

HB1001 STATE BIENNIAL BUDGET (BROWN T) Appropriates money for capital expenditures, the operation of the state, the delivery of Medicaid and other services, and various other distributions and purposes. Specifies higher education capital projects authorized to be constructed using bonds and the amount of the maximum fee replacement for each project. Provides for the transfer of \$27,000,000 from the Medicaid assistance account of the public welfare, Medicaid assistance fund to the Medicaid contingency and reserve account in state fiscal year 2014-2015. Establishes a historic preservation grant program and provides that the income tax credit for historic preservation does not apply to expenditures made after June 30, 2016. Specifies that the budget report must include a list of tax expenditure items. Specifies that for financial reporting purposes, the state's combined general fund reserves includes the balances of the general fund, the Medicaid contingency and reserve account, the state tuition reserve account, and the counter-cyclical revenue and economic stabilization fund (less any outstanding loans). Changes the name of the state tuition reserve fund to an account within the state general fund. Prohibits the budget agency from enforcing a policy or procedure against certain agencies and officials by refusing to allot money from the personal services/fringe benefits contingency fund to the official or agency. Prohibits a cap on a grant or contract amount under the domestic violence prevention and treatment program administered by the criminal justice institute. Requires the victim services division of the criminal justice institute, instead of the sexual assault victim advocate standards and certification board, to administer the sexual assault victims assistance account. Increases the fee for taxing units for state board of accounts audits from \$45 per day to \$175 per day. Specifies that the fee for state colleges and universities is the direct and indirect cost of an examination (now \$83 per hour). Permits a state college or university to have its examination performed by an independent certified public accounting firm. Provides that fees collected for audits are to be deposited in the state board of accounts trust and agency fund. Makes the fund a dedicated fund that can be used to cover expenses of doing audits. Permits the budget agency to make transfers from the state general fund to the major moves trust fund each year of the biennium, and if such a transfer is made, allows the budget agency to make a transfer from the trust fund to the major moves construction fund. Increases the income tax deduction from \$2,000 to \$5,000 for federal civil service annuity income received by an individual. Provides for a corporate income tax credit for certain hospitals equal to 50% of the property taxes paid in Indiana for property used as a hospital. Provides for changes to the twenty-first century research and technology fund reward approval process. Permits a public-private agreement to be used for Potato Creek State Park and state owned cell towers. Specifies that Medicaid reimbursements rates for ICF/MRs and community residential facilities for the developmentally disabled shall be 3% greater than the reimbursement rate in effect on December 31, 2013. Amends language concerning the Indiana check up plan and the hospital assessment fee to address the implementation of a Medicaid waiver to provide services to individuals who meet certain federal income poverty level requirements. Requires the office of family and social services to maintain an evidence based school social services program in cooperation with public schools. Places a cap on the number of adult learners that are to be funded in each state fiscal year. Provides for the determination of state funding of public schools for state fiscal year 2015-2016 and state fiscal year 2016-2017. Establishes a charter school grant program. Provides that a school corporation may apply for an advance from

the common school fund for certain qualified building upgrade projects. Makes changes to the total amount of school scholarship tax credits that may be awarded in a state fiscal year. Removes the choice scholarship cap of \$4,800 for students in grades 1 through 8. Establishes a grant program to assist two or more school corporations to reorganize as one school corporation. Augments the basic tuition support appropriation. Increases various filing fees charged by the secretary of state after June 30, 2016, for filing paper documents under the Indiana business corporation law, the Indiana Uniform Partnership Act, the limited partnership statute, the Indiana nonprofit corporation act, and the Indiana business flexibility act (limited liability companies). Extends the leave conversion program for employees of the legislative and judicial departments through June 30, 2017.

Current Status: 3/5/2015 - Senate Appropriations, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1005 TAX CREDIT FOR TEACHERS' CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (SMALTZ B) Provides that an individual employed as a teacher is entitled to a credit against the individual's adjusted gross income tax liability for amounts expended on classroom supplies up to a maximum of \$200 per taxable year.

