



STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 11, 2019

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2019 Indiana General Assembly Week 1

- ▲ The first full week of the 16 week 2019 “long” legislative session is complete. Introduced legislation is trickling out very slowly as is usually the case during a long session. So far, we have seen about 700 House and Senate bills, with many more in the process of being made public for review. There will likely be upwards of 1,500 in total.
- ▲ The House and Senate bill filing deadline was yesterday, January 10th. Once all bills are available, the IMPA/Municipal Electric tracking list will be updated to reflect all bills that we will be watching.
- ▲ All four caucuses of the General Assembly have put forth their respective visions for the session, outlining priority issues each will pursue. While there are several policy areas that have bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, including raising teacher pay and strengthening the IN Department of Child Services, the inevitable partisan wrangling will also take shape on the state budget, health care, potential bias crime legislation, and several others.
- ▲ In addition to the budget, other issues to be considered during the session include K-12 education funding, bias crimes, sports gaming, school safety, guns, legalization of marijuana, annexation waivers, workforce development, broadband deployment and many other social, economic, criminal justice, environmental and local government matters.
- ▲ This week, the House and Senate Education Committees, along with a number of other committees, began their hearings kicking off the discussions on teacher pay and general school funding. The pace of committee activity will ratchet up in the coming few next weeks. Also, Governor Holcomb released the Administration’s recommendations for the approximately \$32 billion biennial state budget.

- ▲ Next week, Governor Holcomb will deliver his third State of the State address to the General Assembly on Tuesday evening, January 15th, at 7:00 p.m. During that speech, the Governor will fully outline his legislative priorities for the legislature. Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush will deliver the State of the Judiciary address the following day. The House and Senate will go into a joint session for both speeches, which will take place in the House Chamber.
- ▲ All legislative business, by statute, must be completed by midnight on April 29th. At this point, the General Assembly hopes to finish its work by April 26th. We will be keeping a keen eye on all legislation that could have an impact on IMPA and Indiana’s municipal electric utilities.
- ▲ Of interest: State Senator Jim Merritt, who is the Senate Utilities Committee Chair, announced on Thursday that he would seek the Republican nod to run for Indianapolis Mayor in 2019. His Senate term is not up until 2020, so should he be unsuccessful in his effort, he will retain his Senate seat.

Indiana Municipal Power Agency 2019 Legislative Reception

Monday, January 28, 2019 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Indiana Historical Society
450 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis

*heavy hors d-ouvres, cocktails & conversation for
Legislators, Municipal Electric Representatives, Local Officials, Spouses/Guests*

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