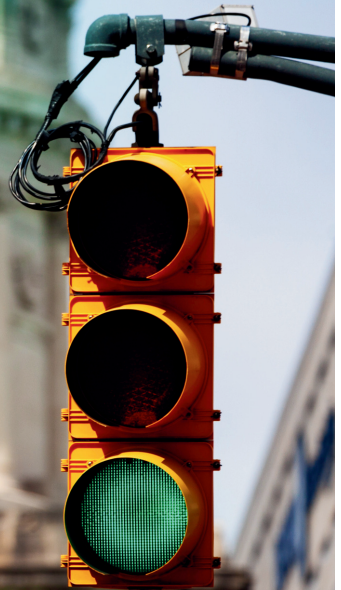


Legislative Scorecard

2026



#otePublicEd
FOR STRONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS



ICPE

Indiana
Coalition
for Public
Education

www.indianacoalitionforpubliced.org

About Us



The Indiana Coalition for Public Education is a non-partisan, non-profit dedicated to preserving and improving public education for all Indiana students. We believe all Indiana children deserve an equitable, fully-funded education system under local control of parents and citizens. To realize this future, we advocate at the statehouse, inform voters about issues affecting schools, and empower Indiana citizens to advance the public schools* in their communities.

Vision

The vision of the non-partisan Indiana Coalition for Public Education is to advocate for high quality, equitable, well-funded public schools for all children that are subject to democratic oversight by their communities.

Mission

Our mission is to be a strong, convening voice for public education advocacy in Indiana.

**Our organization does not consider charters or "innovation schools" to be public schools, though they are called that in state law. Charters and "innovation schools" do not share the following accountability requirements with public school districts: 1) to serve all students within a given geographic area, 2) to be governed by a democratically elected local board ("innovation schools" are outsourced within districts, while charters appoint their own boards), and 3) to follow the full body of state education laws, including teacher certification requirements and financial reporting requirements.*

How To Use This Scorecard



- 1.** If you don't already know, find out what state Senate and House of Representatives districts you live in. Here's an excellent source: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators/>
- 2.** Our Scorecard is organized by House and Senate, then alphabetically by legislator last name.
- 3.** We chose to rate legislators on a small number of bills that had the power to help or hurt Indiana's public schools.
- 4.** We do not list new candidates in the Scorecard, because they have no voting record.
- 5.** Sometimes ICPE's preference is for a bill to receive a YES vote, and sometimes our preference is for legislators to vote NO. We have coded the Scorecard, so the preferred response is in a green box; if legislators did not vote for our preferred response, their response is in a red box.

Our Scorecard gives you legislators' voting records on select public school issues from the past two sessions. This information can help you decide how to vote. The data also provide opportunities for conversation. Ask your legislator why they voted the way they did. Let them know what your priorities are. When talking to new candidates, ask how they might vote on similar bills that may come before the 2027 legislative session.

Scorecard Bills

Bills - 2025	Description	ICPE Preferred Position
HB 1002	Various education matters. Rep. Robert Behning — This bill allows a school district to be turned into an all-charter district and charter authorizers are no longer legally responsible to ensure that a charter school is in compliance with applicable legal standards as determined by the SBOE. It also weakened culturally responsive teaching methods.	Opposed
HB 1348	Nonaccredited nonpublic schools. Rep Timothy Wesco — This bill weakened the value of public schools. A homeschool diploma now carries the same weight as a high school diploma, regardless of what goes into the attainment of that piece of paper.	Opposed
HB 1515	Education and higher education matters. Rep. Robert Behning — This bill laid the groundwork for the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation by allowing separate agencies to manage school facilities and transportation outside the control of elected school boards. It also created the Indianapolis Local Education Alliance and authorized similar pilot agencies in three other regions. The ILEA board was majority charter-affiliated and appointed rather than elected.	Opposed
SB 1	Local government finance. Sen. Travis Holdman, Sen. Chris Garten, Sen. Scott Baldwin — This bill enacted significant property tax reductions, with businesses receiving many of the largest tax savings. The measure fulfilled a central campaign promise of Governor Braun. While the state budget (HB 1001) provides traditional public schools with a combined \$401.5 million increase in tuition support for fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the fiscal note for SB 1 projects that school corporations will lose approximately \$408 million in local property tax revenue during those same years. The impact will vary by district, with some experiencing substantially greater revenue losses than others. The bill also changes the rules governing school funding referendums. Going forward, school referendums may only be held during general elections in even-numbered years, rather than during the May primary or November election. This limits the flexibility of locally elected school boards to determine the timing that best meets their community's needs.	Opposed