Current Status: 3/4/2015 - Senate Education and Career Development, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1009 FREEDOM TO TEACH ACT (BEHNING R) Allows a governing body of one or more school corporations to establish a freedom to teach school, zone, or district. Establishes the freedom to teach grant fund to provide grants to governing bodies that establish a freedom to teach school, zone, or district. Establishes the career pathways pilot program.

Current Status: 2/25/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1028 SCHOOL EXPENSES (MCNAMARA W) Removes the expiration date in current law on the authority of a school corporation to use money in its capital projects fund to pay the costs of insurance and utilities. Provides that a school corporation may use money in its capital projects fund or its rainy day fund to pay for an audit of the school corporation by the state board of accounts or a private accounting firm certified by the state board of accounts.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy

HB1042 EDUCATION LOAN INFORMATION (COX C) Requires a postsecondary educational institution that enrolls students who receive Frank O'Bannon grants or twenty-first century scholarships to annually provide each student with certain information concerning the student's education loans. Provides that an eligible institution does not incur liability for any information provided to students.

Current Status: 3/4/2015 - Senate Education and Career Development, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1056 STUDENT TRANSFERS (SOLIDAY E) Provides that a student may transfer to a school corporation if the student's parent is an employee of the school corporation and the school corporation has the capacity to accept the student. Provides that an elementary school student who attended an accredited nonpublic elementary school in the attendance area of a school corporation in which the student does not have legal settlement may attend a high school in the school corporation if the school

corporation: (1) has the capacity to accept the student and the majority of the students in the same grade as the transferring student at the accredited nonpublic school have legal settlement in the transferee school corporation; (2) has only one high school; and (3) does not have a policy to accept transfer students.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1068 BACKGROUND CHECKS (THOMPSON J) Makes changes to the definition of an "expanded criminal history check", which is required for employment at a school.
Current Status: 3/4/2015 - Senate Education and Career Development, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1108 DYSLEXIA (BURTON W) Defines "dyslexia". Requires an individual who seeks to receive an initial practitioner's license as an elementary school teacher to demonstrate proficiency in the recognition that a student who is not progressing at a normal rate related to reading may need to be referred to the school's multidisciplinary team to determine the student's special learning needs, including learning needs related to dyslexia. Provides that if an education service center offers inservice training or other teacher training programs, the education service center may offer courses for teachers on dyslexia screening and appropriate interventions.
Current Status: 3/4/2015 - Senate Education and Career Development, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1109 PAYMENT OF MONTHLY PENSION BENEFITS (BURTON W) Provides that members and beneficiaries of any public pension fund administered by the Indiana public retirement system may receive monthly benefits only by direct deposit or another method approved by the board of trustees of the Indiana public retirement system. Repeals a similar but more narrowly applicable section concerning methods of paying monthly benefits to members and beneficiaries of the public employees' retirement fund and the teachers' retirement fund.
Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Pensions and Labor

HB1188 STUDENT TEACHING (SMITH V) Requires a student teaching agreement to include a provision requiring a student who is required to complete a student teaching requirement to be supervised by a certificated employee that has been rated as either highly effective or effective on the certificated employee's latest annual performance evaluation. Makes a technical correction.
Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1194 HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS (CLERE E) Provides that, beginning with the annual case review when a student who is a child with a disability is in grade 8, the student's individualized education program must include the type of diploma the student will seek and the courses necessary to obtain the diploma. Provides that, beginning with grade 9, the student's teacher of record must communicate with the student's parent at least one time each reporting period to review the student's progress toward the diploma. Provides that, not later than October 1, 2015, the Core 40 subcommittee of the Indiana career council shall present to the education study committee recommended changes to course requirements for general, Core 40, academic honors, and technical honors diplomas to ensure that each student who seeks a diploma has enough flexibility in the student's schedule to pursue a

college or career pathway appropriate for the student's individual goals, knowledge, skills, and abilities. Requires the education study committee to propose legislative changes necessary to carry out the recommended changes.

Current Status: 2/25/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1414 SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS (SPEEDY M) Provides that a school or attendance center is required to conduct one tornado preparedness drill, or one manmade occurrence disaster drill (emergency preparedness drill), each semester. Provides that an emergency preparedness drill may be conducted instead of a periodic or monthly fire evacuation drill requirement established by the state fire marshal. Provides that an emergency preparedness drill conducted may not be made instead of more than two periodic or monthly fire evacuation drills in a particular school year. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may direct schools to conduct additional emergency preparedness drills.

