WATER MATTERS	Support
SB 11	MINOR ACCESS AND USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA	Oppose in Part
SB 140	PHARMACY BENEFITS	Oppose
SB 255	TEACHER INITIAL PRACTITIONER LICENSE	Support in Part
SB 306	FILM AND MEDIA PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT	Support
SB 314	PASS THROUGH ENTITY TAX	Support
SB 365	CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DATA	Support
SB 425	ENERGY PRODUCTION ZONES	Support in Part
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 516	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/SMALL BIZ INNOVATION	Support

LEGISLATIVE EVENT: Chamber Day Reception on March 11

The 2025 Chamber Day Reception is a legislative networking gathering on March 11 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom from 5 – 7 p.m. Let your voice be heard and connect with lawmakers and other stakeholders. The featured guest is new Gov. Mike Braun, who will talk about his policy proposals and mingle with attendees. Register at www.indianachamber.com/chamberdayreception.