



How Does a Bill Become a Law?

ICTA Spring Meeting – March 9, 2021

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Indiana General Assembly Basics

- House of Representatives – 100 members
- Senate – 50 members
- Currently a super-majority in each chamber
- Biennial Budget
 - Long session
 - Short session
- Part-time, Citizen Legislature

Indiana General Assembly Basics

- How a bill becomes a law
 - Bill is requested
 - Bill is drafted
 - Bill is introduced during 1st reading
 - Bill is assigned to a committee
 - Bill passes out of committee (amended or not amended)
 - Bill is called down on 2nd reading (eligible for a floor amendment)

Indiana General Assembly Basics

- How a bill becomes a law (continued)
 - Bill is called for 3rd reading, must pass by majority vote
 - Bills switch to the opposite chamber
 - Bill is introduced in the 2nd chamber on 1st reading
 - Bill is assigned to a committee
 - Bill passes out of committee (amended or not amended)
 - Bill is called down on 2nd reading (eligible for a floor amendment)

Indiana General Assembly Basics

- How a bill becomes a law (continued)
 - Bill is called for 3rd reading, must pass by majority vote
 - Bills that were not amended in the 2nd chamber (and pass by majority vote) are signed by the leader of each chamber and head to the Governor's desk
 - Bills that were amended are eligible for conference committee and the author can either concur with changes made or dissent

Indiana General Assembly Basics

- How a bill becomes a law (continued)
 - Each chamber must approve of the concurrence
 - Bills that have a dissent filed are eligible for conference committee
 - Conferees are assigned by the leader of each chamber and conference committees are held
 - Conference committee reports must have 4 signatures, then are before each chamber for approval
 - Once each chamber approves of the conference committee report, each leader signs the bill and it heads to the Governor's office

Indiana General Assembly Basics

- How a bill becomes a law (continued)
 - The Governor has the option to either sign a bill into law, allow it to become law after 7 days, or veto the bill
 - Vetoes can be overridden by a majority vote in each chamber

Legislative Leadership

Indiana House of Representatives

(71 Republicans, 29 Democrats)



House Speaker
Todd Huston (R)
Fishers, IN



House Minority Leader
Phil GiaQuinta (D)
Fort Wayne, IN

Indiana Senate

(39 Republicans, 11 Democrats)



Senate President Pro Tempore
Rodric Bray (R)
Martinsville, IN



Senate Minority Leader
Greg Taylor (D)
Indianapolis, IN

2021 Legislative Session Overview

- Long session, budget session
- Key Dates
 - April 13: House Committee Report Deadline
 - April 15: House 2nd Reading Deadline, Senate Committee Report Deadline
 - April 19: House 3rd Reading Deadline, Senate 2nd Reading Deadline
 - April 20: Senate 3rd Reading Deadline
 - April 29: Latest day for GA to adjourn Sine Die

Questions?

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