

# HOUSE BILL No. 1156

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 36-1.

**Synopsis:** Digital asset mining. Prohibits a county, municipality, or township (unit) from adopting or enforcing an ordinance that would have the effect of prohibiting, restricting, or impairing an individual's or a business's ability to: (1) use digital assets to purchase legal goods and services; (2) accept digital assets as a method of payment for legal goods and services; (3) use a hardware wallet or self-hosted wallet to store the individual's or business's digital assets; (4) take custody of digital assets by using a hardware wallet or self-hosted wallet; or (5) operate a node for the purpose of connecting to a blockchain protocol and participating in the blockchain protocol's operations. Provides that use of a property for a digital asset mining business is a permitted industrial use under any applicable zoning ordinance of a unit and may not be disallowed by a zoning ordinance in a zoning district that permits industrial use. Prohibits a unit from applying the unit's zoning ordinances in specified ways to regulate digital asset mining.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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**Pierce K, VanNatter, Miller K**

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January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.

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First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1156

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning local government.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 36-1-3-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2025]: **Sec. 14. (a) The following definitions apply throughout**  
4 **this section:**

5       (1) "Digital asset" means:

6           (A) virtual currency;

7           (B) cryptocurrency;

8           (C) natively electronic assets, including stablecoins and  
9           nonfungible tokens; and

10          (D) other digital only assets that confer economic,  
11          proprietary, or access rights or powers.

12       (2) "Hardware wallet" means a physical device that is not  
13       continuously connected to the Internet and allows an  
14       individual to secure and transfer digital assets and under  
15       which the owner of the digital assets retains independent  
16       control over the digital assets. The term includes a physical  
17       device under which the owner of the digital assets retains



independent control over the digital assets.

(3) "Node" means a computational device that does:

(A) not exercise discretion over transactions initiated by the end users of the blockchain protocol; and

(B) one (1) or more of the following:

(i) Communicates with other devices or participants on a blockchain to maintain consensus and integrity of the blockchain.

(ii) Contains and validates transaction blocks.

(iii) Contains and updates a copy of the blockchain.

(4) "Self-hosted wallet" means a digital interface that is used to do the following:

(A) Secure and transfer digital assets.

(B) Allow the owner to retain independent control over the digital assets secured by the digital interface.

(b) A unit may not adopt or enforce an ordinance that would have the effect of prohibiting, restricting, or impairing an individual's or business's ability to:

(1) use digital assets to purchase legal goods and services;

(2) accept digital assets as a method of payment for legal goods and services;

(3) use a hardware wallet or self-hosted wallet to store the individual's or business's digital assets;

(4) take custody of digital assets by using a hardware wallet or self-hosted wallet; or

(5) operate a node for the purpose of connecting to a blockchain protocol and participating in the blockchain protocol's operations.

SECTION 2. IC 36-1-30.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]:

#### **Chapter 30.5. Regulation of Digital Asset Mining**

**Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "blockchain" means data that is:

(1) shared across a network to create a ledger of verified transactions or information among network participants linked using cryptography to maintain the integrity of the ledger and to execute other functions; and

(2) distributed among network participants in an automated fashion to concurrently update network participants on the state of the ledger and any other functions.

**Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "digital asset mining" means using computer hardware and software specifically designed or



utilized for the purpose of validating data and securing a blockchain network.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "digital asset mining business" means multiple digital asset mining devices at a single site that consumes more than one (1) megawatt of energy on an average annual basis in Indiana for the purpose of generating digital assets by securing a blockchain network.

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "digital asset mining device" means computing hardware specifically designed or utilized to participate in digital asset mining for the purpose of securing a blockchain network.

Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "node" means a computational device that does:

- (1) not exercise discretion over transactions initiated by the end users of the blockchain protocol; and
- (2) one (1) or more of the following:
  - (A) Communicates with other devices or participants on a blockchain to maintain consensus and integrity of the blockchain.
  - (B) Contains and validates transaction blocks.
  - (C) Contains and updates a copy of the blockchain.

Sec. 6. Use of a property for a digital asset mining business is a permitted industrial use under any applicable zoning ordinance of a unit and may not be disallowed by a zoning ordinance (as defined in IC 36-7-1-22) in a zoning district or classification of a unit that permits industrial use.

Sec. 7. A unit may enact or enforce a law or plan that regulates, prohibits, or limits use of property for digital asset mining in an industrial zoning district or classification of a unit only if enforcement is performed in the same manner as enforcement that applies to similar properties that are not used for digital asset mining businesses.

Sec. 8. A unit may not:

- (1) require a special exception, special use, or zoning variance for the use of a property for a digital asset mining business in an industrial zoning district or classification of a unit;
- (2) interpret and enforce the unit's zoning regulations in a manner that is intended for or has the effect of prohibiting or unreasonably restricting the use of industrial property for a digital asset mining business; or
- (3) require a permit for the use of a property for a digital asset mining business in an area that is zoned for industrial



1           **use.**  
2           **Sec. 9. A unit may change the zoning classification of a property**  
3           **used for a digital asset mining business only as provided under**  
4           **IC 36-7-4.**

