

# HOUSE BILL No. 1258

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 5-20-9; IC 6-3-2-26.

**Synopsis:** Grant program for hiring ex-offenders. Requires the Indiana housing and community development authority to establish a grant program to encourage the hiring of certain qualified individuals. Specifies that the amount of the grant is \$3,000 for each qualified individual a person hires during the previous state fiscal year. Provides that the aggregate amount of grants allowed per state fiscal year may not exceed: (1) \$1,000,000, for qualified individuals hired in the 2015-2016 state fiscal year; or (2) \$2,500,000, for qualified individuals hired in a state fiscal year beginning after June 30, 2016. Requires a report on the grant program before August 1, 2017. Provides that grants are exempt from the Indiana adjusted gross income tax. Makes an appropriation.

**Effective:** July 1, 2015.

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## Shackleford

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January 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

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First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

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 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1258



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state and local administration and to make an appropriation.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-20-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2015]:  
4 **Chapter 9. Grants for Hiring Qualified Individuals**  
5 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies to qualified individuals hired in a**  
6 **state fiscal year beginning after June 30, 2015.**  
7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "authority" refers to the Indiana**  
8 **housing and community development authority.**  
9 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "person" means any individual,**  
10 **partnership, firm, association, joint venture, limited liability**  
11 **company, or corporation.**  
12 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "qualified individual" means an**  
13 **individual who:**  
14 **(1) has been convicted of a felony under federal or state law;**  
15 **and**



1 (2) is hired by the taxpayer not more than twelve (12) months  
2 after the later of:

3 (A) the date of the individual's most recent felony  
4 conviction; or

5 (B) the individual's release from prison.

6 Sec. 5. The authority shall establish a grant program to  
7 encourage the hiring of qualified individuals.

8 Sec. 6. Subject to sections 7 and 8 of this chapter, a person may  
9 apply for a grant for each qualified individual the person hires  
10 during a state fiscal year for employment in Indiana. The amount  
11 of the grant is equal to:

12 (1) three thousand dollars (\$3,000); multiplied by

13 (2) the number of qualified individuals hired by the person for  
14 employment in Indiana during the previous state fiscal year.

15 Sec. 7. A person is not eligible for a grant under this chapter for  
16 hiring a qualified individual if any of the following apply:

17 (1) The person is required by federal or state law to hire or  
18 rehire the qualified individual.

19 (2) The person claims a tax credit under IC 6-3.1 for hiring  
20 the qualified individual.

21 (3) The person hires the qualified individual to replace a laid  
22 off employee or an employee who is on strike against the  
23 taxpayer.

24 Sec. 8. The aggregate amount of grants allowed under this  
25 chapter may not exceed the following amounts:

26 (1) One million dollars (\$1,000,000), for qualified individuals  
27 hired in the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and  
28 ending June 30, 2016.

29 (2) Two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000),  
30 for qualified individuals hired in a state fiscal year beginning  
31 after June 30, 2016.

32 Sec. 9. (a) To receive a grant under this chapter, a person must  
33 submit an application to the authority on a form prescribed by the  
34 authority. Grant applications are due before September 1 of the  
35 state fiscal year following the state fiscal year in which a person  
36 hires a qualified individual. The authority shall record the time of  
37 filing of each application for a grant under this chapter and shall  
38 approve the applications, if they otherwise qualify for a grant  
39 under this chapter, in the chronological order in which the  
40 applications are filed.

41 (b) The authority may not approve an application for a grant  
42 under this chapter after the total amount of grants approved under



1 this section equals the maximum amount allowable for qualified  
 2 individuals hired in a particular state fiscal year.

3 **Sec. 10. (a)** As used in this section, "fund" refers to the grant  
 4 fund established by subsection (b).

5 **(b)** The grant fund is established within the state treasury. The  
 6 purpose of the fund is to carry out the grant program under this  
 7 chapter.

8 **(c)** The fund consists of:

- 9 (1) appropriations from the general assembly;  
 10 (2) federal grants; and  
 11 (3) gifts.

12 **(d)** The authority shall administer the fund. The following may  
 13 be paid from money in the fund:

- 14 (1) Grants made under this chapter.  
 15 (2) Expenses of administering the fund.  
 16 (3) Nonrecurring administrative expenses incurred to carry  
 17 out the purposes of this chapter.

18 **(e)** The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
 19 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
 20 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that  
 21 accrues from these investments must be deposited in the fund.

22 **(f)** Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 23 revert to the state general fund.

24 **Sec. 11.** An amount sufficient to carry out the purposes of this  
 25 chapter is annually appropriated to the authority for deposit in the  
 26 fund.

27 **Sec. 12.** Before August 1, 2017, the authority and the  
 28 department of correction shall submit a joint report describing the  
 29 use and effectiveness of the grant program under this chapter to  
 30 the governor and the legislative council in an electronic format  
 31 under IC 5-14-6. The report must include the following  
 32 information:

- 33 (1) The total amount of grants made in the reporting period.  
 34 (2) The geographical areas in which grants were made.  
 35 (3) The types of employers receiving grants.  
 36 (4) An evaluation of the grant program's impact on  
 37 individuals hired through the program, on the department of  
 38 correction, and on community corrections programs.

39 SECTION 2. IC 6-3-2-26 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 40 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 41 1, 2015]: **Sec. 26.** Notwithstanding any other law, a grant received  
 42 under IC 5-20-9 is exempt from the adjusted gross income tax



1 **imposed by this article.**