Current Status: 2/25/2015 - Senator Schneider added as sponsor

HB1438 ADULT HIGH SCHOOLS (DEVON D) Provides that the department of education shall distribute funding for adult high schools to the adult high school's organizer. Provides that an adult high school may be authorized by the executive of a consolidated city.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1466 WINDING UP PLAN PARTICIPATION (CARBAUGH M) Provides that an employer that is eligible but not required to participate in the public employees' retirement fund (PERF) must pay the employer's share of the unfunded liability attributable to the employer's current and former employees if the employer withdraws from PERF or otherwise phases out its participation in PERF.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Pensions and Labor

HB1481 PUBLIC RETIREMENT PLANS (BURTON W) Provides that a political subdivision that participates in the public employees' retirement fund (fund) may participate in the public employees' defined contribution plan (plan), if the governing body adopts an ordinance or resolution that is filed with and approved by the board of trustees of the Indiana public retirement system (board). Provides that an individual who begins employment in a covered position with a political subdivision that participates in the plan may elect to become a member of the plan. Provides that, if an individual does not make an election to become a member of the plan, the individual becomes a member of the fund. Establishes the teacher's defined contribution plan (teachers' plan) and provides that a school corporation may participate in the teachers' plan, if the school corporation adopts a resolution to participate in the teachers' plan that is filed with and approved by the board. Provides that an individual who begins employment with a participating school corporation as a teacher may elect to become a member of the teachers' plan. Provides that, if a teacher hired by a participating school corporation does not make an election to become a member of the teachers' plan, the individual becomes a member of the Indiana state teachers' retirement fund (TRF). Provides that a retired member of the fund or TRF may change the member's beneficiary, if the member and the member's designated beneficiary are no longer in a relationship that caused the member to make the original beneficiary designation. Grants cost of living adjustments in 2015 and 2016 for certain members of the: (1) fund; (2) TRF; (3) state police pre-1987 benefit

system; and (4) state police 1987 benefit system.

Current Status: 2/25/2015 - Senator Boots added as sponsor

HB1483 VARIOUS EDUCATION ISSUES (THOMPSON J) Provides that if the school is closed on a noninstructional day on which the teacher is required to work or teacher professional development training or education is provided and the work day or the training or education is rescheduled, each teacher shall work on that rescheduled day without additional compensation. Provides that a district wide or school wide committee that has teacher members who are members of the exclusive representative and teacher members who are not members of the exclusive representative may address discussion topics subject to bargaining. Provides that if, at any time after at least 60 days following the beginning of bargaining collectively between the parties or August 1, whichever is later, an impasse is declared, the Indiana education employment relations board (IEERB) shall appoint a mediator. Provides for the reimbursement of a mediator in a collective bargaining proceeding. Provides that the IEERB, with mutual agreement by the parties, may appoint a financial consultant to assist a factfinder during mediation. Provides that collective bargaining may begin before August 1. Provides for reimbursement of IEERB by the parties involved in mediation. Provides that the complaint for an unfair practice must be filed within three years after the alleged unfair practice or within three years after the date on which the school employer or school employee reasonably should have known of the alleged unfair practice. Provides that, upon mutual agreement by the parties, IEERB may appoint a mediator for informal mediation. Provides that a person who has served as a mediator in a dispute between a school employer and an exclusive representative may not serve as a factfinder in a dispute arising in the same school corporation within a period of two years except by the mutual consent of the parties. Changes the date in which a factfinding hearing in an impasse procedure must occur. Urges the legislative council to assign to an existing study committee the topic of determining appropriate and feasible incentives to encourage highly effective teachers to teach in poor performing schools.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1609 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (MCMILLIN J) Provides that the members of the state board of education shall elect annually a chairperson from the members of the state board.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1635 DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PILOT PROGRAM (BEHNING R) Establishes the dual language immersion pilot program to provide assistance to school corporations and charter schools that establish dual language immersion programs in certain foreign languages.

