

HOUSE BILL No. 1294

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 2-2.1; IC 2-6-1.5-0.7.

Synopsis: Legislative sessions. Provides that the general assembly may convene in an "initiated session" under either of the following circumstances: (1) The governor issues a proclamation or an executive order declaring a state of emergency and the speaker of the house and the president pro tempore of the senate issue a joint order for the general assembly to convene. (2) If 67 or more members of the house and 34 or more members of the senate sign a petition addressed to the speaker of the house and the president pro tempore of the senate to convene a session of the general assembly. Provides that an initiated session may not continue for more than 40 calendar days. Provides that for purposes of Article 5, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, a vetoed bill passed at a session of the general assembly must be reconsidered and voted upon as provided in Article 5, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana not later than the sine die adjournment of the next regular session that occurs after the session that first passed the bill. Makes conforming changes.

Effective: Upon passage.

Prescott, Thompson

January 14, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.



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. 1294

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 2-2.1-1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 1. The following
- 3 definitions apply throughout this chapter:
- 4 (1) "Bill" includes a bill and a joint resolution.
- 5 (2) "Term of the general assembly" means that two (2) year period
- 6 of time extending from the first Wednesday after the first Monday
- 7 in November of any even-numbered year until, but not including,
- 8 the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the
- 9 next even-numbered year.
- 10 (3) "Session" refers to **any of the following:**
- 11 (A) A regular session **of the general assembly.**
- 12 (B) A regular technical session ~~or~~ **of the general assembly.**
- 13 (C) **An initiated session of the general assembly under**
- 14 **IC 2-2.1-1.2.**
- 15 (D) A special session of the general assembly.
- 16 (4) "Special session" means that period of time during which the
- 17 general assembly is convened in session upon the proclamation



1 and call of the governor under Article 4, Section 9 of the
2 Constitution of the State of Indiana.

3 SECTION 2. IC 2-2.1-1-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 12. (a) This section
5 applies only to those bills or joint resolutions which pass during the two
6 days before the sine die adjournment of a regular, **initiated**, or special
7 session of the general assembly. This section does not apply to bills
8 passed during a regular technical session.

9 (b) The presiding officers of the house of representatives and the
10 senate shall sign each bill or joint resolution passed under Article 4,
11 Section 25 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana as soon as
12 practicable, but not later than seven (7) calendar days after sine die
13 adjournment of the session of the general assembly at which the bill
14 was passed.

15 (c) A bill that has been signed under subsection (b) must be
16 presented to the governor as soon as practicable, but not later than
17 seven (7) calendar days after sine die adjournment of the session of the
18 general assembly at which the bill was passed.

19 SECTION 3. IC 2-2.1-1-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
20 AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
21 UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 14. For purposes of Article 5, Section 14 of**
22 **the Constitution of the State of Indiana, a vetoed bill passed at a**
23 **session of the general assembly must be reconsidered and voted**
24 **upon as provided in Article 5, Section 14 of the Constitution of the**
25 **State of Indiana not later than the sine die adjournment of the next**
26 **regular session that occurs after the session that first passed the**
27 **bill.**

28 SECTION 4. IC 2-2.1-1.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
29 AS A **NEW CHAPTER** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 UPON PASSAGE]:

31 **Chapter 1.2. Initiated Sessions**

32 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "initiated session" refers to a**
33 **session of the general assembly convened under either of the**
34 **following:**

35 (1) **Section 4 of this chapter.**

36 (2) **Section 5 of this chapter.**

37 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "presiding officer" refers to the**
38 **following:**

39 (1) **For the house of representatives, the speaker of the house.**

40 (2) **For the senate, the president pro tempore of the senate.**

41 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "requisite number" refers to the**
42 **following:**



1 (1) For the house, sixty-seven (67) or more members.

2 (2) For the senate, thirty-four (34) or more members.

3 Sec. 4. (a) The general assembly may convene under this chapter
4 if both of the following apply:

5 (1) The governor issues a proclamation or an executive order
6 declaring a state of emergency.

7 (2) The presiding officers jointly issue an order to convene the
8 general assembly under this chapter.

9 (b) An order of the presiding officers under subsection (a) must
10 state the date, time, and place that each house will convene.

11 (c) The presiding officers shall file a copy of their joint order
12 with the secretary of state.

13 Sec. 5. (a) The general assembly may convene under this chapter
14 if the requisite number of members of each house sign a petition
15 addressed jointly to the presiding officers requesting that the
16 general assembly convene.

17 (b) A petition must include the following information:

18 (1) The day each house should convene.

19 (2) The time each house should convene on the day it convenes
20 under subdivision (1). The petition may provide that the time
21 each house convenes is in the discretion of the presiding
22 officer of the respective house.

23 (3) The place each house should convene on the day it
24 convenes under subdivision (1). The petition may provide that
25 the place each house convenes is in the discretion of the
26 presiding officer of the respective house.

27 (c) A member who signs a petition under this chapter must sign
28 and date the petition.

29 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e), the signature of a
30 member on a petition expires on the thirtieth day after the date of
31 the signature and may not be counted as part of the requisite
32 number.

33 (e) The signature of a member does not expire as provided in
34 subsection (d) when the petition has received the requisite number
35 of signatures from both houses.

36 (f) The joint rules of the house and the senate may prescribe the
37 form of the petition under this section. The joint rules may provide
38 for the following:

39 (1) Electronic signature of a petition by a member.

40 (2) Electronic submission of a petition.

41 (g) When a petition is filed with the presiding officers with the
42 requisite number of signatures from both houses, the presiding



1 officers shall file the petition with the secretary of state.

2 (h) The presiding officers shall convene their respective houses
3 in session on the date, time, and place specified in the petition.

4 Sec. 6. An initiated session may continue for not more than forty
5 (40) calendar days following the day upon which the session is
6 convened.

7 SECTION 5. IC 2-6-1.5-0.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
8 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 0.7. As used in this chapter, "session"
10 refers to any of the following:

11 (1) A regular session of the general assembly under IC 2-2.1-1.

12 (2) A regular technical session of the general assembly under
13 IC 2-2.1-1.

14 (3) An initiated session of the general assembly under
15 IC 2-2.1-1.2.

16 (4) A special session of the general assembly under IC 2-2.1-1.

17 SECTION 6. An emergency is declared for this act.