Scorecard Bills

Bills - 2025	Description	ICPE Preferred Position
SB 287	School board matters. Sen. Gary Byrne, Sen. Chris Garten, Sen. Blake Doriot — This bill ushers in more partisan politics and less democracy. School board candidates can now declare a party when running for election. Due to this, federal workers cannot run for school board due to the federal HATCH Act (SEA 287) The focus on kids will diminish as the focus on party platforms intensifies.	Opposed
SB 289	Unlawful discrimination. Sen. Gary Byrne, Sen. Tyler Johnson — This bill eliminates several diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) requirements. It removes the mandate that high schools offer a racial or ethnic studies course, prohibits DEI training as a requirement for educator licensure or employment, and bars schools from requiring DEI training for students.	Opposed
Bills - 2026	Description	ICPE Preferred Position
HB 1266	Department of education and education matters. Rep Robert Behning – This bill required the Secretary of Education to create a report with recommendations on strategies to support academically and fiscally underperforming schools, including interventions where necessary. It includes language that establishes state intervention measures and adjusts language to allow the transfer of control over school buildings and transportation from elected school boards to appointed centralized boards.	Opposed
HB 1423	Indianapolis public education matters. Rep. Robert Behning – This bill created the blueprint for loss of local voice on public schools. It follows recommendations from ILEA, a task force created through state legislation in 2025. HEA 1423 forms a new mayor-appointed body to oversee transportation, facilities, and certain financial functions for all public schools within the Indianapolis Public Schools boundary, including charters, stripping significant authority away from the elected IPS school board. It aims to unify systems across district and charter schools.	Opposed

Vote Sheet - House

If a legislator's row is mostly or entirely green, they generally voted in accordance with ICPE's preferred position. In this scorecard, that meant voting "N" on the scored bills.

If a legislator's row is mostly or entirely red, they generally voted against ICPE's preferred position. In this scorecard, that meant voting "Y" on the scored bills.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES			2025						2026	
			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Abbott	HD 18	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Andrade	HD 12	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Aylesworth	HD 11	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Baird	HD 44	R	Y	E	Y	Y	E	E	E	Y
Barrett	HD 56	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bartels	HD 74	R	Y	Y	N	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bartlett	HD 95	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Bascom	HD 68	R	E	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bauer	HD 6	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Behning	HD 91	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Borders	HD 45	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Boy **	HD 9	D	N	N	N	N	N	N		
Burton	HD 77	D	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Campbell	HD 26	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Carbaugh	HD 81	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cash	HD 25	R	E	Y	E	Y	Y	E	Y	E
Clere	HD 72	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y
Commons	HD 13	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Criswell	HD 54	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Culp	HD 16	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dant Chesser	HD 71	D	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Davis	HD 58	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	Y
DeLaney	HD 86	D	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
DeVon	HD 5	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dvorak	HD 8	D	N	N	N	N	N	E	N	N
Engleman	HD 70	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Errington	HD 34	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Garcia-Wilbum	HD 32	D	N	N	N	N	E	N	N	N

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			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Genda	HD 41	R	E	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
GiaQuinta	HD 80	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Gore	HD 89	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Goss-Reaves	HD 31	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Greene	HD 47	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Haggard	HD 57	R	Y	E	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hall	HD 62	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Hamilton	HD 87	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Harris Jr.	HD 2	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Hatcher	HD 3	D	E	N	N	E	N	E	N	E
Heaton	HD 46	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Heine	HD 85	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Hostettler	HD 64	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	Y
Huston*	HD 37	R	Y	NV	NV	Y	Y	NV	NV	Y
Ireland	HD 90	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Isa	HD 51	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jackson	HD 1	D	E	N	E	N	NV	E	N	N
Jeter	HD 88	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, B	HD 100	D	E	N	N	E	E	E	N	N
Jordan	HD 17	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Judy	HD 83	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Karickhoff	HD 30	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
King	HD 49	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Klinker	HD 27	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Lauer	HD 59	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lawson	HD 53	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ledbetter	HD 75	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lehman	HD 79	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y