Current Status: 3/4/2015 - Senate Education and Career Development, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

HB1636 CHARTER SCHOOLS (BEHNING R) Provides that a governing body of a school corporation, a state educational institution, and a nonprofit college or university must register with the state board of education (state board) if it has not previously issued a charter for any charter school prior to July 1, 2015. Makes changes to the definition of an "organizer". Requires the state board to provide a formal evaluation of the overall state of charter school outcomes in Indiana every five years. Provides

that a charter school may give enrollment preference to children of the charter school's founders, governing body members, and charter school employees, as long as preference is not given to more than 10% of the charter school's total population. Provides that if a proposal to establish a charter school concerns an existing charter school overseen by a different authorizer than the authorizer to which the organizer is submitting the proposal, the proposal must include written acknowledgement of the proposal from the current authorizer. Provides that a charter school may limit admissions to allow preschool students who attend a Level 3 or Level 4 Paths to QUALITY program preschool provider to attend kindergarten at a charter school if the charter school and the preschool provider have entered into an agreement to share services or facilities. Provides that a governing body is not bound by a collective bargaining agreement for employees of a conversion charter school. Provides that employees of a conversion charter school may collectively bargain.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Referred to committee on Education and Career Development

HB1637 **VARIOUS EDUCATION ISSUES** (BEHNING R) Makes changes to provisions relating to guidelines or thresholds established by the state board of education (state board) to identify students who are likely to require remedial work at a postsecondary educational institution or workforce training program. Removes the requirement that PSAT assessment scores are to be included in a student's transcript.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Senator Rogers added as third sponsor

HB1638 **SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION ZONES** (BEHNING R) Makes various changes to the consequences for failing schools. Changes the timeline, from six years to four years, for state intervention for a school initially placed in the lowest category or designation of school improvement after June 30, 2015. Makes various changes to the provisions relating to management of turnaround academes by special management teams. Provides that the state board of education (state board) may approve a governing body's plan to establish a transformation zone. Provides that a school may not offer any type of redeemable gift card having a monetary value to a student or parent or legal guardian of a student in exchange for enrolling at the school. Repeals a provision relating to a correction of a disbursement of state and federal funds to the Indianapolis Public Schools for the 2012-2013 state fiscal year. Makes technical corrections.

Current Status: 2/25/2015 - Senator Miller, Pete added as third sponsor

SB1 **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION GOVERNANCE** (HOLDMAN T) Makes changes to the composition of the state board of education (state board). Provides that the state board may hire staff and administrative support. Provides that the state board shall meet at least once every six months and at the call of the chairperson. Provides that the state board shall elect a chairperson annually from the members of the state board. Requires the chairperson to provide notice of a state board meeting and make the agenda for the state board meeting available on the state board's and the department of education's Internet web sites at least 14 days before the meeting. Provides that a member of the state board may submit a request to the chairperson to amend the agenda at least seven days before the state board meeting. Provides that if the chairperson does not respond or refuses to amend the state board's agenda, the agenda may be amended to include the agenda item requested at the current or subsequent state board meeting with a majority vote of the state board. Provides that the state board may not take official action on an

agenda item added at the current meeting until the next subsequent state board meeting.

Current Status: 2/17/2015 - Senator Kruse added as coauthor

SB35 **SPEED LIMITS IN SCHOOL ZONES** (BOOTS P) Provides that a city, town, or county may establish a speed limit of not less than 20 miles per hour on a street or highway upon which a school is located if the street or highway is under the jurisdiction of the city, town, or county. (Current law provides that the speed limit may not be less than 30 miles per hour outside an urban district.) Removes outdated language.

Current Status: 2/16/2015 - Referred to House

SB62 **2015 ISTEP PROGRAM** (KRUSE D) Provides that the department of education (department) may waive certain assessment inspection requirements for purposes of administration of the 2015 ISTEP program. Provides that, if the department waives inspection requirements for any questions on the 2015 ISTEP program, the department must establish criteria to allow a student's parent the opportunity to inspect questions used as part of the 2015 ISTEP program in a manner that will not compromise the validity or integrity of the 2016 ISTEP program. Provides that the department may waive the administration of the social studies portion of ISTEP program during the 2015 administration of the ISTEP program.

Current Status: 2/23/2015 - Signed by the Speaker

SB123 **CENTERS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION** (BECKER V) Revises the law setting forth the locations and names for centers for comprehensive medical education.

