

HOUSE BILL No. 1416

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-2-10.1; IC 10-21-1; IC 20-20-44; IC 20-27-4-10.

Synopsis: School buses. Establishes the school bus safety equipment grant fund, administered by the department of education, to provide grants to school corporations seeking to purchase new school buses equipped with passenger safety belts or, if recommended by the state school bus committee, other proven safety equipment. Provides that a governing body may apply for a grant from the fund in an amount equal to 50% of the cost of equipping the school buses with passenger safety belts or other safety equipment. Requires new school buses purchased after June 30, 2018, to be equipped with passenger safety belts or, if recommended by the state school bus committee, other proven safety equipment. Allows a school corporation to use a portion of a grant from the safe schools fund or the secured school fund toward purchase of new school buses equipped with safety equipment.

Effective: July 1, 2017.

Cook

January 17, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



First Regular Session of the 120th General Assembly (2017)

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 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1416



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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-2-10.1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.25-2016,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana safe schools fund is established
4 to do the following:
5 (1) Promote school safety through the:
6 (A) use of dogs trained to detect drugs and illegal substances;
7 and
8 (B) purchase of other equipment and materials used to
9 enhance the safety of schools.
10 (2) Combat truancy.
11 (3) Provide matching grants to schools for school safe haven
12 programs.
13 (4) Provide grants for school safety and safety plans.
14 (5) Provide educational outreach and training to school personnel
15 concerning:
16 (A) the identification of;
17 (B) the prevention of; and



- 1 (C) intervention in;
 2 bullying.
 3 (6) Provide educational outreach to school personnel and training
 4 to school safety specialists and school resource officers
 5 concerning:
 6 (A) the identification of;
 7 (B) the prevention of; and
 8 (C) intervention in;
 9 criminal organization activities.
 10 (7) Provide grants for school wide programs to improve school
 11 climate and professional development and training for school
 12 personnel concerning:
 13 (A) alternatives to suspension and expulsion; and
 14 (B) evidence based practices that contribute to a positive
 15 school environment, including classroom management skills,
 16 positive behavioral intervention and support, restorative
 17 practices, and social emotional learning.
 18 **(8) Promote student safety through the purchase of school**
 19 **buses with passenger safety belts or other safety equipment**
 20 **for buses that is proven to substantially improve school bus**
 21 **safety, as determined by the state school bus committee**
 22 **established by IC 20-27-3-1.**
 23 (b) The fund consists of amounts deposited:
 24 (1) under IC 33-37-9-4; and
 25 (2) from any other public or private source.
 26 (c) The institute shall determine grant recipients from the fund with
 27 a priority on awarding grants in the following order:
 28 (1) A grant for a safety plan.
 29 (2) A safe haven grant requested under section 10 of this chapter.
 30 (3) A safe haven grant requested under section 7 of this chapter.
 31 (d) Upon recommendation of the council, the institute shall establish
 32 a method for determining the maximum amount a grant recipient may
 33 receive under this section.
 34 SECTION 2. IC 5-2-10.1-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.40-2014,
 35 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 36 JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 6. (a) A school corporation, school corporation
 37 career and technical education school described in IC 20-37-1-1, or
 38 charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4) may receive a grant from
 39 the fund for programs, equipment, services, or activities included in a
 40 safety plan submitted with the application for funds to the institute.
 41 (b) A safety plan submitted under this section must include
 42 provisions for zero (0) tolerance for alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and



1 weapons on school property, **and may include planned purchases of**
 2 **school buses equipped with passenger safety belts or, if**
 3 **recommended by the state school bus committee established by**
 4 **IC 20-27-3-1, other proven safety equipment.** If the institute
 5 approves the safety plan and application, the treasurer of state shall
 6 disburse from the fund to the applicant the amount of the grant certified
 7 to the treasurer of state by the institute.

8 SECTION 3. IC 10-21-1-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.172-2013,
 9 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 10 JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana secured school fund is
 11 established to provide matching grants to enable school corporations
 12 and charter schools to establish programs under which a school
 13 corporation or charter school (or a coalition of schools) may:

14 (1) employ a school resource officer or enter into a contract or a
 15 memorandum of understanding with a:

16 (A) local law enforcement agency;

17 (B) private entity; or

18 (C) nonprofit corporation;

19 to employ a school resource officer;

20 (2) conduct a threat assessment of the buildings within a school
 21 corporation or operated by a charter school; or

22 (3) purchase equipment and technology to:

23 (A) restrict access to school property; or

24 (B) expedite notification of first responders.

25 **(4) purchase school buses with passenger safety belts or other**
 26 **safety equipment for buses that is proven to substantially**
 27 **improve school bus safety, as determined by the state school**
 28 **bus committee established by IC 20-27-3-1.**

29 (b) The fund shall be administered by the department of homeland
 30 security.

