

**Indiana Institute for Working Families**

## **INSIDE THE STATEHOUSE**



**A WEEKLY UPDATE ON STATE LEGISLATION**

**AFFECTING WORKING FAMILIES**

**DATE: 02/22/2010**

**NEXT DEADLINE FOR ACTION: Wednesday, March 3, 2010– Last day for 3rd Reading of Bills in the second chamber.**

**HIGHLIGHTED LEGISLATION:**

**HB 1181– Township Government.** Specifies that in each county after December 31, 2012, the county fiscal body is the fiscal and legislative body of each township in the county and that the county fiscal body shall exercise the legislative and fiscal powers assigned in the Indiana Code to township boards, including the authority to adopt the townships annual budget and to levy township property taxes for township funds. Makes provisions regarding the functioning of township government. Removes the referendum to retain townships that existed in the bill sent over from the House. **On 2nd Reading– Monday, February 22, 2010, Convening Time: 1:30pm, Senate Chamber.**

**BILLS TO WATCH**

Bills	Title	Notes	Status
<b>HJR 1</b> Rep. Crawford	Circuit Breakers and Property Tax Matters	Allows the property tax caps, enacted in 2008, to be brought before the voters by referendum to be amended into the Indiana State Constitution.	Ready for Enrollment
<b>HB 1021</b> Reps. Day and Murphy	Bankruptcy Exemptions; Earned Income Tax Credit	This bill would make a debtor's Indiana earned income tax credit exempt under the bankruptcy property exemption statute. Current law provides only that a debtor's federal earned income tax credit is exempt property.	On 3rd Reading - Monday, February 22 1:30pm Senate Chamber.
<b>HB 1030</b> Reps. Riecken & Barnes	Local Government Reorganization	Makes provisions for the reorganization of local government and for the elections of offices created by the reorganization, as well as the removal of offices abolished by the reorganization. Makes provisions regarding the consolidated fire departments of Marion County. Makes provisions regarding tax levy and/or bond issues in reorganized local governments, specifically regarding vote centers and public libraries. Makes provisions regarding redistricting.	On 3rd Reading - Monday, February 22 1:30pm Senate Chamber
<b>HB 1117</b> Rep. Moseley	Funding for Adult Education	Provides an adult education grant to school corporations as part of the state tuition support distribution. Adds the adult education appropriation for state fiscal year 2010-2011 to the state tuition support distribution appropriation for state fiscal year 2010-2011.	In Committee- Second House
<b>HB 1181</b> Rep. Crawford	Township Government	Specifies that in each county after December 31, 2012, the county fiscal body is the fiscal and legislative body of each township in the county and that the county fiscal body shall exercise the legislative and fiscal powers assigned in the Indiana Code to township boards, including the authority to adopt the townships annual budget and to levy township property taxes for township funds. Makes provisions regarding the functioning of township government.	On 2nd Reading - Monday, February 22 1:30pm Senate Chamber

## Senate Bills

Bills	Digest	Notes	Status
<p><b>SB 23</b> Sen. Hershman Kenley, Kruse, etc.</p>	<p>Unemployment Insurance</p>	<p>Delays from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2011, changes in the taxable wage base and employer contribution rates for the unemployment compensation system. Establishes an alternative method of determining the base period for unemployment compensation benefits. Removes the cap on the amount of wage credits. Limits the amount of an individual's benefit to 55% of the state's average weekly wage. Makes various other provisions.</p>	<p>Passed Committee- Second House</p>
<p><b>SB 253</b> Sen. Kenley</p>	<p>Constitutional Amendment Ballot Language</p>	<p>Specifies the ballot language for the submission of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Indiana concerning circuit breakers and other property tax matters.</p>	<p>In Committee- Second House</p>
<p><b>SB 295</b> Sen. Miller</p>	<p>Family and Social Services</p>	<p>Various provisions regarding FSSA including: Requiring a family to receive a cash assistance benefit of at least \$10 under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program if certain income standards and employment earnings are met. As well as specifying that access to a child support enforcement program and IMPACT (JOBS) training program are included as TANF services for certain eligible families.</p>	<p>Passed Committee- Second House</p>
<p><b>SB 324</b> Sens. Dillon &amp; M. Young</p>	<p>Explanation of Proposed Constitutional Amendments</p>	<p>Requires the legislative services agency to prepare a neutral summary of any proposed state constitutional amendment and to submit the proposed summary to the legislative council for approval. Makes provisions for distributing the summary to the public.</p>	<p>In Committee- Second House</p>
<p><b>SB 389</b> Sens. Kruse &amp; Breaux</p>	<p>Information on Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)</p>	<p>Requires that caseworkers of foster children will provide the children with information concerning individual development accounts. An amendment filed on February 1, 2010, would, if adopted, require the caseworker to distribute this information to the foster parent, as well as to the foster child.</p>	<p>Passed Committee- Second House</p>

### **TAKE ACTION NOW!**

Let your legislators know how you feel about these issues.

Who represents you? <http://district.iga.in.gov/DistrictLookup/>

Contact your Legislators! <http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl>

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# INDIANA INSTITUTE FOR WORKING FAMILIES

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