Current Status: 2/3/2015 - Referred to House

SB130 **SCHOOL CURRICULUM** (LEISING J) Requires each school corporation and accredited nonpublic elementary school to include cursive writing in its curriculum. Requires each school corporation and accredited nonpublic school to include reading in its curriculum.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Senator Randolph added as coauthor

SB233 **WINTER HOLIDAYS IN SCHOOLS, CITIES, AND TOWNS** (SMITH J) Provides that a school corporation may: (1) instruct students about the history of traditional winter celebrations; (2) allow the use of traditional greetings concerning the celebrations; and (3) display on school property scenes or symbols associated with traditional winter celebrations if certain conditions are met and the scenes or symbols do not include a message that encourages a particular religious belief. Requires the state board of education to develop guidelines to assist school corporations in developing appropriate instruction and displays. Provides that the legislative body of a city, including a consolidated city, or town may adopt an ordinance that: (1) allows employees to use traditional greetings concerning traditional winter celebrations; and (2) allows the display on city or town property scenes or symbols associated with traditional winter celebrations if certain conditions are met and the scenes or symbols do not include a message that encourages a particular religious belief.

Current Status: 2/16/2015 - Referred to House

SB259 **STEM EDUCATION** (GROOMS R) Establishes an early learning STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) associate degree model program.

Provides for the selection of 10 high schools from around Indiana to participate.

Current Status: 2/3/2015 - Senator Randolph added as coauthor

SB265 PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDIT (KRUSE D) Permits a member of the public employees' retirement fund (PERF) to purchase at full actuarial cost the member's prior service in the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund). Requires the board of trustees of the Indiana public retirement system to transfer from the 1977 fund to PERF the member's contributions and the present value of the unreduced benefit payable upon retirement that is attributable to the member. Requires the transferred amounts to be credited against the contributions required to purchase the member's prior 1977 fund service. Permits the member's employer to pay all or a part of the member's contributions required for the purchase of the member's prior 1977 fund service. Provides that credit in the 1977 fund for the service that is purchased is waived. Makes a technical correction to service purchase provisions of public pension and retirement funds.

Current Status: 1/27/2015 - Representative Cox added as sponsor

SB267 BILITERACY (KRUSE D) Establishes the state seal of biliteracy to recognize public school graduates who demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English and at least one other language. Requires the state board of education to adopt rules and to direct the department of education to administer the state seal of biliteracy program. Provides that a school corporation or charter school is not required to participate in the state seal of biliteracy program.

Current Status: 2/4/2015 - Representative Austin added as cosponsor

SB283 AMORTIZATION OF UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITIES (WALKER G) Provides that the board of the Indiana public retirement system (INPRS) may determine a term that does not exceed 30 years over which to amortize various unfunded accrued liabilities associated with the funds administered by INPRS. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the interim study committee on pension management oversight.)

Current Status: 2/19/2015 - Referred to House

SB315 SCHOOL PROPERTY (SMITH J) Allows a consolidated school corporation to transfer property to the township from which the consolidated school corporation received the property, if the township uses the property for operating a community services facility or for park and recreation purposes. Allows the township to sell or lease the property for these purposes to an Indiana nonprofit corporation that is exempt from federal taxation.

Current Status: 2/16/2015 - Referred to House

SB339 SCHOOL BUS MONITORS (ROGERS E) Provides that the visual acuity required of a school bus driver is not required of a school bus monitor.

Current Status: 2/3/2015 - Referred to House

SB350 EAST CHICAGO SCHOOL BOARD (RANDOLPH L) Reduces the number of members of the governing body of the School City of East Chicago from nine to five, beginning January 1, 2017. Provides that if a vacancy occurs on the governing body before January 1, 2017, the vacancy shall not be filled unless the vacancy reduces the number of members to fewer than five. Provides that three members of the governing body are elected from districts and two members of the governing body

are elected at large by all the voters of the city. Repeals and provides for the expiration of statutes consistent with the new structure of the governing body.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Representatives Harris, Fine and Slager added as cosponsor

SB356 WORK ETHIC CERTIFICATION AND GRANTS (GROOMS R) Provides that a school corporation may establish a work ethic certification program under which a student who develops skills necessary for success in higher education or employment receives a work ethic certificate upon graduation. Provides that the state board of education, in consultation with the workforce innovation council, may adopt rules to: (1) establish model criteria for a work ethic certification program; and (2) develop a standard work ethic certificate.