31 (c) The fund consists of:

32 (1) appropriations from the general assembly;

33 (2) grants from the Indiana safe schools fund established by
 34 IC 5-2-10.1-2;

35 (3) federal grants; and

36 (4) amounts deposited from any other public or private source.

37 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
 38 money in the fund.

39 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
 40 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
 41 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues
 42 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.



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

3 SECTION 4. IC 10-21-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.30-2014,
4 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 4. (a) The board may award a matching grant to
6 enable a school corporation or charter school (or a coalition of schools
7 applying jointly) to establish a program to employ a school resource
8 officer, provide school resource officer training described in
9 IC 20-26-18.2-1(b)(2), conduct a threat assessment, ~~or~~ purchase
10 equipment to restrict access to the school or expedite the notification
11 of first responders, **or purchase school buses with passenger safety**
12 **belts or other safety equipment for buses that is proven to**
13 **substantially improve school bus safety, as determined by the state**
14 **school bus committee established by IC 20-27-3-1**, in accordance
15 with section 2(a) of this chapter.

16 (b) A matching grant awarded to a school corporation or charter
17 school (or a coalition of schools applying jointly) may not exceed the
18 lesser of the following during a two (2) year period beginning on or
19 after May 1, 2013:

20 (1) The total cost of the program established by the school
21 corporation or charter school (or the coalition of schools applying
22 jointly).

23 (2) The following amounts:

24 (A) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of a
25 school corporation or charter school that:

26 (i) has an ADM of at least one thousand (1,000); and

27 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation
28 or charter school.

29 (B) Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year, in the case
30 of a school corporation or charter school that:

31 (i) has an ADM of less than one thousand (1,000); and

32 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation
33 or charter school.

34 (C) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of a
35 coalition of schools applying jointly.

36 (c) A school corporation or charter school may receive only one (1)
37 matching grant under this section each year.

38 (d) The board may not award a grant to a school corporation or
39 charter school under this chapter unless the school corporation or
40 charter school is in a county that has a county school safety
41 commission, as described in IC 5-2-10.1-10.

42 SECTION 5. IC 20-20-44 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE



1 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2017]:

3 **Chapter 44. School Bus Safety Equipment Grant Fund**

4 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the school bus
5 safety equipment grant fund established by section 3 of this
6 chapter.**

7 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "grant" refers to a grant from
8 the fund.**

9 **Sec. 3. (a) The school bus safety equipment grant fund is
10 established. The money in the fund shall be used to assist school
11 corporations, including charter schools, in purchasing new school
12 buses equipped with passenger safety belts or other proven safety
13 equipment, as determined by the state school bus committee.**

14 **(b) The department shall administer the fund.**

15 **(c) The fund consists of appropriations from the general
16 assembly.**

17 **Sec. 4. (a) A governing body that seeks to purchase a new school
18 bus equipped with passenger safety belts may apply to the
19 department for a grant in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%)
20 of the cost of equipping the school bus with passenger safety belts.**

21 **(b) If the state school bus committee determines that other
22 safety equipment is proven to substantially improve school bus
23 safety and recommends that school buses be equipped with the
24 safety equipment, a governing body that seeks to purchase a new
25 school bus with the recommended safety equipment may apply to
26 the department for a grant in an amount equal to fifty percent
27 (50%) of the cost of equipping the school bus with the safety
28 equipment.**

29 **Sec. 5. The department shall develop guidelines necessary to
30 implement this chapter.**

31 SECTION 6. IC 20-27-4-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
32 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
33 1, 2017]: **Sec. 10. (a) This section applies to:**

34 **(1) the purchase of a new school bus by a school corporation,
35 including a charter school; and**

36 **(2) a school bus operated under a fleet or transportation
37 contract with a school corporation, including a charter school,
38 that is first placed into operation;**

39 **after June 30, 2018.**

40 **(b) A:**

41 **(1) new school bus purchased by a school corporation,
42 including a charter school, after June 30, 2018; and**



1 **(2) a school bus operated under a fleet or transportation**
2 **contract with a school corporation, including a charter school,**
3 **that is first placed into operation after June 30, 2018;**
4 **must be equipped with passenger safety belts, or other safety**
5 **equipment that substantially improves school bus safety as**
6 **determined by the state school bus committee, that meet the**
7 **performance standards established under 47 CFR Part 571.**
8 **(c) The governing body may apply for a grant under**
9 **IC 5-2-10.1-2 or IC 20-20-44 to offset the cost of purchasing a new**
10 **school bus with passenger safety belts.**

