



Legislative Update

January 19, 2018

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General Assembly Overview

This week at the Statehouse, committees were busy hearing a variety of bills. At this point, the vast majority of House and Senate bills have been released. The bill count so far stands at 438 Senate bills, 13 Senate Joint Resolutions, 450 House bills, and one House Joint Resolution. House committees must conclude their work for the first half of session on January 30 and the Senate committee report deadline is on February 1.

The House approved a bill that would stabilize school funding across the state as a result of an unexpected increase in enrollments. **HB 1001**, authored by Rep. Sally Siegrist (R-West Lafayette), permits the budget agency to transfer from the K-12 state tuition reserve account to the state general fund the amount necessary to cover the K-12 state tuition distribution amount when it exceeds the appropriated amount. The bill limits the transfer to \$25,000,000 in state fiscal year 2018 and \$50,000,000 for state fiscal year 2019. HB 1001 passed by a vote of 96-0 and now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Alcohol matters were up for consideration in the House and Senate this week. Legislation that addresses Sunday alcohol sales passed the House Public Policy Committee by a vote of 12-1. **HB 1051** allows the following to sell alcoholic beverages for carryout on Sunday from noon until 8 p.m.: A package liquor store, grocery store, convenience store, drug store, or a restaurant that satisfies the requirements to sell carryout. The Senate Public Policy Committee previously advanced its chamber's version of Sunday alcohol sales with **SB 1**. These bills are the result of many months of discussion during the Alcohol Code Revision Commission.

On the other hand, cold beer sales did not fare as well this week. **SB 26** is a proposal to allow grocery and convenience stores to sell cold beer. The bill was heard in the Senate Public Policy Committee and after hours of testimony, the committee voted 9 to 1 against the bill. Legislative leadership has indicated the bill is likely dead for this session.

Another busy week of committee hearings is ahead next week. We will see more floor action as committee reports are adopted and

bills proceed to the House and Senate floor for further discussion.

USEFUL LINKS

Indiana General Assembly

Governor Eric Holcomb

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch

Attorney General Curtis Hill

Secretary of State Connie Lawson

State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell

State Auditor Tera Klutz

Indiana Register

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