



# INDIANA SENATE

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## REPUBLICANS

The Indiana General Assembly continues to strive for improved public safety for all Hoosiers. This session, legislators have introduced a number of bills aimed at keeping Indiana a safe place to live, work and play.

- **SB 3**, authored by State Sen. Michael Crider (R-Greenfield), would create the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund to help pay for training programs and equipment for state and local law enforcement to prevent and prosecute crimes committed against children using the internet, like child pornography.
- **SB 20**, authored by State Sen. Jim Merritt (R-Indianapolis), would make Level 2 through Level 4 felonies nonsuspendible if the person has a previous felony conviction and raise the sentences for various felony levels. This bill is designed to take criminal sentencing back to levels more comparable to our sentencing structure before the recent criminal code reform.
- **SB 88**, authored by State Sen. Jack E. Sandlin (R-Indianapolis), would allow churches that also have schools on their property to allow their parishioners, volunteers and employees to carry firearms on their property, as all other churches can. Any church can restrict carrying at their facility.
- **SB 89**, authored by State Sen. Jack E. Sandlin (R-Indianapolis), would require the driver of a vehicle, when passing a cyclist proceeding in the same direction, to maintain at least three feet from the bicycle. A violator would commit a Class C infraction.
- **SB 110**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would enhance penalties for drug dealing within 500 feet of a drug abuse counseling, recovery, support group or rehabilitation site. This would deter criminals from selling to those they know are vulnerable to substance abuse.
- **SB 111**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would create a new community and faith-based substance abuse programs grant to help addicts with their addiction. Services from the grant could include transportation to and from their treatment. The grants would total \$100,000 annually.
- **SB 141**, authored by State Sen. Erin Houchin (R-Salem), would better regulate office-based opioid treatment providers to ensure the vulnerable population they serve is receiving quality treatment and addicts are not abusing the system. Hundreds of these providers have popped up in recent years due to the opioid epidemic, prompting the need for further oversight.
- **SB 174**, authored by State Sen. Jack E. Sandlin (R-Indianapolis), would require physicians who treat patients for fertility to get the patient's consent to use the physician's spermatozoon or ovum. This bill was authored in response to a central Indiana physician who treated patients with his own spermatozoon without the patients' consent.
- **SB 186**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would allow prosecutors to charge a different crime for each person injured or killed in traffic crimes – under current law, only one crime may be charged regardless of how many people are harmed by the crime.
- **SB 222**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would require local health departments to disclose certain information when a restaurant worker is prohibited from working due to having a communicable disease. This information would maintain the anonymity of the employee while helping the public understand what restaurant was affected and what disease was involved.



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- **SB 237**, authored by State Sen. Aaron Freeman (R-Indianapolis), would close a loophole that gives drug traffickers special treatment by allowing their sentences to be suspended. For many Level 2 or Level 3 drug-trafficking felonies, such as dealing methamphetamine or cocaine, the court is free to suspend as much of the sentence as they determine necessary, even for offenders with prior convictions. Under SB 237, these offenders would serve the full minimum sentence or more.
- **SB 240**, authored by State Sen. Aaron Freeman (R-Indianapolis), would recodify the crime of terrorism in Indiana Code so it is better suited to the modern law enforcement landscape. It would also enhance the penalties for extortion if it is against various groups, such as public safety officers or court employees, that may be victims of terroristic threats.
- **SB 243**, authored by State Sen. Aaron Freeman (R-Indianapolis), would designate as a Class A misdemeanor the distribution of an “intimate image” of an individual whom the distributor should reasonably know and who does not consent to its distribution or display. The penalty would be increased to a Level 6 felony for a subsequent offense.
- **SB 279**, authored by State Sen. Erin Houchin (R-Salem), would allow court proceedings for juveniles charged with murder or attempted murder to be waived to adult court if the child is at least 12 years of age and there is probable cause to believe the child committed the act. Proceedings would be allowed to remain in juvenile court in certain instances where it is determined to be in the best interest of the child and safety of the community.
- **SB 304**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would make it a Level 6 felony to threaten a utility worker in an attempt to prevent them from providing utility services. If the intimidation is against someone who is not a utility worker, the offense would be a Class A misdemeanor.
- **SB 326**, authored by State Sen. Michael Crider (R-Greenfield), would provide grants for local schools to fund integrated mental health and substance-use disorder services. This funding would give schools some of the personnel and tools necessary to provide evidence-based mental health services to their students as well as help treat the root causes of school safety issues before they become problems for law enforcement.
- **SB 382**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would make it a Level 6 felony to forge a gift card or use a gift card that was fraudulently or illegally obtained. This bill would also give law enforcement additional tools to prevent fraud at retail stores.
- **SB 383**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would provide that a person who intentionally points an air- or gas-operated weapon at another person while on a school bus or on the property of an accredited nonpublic school, charter school or school corporation commits a Class B misdemeanor.
- **SB 388**, authored by State Sen. Erin Houchin (R-Salem), would annually adjust salaries for certain public safety officers, including the Indiana State Police, agents of the Indiana Gaming Commission and enforcement officers of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission. Adjustments would be made based on any changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- **SB 471**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would provide that a person who intentionally enters a critical infrastructure facility’s real property without authorization or contractual interest would commit critical infrastructure facility trespass. Damage or defacement of such a facility would constitute critical infrastructure facility mischief, and both offenses would be subject to criminal penalties and civil remedies.
- **SB 519**, authored by State Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would allow a person charged with dealing, attempted dealing or conspiracy to commit dealing of a controlled substance to be tried in any county where he or she had performed an act in furtherance of the offense. A court could suspend only the portion of a sentence that was above the legal minimum for one with a controlled substance-related Level 2 or Level 3 felony conviction, and who also had a prior unrelated felony conviction.
- **SB 561**, authored by State Sen. Erin Houchin (R-Salem), would establish the Office of the State Medical Examiner, a licensed physician who would assist the State Police and local officials in performing autopsies. This would help modernize Indiana’s law enforcement and give our police and prosecutors the necessary tools to conduct 21st century investigations.