

HOUSE BILL No. 1416

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-33-7.

Synopsis: Remote worker grants and remote work sites. Establishes the remote worker grant program (program). Provides that the Indiana destination development corporation (corporation) shall administer the program, including awarding grants to a new remote worker for qualifying remote worker expenses. Requires that: (1) the corporation; and (2) the commissioner of the department of administration; shall submit reports to the legislative council.

Effective: July 1, 2021.

Carbaugh, Manning

January 14, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development.



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. 1416

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-33-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2021]:

4 **Chapter 7. New Remote Worker Grant Program**
5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "coworking space" refers to a**
6 **location where at least two (2) individuals through a paid**
7 **membership or other payment method share office space and use**
8 **of common infrastructure, such as equipment, utilities, and**
9 **custodial services.**

10 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "full-time employee" has the**
11 **meaning set forth in IC 6-3.1-13-4.**

12 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "new remote worker" means an**
13 **individual who:**

- 14 (1) either:
15 (A) graduated from or will graduate from a higher
16 education institution within one (1) year after or before
17 applying for a grant under this chapter;



- 1 (B) earned or will earn an industry recognized credential
 2 within one (1) year after or before applying for a grant
 3 under this chapter; or
 4 (C) has not been a full-time resident of Indiana for three
 5 (3) full consecutive years before applying for a grant under
 6 this chapter;
 7 (2) is a full-time employee;
 8 (3) establishes full-time residency in Indiana on or after July
 9 1, 2021; and
 10 (4) performs the majority of the individual's employment
 11 duties remotely from a home office or coworking space in
 12 Indiana.
- 13 Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the new
 14 remote worker grant program established by section 6 of this
 15 chapter.
- 16 Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "qualifying remote worker
 17 expenses" refers to costs that a new remote worker incurs to
 18 perform, or that result from performing, employment duties,
 19 including expenses related to the following:
- 20 (1) Relocation, such as housing and transportation costs of the
 21 remote worker and the remote worker's immediate family
 22 members.
 23 (2) Computer software and hardware.
 24 (3) Accessing or improving qualifying broadband service (as
 25 defined in IC 4-4-38-5).
 26 (4) Obtaining or maintaining membership in a coworking
 27 space.
 28 (5) Personal Indiana income taxes.
- 29 Sec. 6. The new remote worker grant program is established.
- 30 Sec. 7. The corporation shall do the following:
- 31 (1) Establish and implement policies and procedures to be
 32 used in the administration of the program, including a process
 33 to certify:
- 34 (A) new remote workers; and
 35 (B) qualifying remote worker expenses.
- 36 (2) Provide grants to new remote workers for qualifying
 37 remote worker expenses. However, the corporation may
 38 award a grant only:
- 39 (A) to new remote workers; and
 40 (B) for qualifying remote worker expenses;
 41 that have been certified by the corporation under subdivision
 42 (1).



1 **(3) Promote awareness of the program, including:**

2 **(A) coordinating with relevant trade groups; and**

3 **(B) integrating the program into any economic**
 4 **development campaign or marketing campaign established**
 5 **by the corporation.**

6 **(4) Develop metrics to measure the performance of the**
 7 **program.**

8 **(5) Submit an annual report to the legislative council before**
 9 **October 1, 2021, and October 1 of each year thereafter that**
 10 **the program is in operation. The report must be in an**
 11 **electronic format under IC 5-14-6 and must contain a**
 12 **description of the corporation's implementation of the**
 13 **provisions set forth in subdivisions (1) and (3). The report**
 14 **may also include recommendations that aim to improve the**
 15 **administration of the program.**

16 **Sec. 8. The commissioner of the department of administration**
 17 **shall do the following:**

18 **(1) In consultation with the director, examine the potential for**
 19 **the state to establish coworking spaces to be used by state**
 20 **employees and remote workers in the private sector.**

21 **(2) Examine the feasibility of and potential funding for**
 22 **coworking spaces, including whether vacant or underutilized**
 23 **state property can be used as a coworking space.**

24 **(3) Together with the director, submit a joint report to the**
 25 **legislative council before October 1, 2021, and October 1 of**
 26 **each year thereafter that the program is in operation that**
 27 **describes the results and findings of the examinations carried**
 28 **out under subdivisions (1) and (2). The report must be in an**
 29 **electronic format under IC 5-14-6.**

30 **Sec. 9. (a) A grant under this chapter is awarded on a**
 31 **first-come, first-served basis, subject to available funds.**

32 **(b) The corporation may award not more than the following:**

33 **(1) In the case of an individual, regardless of whether the**
 34 **individual filed a single or joint tax return, whose annual**
 35 **gross income in the calendar year before applying for the**
 36 **grant was one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or less,**
 37 **eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500).**

38 **(2) In the case of an individual, regardless of whether the**
 39 **individual filed a single or joint tax return, whose annual**
 40 **gross income in the calendar year before applying for the**
 41 **grant was more than one hundred thousand dollars**
 42 **(\$100,000), five thousand dollars (\$5,000).**



- 1 **(c) Applications must be submitted to the corporation under the**
- 2 **following time frames:**
- 3 **(1) For qualifying remote worker expenses incurred during**
- 4 **the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30,**
- 5 **2022, between April 1, 2022, and June 30, 2022.**
- 6 **(2) For qualifying remote worker expenses incurred during**
- 7 **the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30,**
- 8 **2023, between April 1, 2023, and June 30, 2023.**
- 9 **(d) A new remote worker who receives a grant for qualifying**
- 10 **remote worker expenses incurred during the fiscal year beginning**
- 11 **July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, is eligible to apply for and**
- 12 **may be awarded a grant to cover qualifying remote worker**
- 13 **expenses incurred during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022,**
- 14 **and ending June 30, 2023.**

