

HOUSE BILL No. 1226

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 3-11-18.1.

Synopsis: Vote centers. Requires that a vote center county must establish at least one vote center in each municipality located in the county.

Effective: July 1, 2021.

Teshka, Wesco

January 14, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections and Apportionment.



First Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2021)

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 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1226

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 3-11-18.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,
2 SECTION 115, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 4. The plan required by section 3
4 of this chapter must include at least the following:

- 5 (1) The total number of vote centers to be established.
6 (2) The location of each vote center. **A vote center must be**
7 **established in each municipality located in the county.**
8 (3) The effective date of the order.
9 (4) The following information according to the computerized list
10 (as defined in IC 3-7-26.3-2) as of the date of the order:
11 (A) The total number of voters within the county.
12 (B) The number of active voters within the county.
13 (C) The number of inactive voters within the county.
14 (5) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), the
15 number of precinct election boards that will be appointed to
16 administer an election at the vote center.
17 (6) For each precinct election board designated under subdivision



(5), the number and name of each precinct the precinct election board will administer consistent with section 13 of this chapter for an election that is not being held in each precinct of the county.

(7) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), the number and title of the precinct election officers who will be appointed to serve at the vote center.

(8) For each vote center designated under subdivision (2):

(A) the number and type of ballot variations that will be provided at the vote center; and

(B) whether these ballots will be:

(i) delivered to the vote center before the opening of the polls; or

(ii) printed on demand for a voter's use.

(9) A detailed description of any hardware, firmware, or software used:

(A) to create an electronic poll list for each precinct whose polls are to be located at a vote center; or

(B) to manage data in an electronic poll book through a secure electronic connection between the county election board and the precinct election officials administering a vote center.

(10) A description of the equipment and procedures to be used to ensure that information concerning a voter entered into any electronic poll book used by precinct election officers at a vote center is immediately accessible to:

(A) the county election board; and

(B) the electronic poll books used by precinct election officers at all other vote centers in the county.

(11) This subdivision applies to a county in which ballot cards are used at a vote center. For each vote center designated under subdivision (2), whether each ballot card printed will have the printed initials of the poll clerks captured through the electronic signature pad or tablet at the time the poll clerks log into the electronic poll book system printed on the back of the ballot card immediately before the ballot card is delivered to a voter.

(12) The security and contingency plans to be implemented by the county to do all of the following:

(A) Prevent a disruption of the vote center process.

(B) Ensure that the election is properly conducted if a disruption occurs.

(C) Prevent access to an electronic poll book without the coordinated action of two (2) precinct election officers who are not members of the same political party.



(13) A certification that the vote center complies with the accessibility requirements applicable to polling places under IC 3-11-8.

(14) A sketch depicting the planned layout of the vote center, indicating the location of:

(A) equipment; and

(B) precinct election officers;
within the vote center.

(15) The total number and locations of satellite offices to be established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 at vote center locations designated under subdivision (2) to allow voters to cast absentee ballots in accordance with IC 3-11. However, a plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center to be established as a satellite office under IC 3-11-10-26.3 on the two (2) Saturdays immediately preceding an election day.

(16) The method and timing of providing voter data to persons who are entitled to receive the data under this title. Data shall be provided to all persons entitled to the data without unreasonable delay.

(17) In a county in which a majority of votes are cast on optical scan ballot cards, any additional procedures to provide for efficient and secure voting at each vote center, including ballot on demand printing.

SECTION 2. IC 3-11-18.1-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2017, SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided in subsection ~~(b)~~, (c), when the total number of active voters in the county equals at least twenty-five thousand (25,000), the following apply:

(1) The plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center for each ten thousand (10,000) active voters.

(2) In addition to the vote centers designated in subdivision (1), the plan must provide for a vote center for any fraction of ten thousand (10,000) active voters.

(b) The number of vote centers established under this section are in addition to the number of vote centers required to be established under section 4(2) of this chapter.

~~(b)~~ (c) When a county conducts a special election described in IC 3-10-8-1 that is conducted in only part of a county and not on the same date as a primary, general, or municipal election held in the county, the following apply:

(1) The plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center.

(2) If the election district for the special election contains at least



- 1 ten thousand (10,000) active voters, the following apply:
- 2 (A) The plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center for
- 3 each ten thousand (10,000) active voters in the election
- 4 district.
- 5 (B) In addition to the vote centers required in clause (A), the
- 6 plan must provide for a ~~voter~~ **vote** center for any fraction of
- 7 ten thousand (10,000) active voters in the election district.

