



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Boy

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Office of
2 Court Services to promote the use and establishment of
3 additional problem solving courts in the State of Indiana.

4 *Whereas, Problem solving courts began during the 1990s to*
5 *address addiction, mental health, and other factors that affect*
6 *recidivism across the United States of America;*

7 *Whereas, The Indiana General Assembly defined "problem*
8 *solving court" in 2010 and declared that these courts provide*
9 *"a process for immediate and highly structured judicial*
10 *intervention" while remaining focused on several key concepts;*

11 *Whereas, The Indiana General Assembly concluded that the*
12 *following concepts were critical to the successful operation of*
13 *all problem solving courts: Enhanced information to improve*

20192314



1 *decision making, engaging the community to assist with*
 2 *problem solving, collaboration with social service providers*
 3 *and other stakeholders, linking participants with community*
 4 *services based on risk and needs, participant accountability,*
 5 *and evaluating the effectiveness of operations continuously;*

6 *Whereas, The Bureau of Justice Statistics with the U.S.*
 7 *Department of Justice conducted a nationwide study in 2012*
 8 *that found that over 3,000 problem solving courts existed in the*
 9 *United States, with a total of 64 operating in the State of*
 10 *Indiana at that time;*

11 *Whereas, Current Indiana problem solving courts include:*
 12 *Adult Drug Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, Family*
 13 *Dependency Courts, Juvenile Drug Courts, Juvenile Problem*
 14 *solving Courts, Mental Health Courts, Re-entry Courts, and*
 15 *Veterans Courts;*

16 *Whereas, Problem solving courts play a critical role in*
 17 *today's judicial system, offering programs and opportunities to*
 18 *address common issues found at the heart of recidivism;*

19 *Whereas, Indiana's judicial system would benefit from an*
 20 *increase in problem solving courts throughout the state; and*

21 *Whereas, The House of Representatives urges the Indiana*
 22 *Office of Court Services to promote the use of problem solving*
 23 *courts and work to increase the number of problem solving*
 24 *courts operating in the state: Therefore,*

25 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
 26 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

27 SECTION 1. That the House of Representatives encourages
 28 the Indiana Office of Court Services to promote the use and
 29 establishment of additional problem solving courts in the State
 30 of Indiana.

31 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
 32 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the
 33 Executive Director of the Indiana Office of Court Services,
 34 Justin Forkner, and the Liaison for the Problem Solving Courts
 35 Committee, the Honorable Christopher Goff.