Current Status: 2/10/2015 - Senator Randolph added as coauthor

SB398 SCHOOL BUS STOP ARM VIOLATIONS (BASSLER E) Provides that a law enforcement officer may arrest a person when the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has committed a misdemeanor by recklessly passing a school bus when the arm signal device of the bus is in the extended position. (Current law requires the officer to have probable cause to believe that the person is committing or attempting to commit the misdemeanor in the officer's presence.)

Current Status: 2/12/2015 - Senator Arnold added as third author

SB419 TOWN MARSHALS (BOOTS P) Provides that, after December 31, 2015, a town law enforcement officer who: (1) is not a member of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund and does not participate in another pension or retirement plan offered by the town; (2) has successfully completed the minimum basic training requirements for town law enforcement officers; and (3) normally performs service for the town for at least 1,750 hours during a year; becomes a member of the public employees' retirement fund.

Current Status: 2/3/2015 - Referred to House

SB443 VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS (KRUSE D) Allows grants from the safe schools fund to provide schoolwide programs to improve school climate and professional development and training in alternatives to suspension and expulsion and evidence based practices that contribute to a positive school environment. Provides that an election for a student to have legal settlement in the school corporation whose attendance area contains the residence of the student's mother or father shall be made on a yearly basis and applies throughout the school year unless the student's mother or father no longer resides within the attendance area of the school corporation. Provides that a school corporation that has adopted a policy not to accept student transfers after June 30, 2013, is not prohibited from enrolling a transfer student from an accredited nonpublic school or charter school located within the school corporation's boundaries if the school corporation has entered into an agreement to allow students of the accredited nonpublic school or charter school to transfer to the school within the school corporation. Requires the department of education (department) to develop guidelines for use by accredited teacher education institutions in preparing teachers to successfully apply classroom behavioral management strategies, including culturally responsive methods, to provide alternatives to suspension and expulsion. Removes a requirement that the department report instances of noncompliance of local salary scale requirements to the state board of education. Requires the department to allow the use of computer or digital response technology to complete a statewide, national, or international

student assessment. Provides that a school corporation or school may allow a student to use computer or digital response technology to complete an assessment. Provides that a school staff member may take disciplinary action instead of suspending or expelling a student for misconduct that is not related to school safety. Requires the state board of education to develop for school counselors who hold a professional or accomplished teaching license professional development requirements or standards that emphasize improving skills and knowledge related to providing effective school counseling or guidance. Requires a school's professional development program to include separate professional development requirements for school counselors. Changes references in the Indiana Code from "guidance counselor" to "school counselor". Creates a school discipline data workgroup to study various issues related to the collection and analysis of school discipline data. Urges the legislative council to assign to the education study committee the topic of requiring 30 minutes for physical activity each school day for students and related topics.

Current Status: 2/10/2015 - Senator Randolph added as coauthor

SB470 **STUDY OF ISSUES RELATED TO STUDENT ASSESSMENTS** (SCHNEIDER S) Urges the legislative council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of studying issues related to the development by the state board of education of acceptable tests from which all schools may select a test that meets the requirements of IC 20-32 concerning student standards, assessments, and performance.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Senator Bassler added as third author

SB476 **SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND TAX RATES** (HEAD R) Provides that when calculating the maximum rate for a school corporation's capital projects fund for taxes due and payable in calendar year 2016, the first step in the calculation (the previous year's maximum rate) shall be the larger of: (1) the actual maximum rate for the school corporation's capital projects fund for the previous year; or (2) the maximum rate that would have been established for the school corporation's capital project fund for the previous year if the formula used in current law to determine the maximum rate had been in effect for each calendar year after 2006. Specifies that the maximum rate calculation as added in the bill does not apply to the Vincennes Community School Corporation.

Current Status: 2/16/2015 - Referred to House

SB491 **SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEMS** (BOOTS P) Urges the legislative council to assign to the appropriate interim study committee the topic of school emergency response systems for study during the 2015 interim.