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			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Lindauer	HD 63	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lopez	HD 39	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lucas	HD 69	R	Y	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Manning	HD 23	R	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
May	HD 65	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	E
Mayfield	HD 60	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
McGuire	HD 93	R	Y	Y	Y	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
McNamara	HD 76	R	Y	E	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Meltzer	HD 73	R	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Miller, D	HD 48	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Miller, K	HD 82	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Moed	HD 97	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Morris	HD 84	R	E	E	E	Y	Y	E	Y	Y
Moseley	HD 10	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Novak **	HD 9	D							N	N
O'Brien	HD 78	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Olthoff	HD 19	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Pack	HD 92	D	E	E	E	N	E	E	N	N
Patterson	HD 55	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	E	Y	Y	Y
Payne	HD 66	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pfaff	HD 43	D	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Pierce, K	HD 36	R	Y	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pierce, M	HD 61	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Porter	HD 96	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Prescott	HD 33	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NV	Y	Y
Pressel	HD 20	R	E	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Pryor	HD 94	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Rowray	HD 35	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

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			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Shackleford	HD 98	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Shonkwiler	HD 29	R	Y	Y	N	E	Y	Y	Y	Y
Slager	HD 15	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Smaltz	HD 52	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Smith, H.	HD 24	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Smith, V.	HD 14	D	N	N	E	E	N	N	N	N
Snow	HD 22	R	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Soliday	HD 4	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Steuerwald	HD 40	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Summers	HD 99	D	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	N
Sweet	HD 50	R	E	Y	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Teshka	HD 7	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thompson	HD 28	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VanNatter	HD 38	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Wesco	HD 21	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Yocum	HD 42	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Zimmernan	HD 67	R	E	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

E = Excused. NV = Not voting

* Mr. Speaker (Rep. Huston) usually is a NV. If he votes, it's a major position for him.

** Rep. Novak was elected to the Indiana General Assembly by precinct committee members in a Democratic Party caucus on Oct. 18, 2025 in Michigan City. He replaced Rep. Boy, who retired from the legislature on Oct. 17 2025. He served the remainder of her term, which ends in November 2026.

Vote Sheet - Senate

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SENATE			2025						2026	
			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Alexander	SD 26	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Alting	SD 22	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Baldwin	SD 20	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bassler	SD 39	R	N	E	N	N	N	N	Y	N
Becker	SD 50	R	N	N	N	N	N	N	NV	N
Bohacek	SD 8	R	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N
Bray	SD 37	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Brown	SD 15	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Buchanan	SD 7	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Buck	SD 21	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Busch	SD 16	R	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Byrne	SD 47	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carrasco	SD 37	R	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Charbonneau	SD 5	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Clark	SD 24	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Crider	SD 28	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Deery	SD 23	R	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dernulc	SD 1	R	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
Donato	SD 18	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Doriot	SD 12	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ford	SD 29	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Freeman	SD 32	R	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Garten	SD 45	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gaskill	SD 25	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Glick	SD 13	R	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Goode	SD 38	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Holdman	SD 19	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hunley	SD 46	D	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N

Vote Sheet - Senate

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			HB1002	HB1348	HB1515	SB001	SB287	SB289	HB 1266	HB 1423
ICPE Position			Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose
Last Name	District	Party								
Jackson	SD 34	D	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Johnson	SD 14	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Koch	SD 44	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Leising	SD 42	R	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Maxwell	SD 43	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
McKinley **	SD 17	R							Y	N
Mishler	SD 9	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Niemeyer	SD 6	R	N	Y	N	E	N	Y	E	Y
Niezgodski	SD 10	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Pol	SD 4	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	E
Qaddoura	SD 30	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Raatz	SD 27	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Randolph	SD 02	D	N	E	N	N	N	N	N	N
Rogers	SD 11	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Schmitt	SD 48	R	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N
Spencer	SD 3	D	NV	E	N	N	N	N	N	N
Taylor	SD 33	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Tomes	SD 49	R	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
Walker, G.	SD 41	R	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Walker, K.	SD 31	R	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Yoder	SD 40	D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Young	SD 35	R	NV	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	E
Zay **	SD 17	R	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y		

E = Excused. NV = Not voting

** Senator McKinley was elected by a Republican Party caucus to replace former Senator Andy Zay, who resigned effective January 8, 2026 after he was appointed to be the chairman of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

Next Steps

Where do we go from here? All Hoosiers who care about their public schools must become informed, empowered advocates for public education in communities all across our state.

Share this information

Share this Legislative Scorecard widely across the state with friends and family. Also, share it on your social media.

#VotePublicEd

The best way to stop the attack on public education is to be an informed voter and encourage others to be informed.



Join ICPE

We need you to [join us](#) in our efforts and be prepared to take action, because we expect a battle starting in January for the upcoming budget session of the Indiana General Assembly.

