



Session – Week 4
January 31, 2025

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



INCPAS Weekly Update

INCPAS	https://tinyurl.com/INCPAS2025
INCPAS- TAX	https://tinyurl.com/INCPAS-TAX2025

The fast-paced tempo continued in the Indiana General Assembly this week. A total of 142 bills were scheduled to be heard in committees during the week (70 in the House and 72 in the Senate). Of those 142 bills, 105 of them passed out of committee, while the remainder were held for further debate and potential amendments in next week's committee hearings. Further, almost all the House and Senate majority caucus agenda bills have received a committee hearing so far this session, and we expect that the state's budget bill for the next biennial budget will get its first committee hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee next Thursday, February 6.

Governor Mike Braun gave his first [State of the State Address](#) in the House Chambers on Wednesday this week to a joint session of the General Assembly where he reiterated many of the policy priorities that he introduced on the campaign trail last year. His remarks included his administration's initiatives on tax relief, government efficiency, public safety, health, economic development, and education, and were largely in-line with the priorities of both the House and Senate leadership. In addition, the Governor has issued a number of Executive Orders since taking office, all of which can be accessed here: [Governor Braun: Executive Orders](#).

The highlight of this week in the General Assembly was the unanimous passage in the House of our pathways to licensure bill [HB 1143](#). The bill included language added in committee last week that required the Department of Revenue to accept attachments on a tax return in an electronic format. The next step for HB 1143 is introduction and committee assignment in the Senate at the beginning of the second half of session in early March, and the Senate sponsor of the bill is Sen. Linda Rogers (R- Granger).

The Senate Tax and Appropriations Committee passed two bills out of committee this week. One of the bills was [SB 443](#), authored by Sen. Aaron Freeman (R-Indianapolis), makes changes to the business personal property tax exemption, and passed out of committee by a vote of 8-2. Eight other bills were heard and held in this committee for a second hearing, including four Senate Republican agenda bills on property tax reform.

The House Ways and Means Committee met several times this week, only four bills were passed out of the committee. Of those four bills, only [HB 1080](#), authored by Rep. Peggy Mayfield (R-Martinsville), was related to tax, specifically local option food and beverage and innkeepers taxes. Looking ahead to next week, the state budget bill HB 1001, authored by committee chairman Rep. Jeff Thompson (R- Lizton) is expected to be heard next Thursday in committee.

Governor Braun's State of the State Address

Governor Mike Braun, who served as a state representative from 2014 to 2017 before representing Indiana in the United States Senate from 2019 to 2025, returned to the Indiana House Chamber on Wednesday, January 29, to deliver his first [State of the State address](#).

In his speech, Governor Braun outlined his 2025 legislative priorities and his proposed biennial budget. The budget bill, [HB 1001](#), will move through both chambers this session and see significant revisions before it is passed.

Central to his budget proposal is a five percent cut across executive agencies. These funds will be reallocated to support education appropriations and tax reform.

Braun's "Freedom and Opportunity Agenda," which was the theme of his speech, seeks income and property tax relief, education reform, and health care transparency. He highlighted the agenda bills reflective of these priorities that are already moving in the legislature: [HB 1003](#) Health Matters, [HB 1004](#) Nonprofit Hospitals, and [SB 3](#) Fiduciary Duty in Health Plan Administration.

Braun also discussed how he has restructured the executive branch. Since taking office earlier this month, he has reorganized all executive agencies under eight cabinet secretaries. The move is intended to streamline government and enable innovation and collaboration among agencies.

Celebrating Indiana's successes, the governor applauded Indiana's ascension to sixth nationally in fourth grade and eighth grade reading scores.

Governor Braun's legislative agenda will continue to take shape as further priority bills and the budget move through the legislative process.

Chief Justice Loretta Rush's State of the Judiciary Address

Chief Justice Loretta Rush opened her address touting the improvements made by the Court in the last year.

The Chief Justice concluded the speech by honoring the new administration. Highlighting the Court's commitment to children in Indiana, she shared that more than 100,000 cases involved children in the courts last year saying, "We play a crucial role in shaping their future and often a judge is the only constant figure in their lives."

She went on to honor several judges who found creative ways to become a part of the communities they serve. One Indiana judge decided to send each adopted child home with a gift and asked the community for help. Area parents and grandparents came through with ample donations and the judge now has a closet full of 500 Squishmallows for adoptees.

Rush celebrated that fact that Indiana tripled the number of problem-solving courts over the past decade – including the new safe-haven courts that focus on helping abused or neglected children and their families. Several successful graduates of the problem-solving courts' programs were in the audience and received a standing ovation from the legislature when the Chief Justice shared that 93% of treatment court graduates are not rearrested.

The Court has also worked to increase accessibility by adding cameras into many court rooms.

Legislative Deadlines

125th General Assembly

Deadline to assign Senate bills to committee:

January 29, 2025

State of the Judiciary:

January 29, 2025

State of the State:

January 29, 2025

House and Senate committee report deadlines:

February 17, 2025

House and Senate second reading deadline:

February 19, 2025

House and Senate third reading deadline:

February 20, 2025

Crossover break:

February 24 – February 28, 2025

Second half of session begins:

March 3, 2025

The Corydon Group

2025 Legislative Team

CHRISTOPHER M. GIBSON, ESQ.

Managing Principal

MORGAN E. PERRILL

Senior Vice President

AMELIA D. MCCLURE, ESQ.

Vice President

RYAN P. KENNEDY

Manager, Communications & Policy

RACHEL M. GIBSON

Senior Vice President

TRISTAN M. FRIEDERCH

Legislative Intern

LOUIS M. BELCH

President

STEVE M. WOLFF, ESQ.

Vice President

JOHN COCHRAN, ESQ.

Senior Advisor

J. CAMERON CARTER

Vice President

KIMBERLY S. WILLIAMS

Senior Advisor, Association Management

GRACE A. SARRAZIN

Legislative Intern