Current Status: 2/19/2015 - Referred to House

SB492 **VARIOUS PENSION MATTERS** (BOOTS P) Establishes a procedure by which a political subdivision may participate in the defined contribution only plan (the plan) and choose whether the political subdivision's employees participate in the public employees' retirement fund (PERF), the plan, or may elect whether to participate in PERF or the plan. Provides that an ordinance or resolution adopted by the governing body of a political subdivision that specifies the departmental, occupational, or other definable classification of employees: (1) who are required to become members of the plan; or (2) who may elect whether to become members of PERF or of the plan; may not take effect before January 2, 2016. Permits a political subdivision that allows its employees to make an election to choose a default option for employees

who fail to do so. Provides that the default option is PERF, if a political subdivision does not choose a default option. Permits a political subdivision to establish its employer contribution rate to the plan and to elect to match a percentage of its employees' additional contributions to the plan. Requires the board of trustees (board) of the Indiana public retirement system (INPRS) to assess an employer a supplemental contribution to PERF, if necessary, to fund the employer's share of the actuarial accrued liability that is unfunded because the employer's employees are members of the plan rather than PERF. Requires the board to notify the interim study committee for pension management oversight (interim committee) if the board determines contributions and contribution rates for one or more employers participating in PERF or teachers' retirement fund (TRF) that differ from the contributions and contribution rates recommended by the INPRS actuaries. For purposes of the statutes allowing the state to make an election or take discretionary action under the public retirement system laws, specifies which entities may make the election or take the action. Requires the office of management and budget to report to the interim committee each year concerning information received from political subdivisions about the subdivisions' retirement plans other than plans administered by INPRS. Establishes a procedure for a miscellaneous participating entity (entity) or political subdivision to withdraw or freeze participation in PERF. Requires a withdrawing or freezing entity or political subdivision to fully fund PERF benefits attributable to the entity's or political subdivision's employees' PERF service with the entity or political subdivision. Requires an entity or political subdivision that withdraws from or freezes participation in PERF and thereafter offers its employees a retirement benefit to participate in the plan. Requires any other public employer that is eligible but not required to participate in PERF and that wishes to offer a retirement benefit to an employee after June 30, 2015, to participate in either PERF or the plan. Grandfathers participation in another defined contribution plan for entities, political subdivisions, and other public employers participating in another plan on July 1, 2015. Provides that after December 31, 2015, members and beneficiaries of any public pension fund administered by INPRS may receive monthly benefits only by direct deposit or another method approved by the board. Expires a section concerning other methods of paying monthly benefits to members and beneficiaries of PERF and TRF. Permits a retired member of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund) who is at least 55 years of age to: (1) be rehired by the same unit that employed the member in a position covered by the 1977 fund for a position not covered by the 1977 fund without a minimum period of separation from employment; and (2) continue to receive the member's retirement benefit from the 1977 fund.

Current Status: 2/16/2015 - Referred to House

SB495 **STUDY OF ETHNIC HISTORY** (TAYLOR G) Requires the study of ethnic and racial groups to be included as part of each school corporation's high school United States history course.

Current Status: 2/4/2015 - Representatives Smith, V., Pryor, Porter and Summers added as cosponsor

SB500 **EDUCATION DEREGULATION** (MILLER P) Makes comprehensive revisions to the Indiana Code relating to all aspects of the administration of schools and school corporations and the education of students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Repeals various obsolete provisions and provisions that limit local control of schools. Establishes a school reporting oversight committee to review all reporting requirements by the state for schools. Authorizes public agencies to charge a search

and detection fee of \$20 per hour for certain public information requests. Expands the list of items for which a state agency may not impose a fee under the public records law, and further regulates the public records fees that state agencies may charge. Removes a requirement that a local government authority awarding a public work contract to a bidder other than the lowest bidder must state in the authority's minutes or memoranda the factors used to determine the bidder awarded the contract. Provides that school accreditation is optional for schools. Makes conforming and technical amendments.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Representative Cook added as sponsor

SB509 SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS (CHARBONNEAU E) Provides that at the end of each state fiscal year, the commission for higher education (commission) may order the auditor of state to transfer money among certain funds if the commission determines that the remaining appropriation in a particular fund could be used by eligible applicants for an award under one of the other funds in the following state fiscal year. Provides that the auditor of state shall make a transfer ordered by the commission. Renames the "part-time student grant" as the "adult student grant". Renames the "part-time student grant fund" as the "adult student grant fund". Requires the commission for higher education to award an additional amount in a recipient's final semester to a recipient graduating with a degree aligned to priority economic sectors identified by the Indiana career council. Makes technical and conforming amendments.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Representative Truitt added as cosponsor

SB538 TEACHER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (YODER C) Adds a definition of "professional employee organization". Provides that a school employer shall submit a copy of the affidavit submitted by the exclusive representative indicating the number of teachers who are members of the exclusive representative to the board. Provides that if the Indiana education employment relations board (board) determines that the affidavit indicates that the exclusive representative does not represent a majority of the employees, the board shall investigate the affidavit. Provides that after investigation by the board, the board may, if necessary, hold a hearing concerning representation by the school employee organization, and, based on the results of the hearing, direct an election by secret ballot within the bargaining unit to determine representation. Provides that an election based on the investigation of an affidavit may be held only once in a five year period. Removes a requirement that a school corporation submit its local salary schedule to the department for posting on the department's Internet web site. Provides that the board must rule on an appeal of a factfinder's decision within 60 days of receipt of the notice of appeal. Provides that factfinding by a factfinder may not last longer than 30 days. Provides that the public hearing for a collective bargaining impasse proceeding may begin not earlier than October 1 in the first year of the state budget biennium and must be concluded by February 1 of the year following the commencement of bargaining. Requires the board to develop and maintain a form summarizing a school employee's rights and protections. Requires a school corporation, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, to distribute the form to the school corporation's employees. Requires a school corporation to establish and maintain procedures or policies that provide equal treatment of and equal access for professional employee organizations.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Representative McMillin added as cosponsor

SB545 LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA (TAYLOR G) Requires school corporations, charter

schools, and accredited nonpublic schools to create, store, and maintain records for all emergency dispatch requests and arrests.

Current Status: 1/20/2015 - Referred to Education and Career Development

SB566

EDUCATION (MISHLER R) Replaces ISTEP program testing with BEST testing program for school years beginning after June 30, 2016. Establishes certain procedures related to implementing the BEST program, including budget committee review. Provides that the education roundtable may not recommend and the state board of education (state board) may not adopt Common Core Standards or an assessment or test that is produced solely by the United States government or a consortium of states. Specifies that the state board shall ensure that applications for the necessary flexibility waivers under the federal No Child Left Behind Act are filed in a timely fashion and that the applications comply with the educational policies of the state board. Provides for innovation network school programs in school corporations other than the Indianapolis Public Schools. Extends the school performance grant program through the 2016-2017 school year, and makes changes in the calculation and use of the grant for stipends to teachers. Permits teachers to receive a supplemental amount for completion of certain master's degrees. Requires the department of education (department) to establish a program to permit an individual with a major in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics and a minor in education to obtain a teaching license. Provides that a school corporation must consider certain factors in developing a performance evaluation model. Provides that a school corporation shall report its staff performance evaluation plan (plan) to the department (which may review the plan for efficacy) and the Indiana education employment relations board (which may review the plan for legality). Requires school employers to bring collective bargaining agreements into conformity with law, provides for oversight by the education employment relations board to bring these agreements into compliance, permits certificated employees to be paid based on adopted salary ranges rather than salary schedules, and makes other changes in collective bargaining. Provides that a school with a low student population (when compared to the average size of the student population at all schools in Indiana) may appeal a performance designation to the state board based on the insufficient size of the test group needed to determine an accurate result. Permits the governing body of a school corporation to specify that less than 50% of a stipend to a teacher from a performance grant becomes, in school years after the school year in which the stipend is awarded, a permanent part of the teacher's annual salary. Indicates that a school corporation may provide supplemental compensation to a teacher who earns a master's degree in a content area directly related to a dual placement course taught by the teacher.

Current Status: 2/24/2015 - Representatives Ober and Porter added as cosponsor