



January 24, 2020

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## SENATE BILL No. 71

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DIGEST OF SB 71 (Updated January 22, 2020 7:31 pm - DI 133)

**Citations Affected:** IC 34-11; IC 36-2.

**Synopsis:** Adverse possession statute of limitations. Amends the statute concerning the statute of limitations for actions for the recovery of the possession of real estate to provide that such an action that: (1) involves a line located and established by a professional surveyor; and (2) accrues before the lines are located and established by the surveyor; must be commenced before the expiration of the appeal period set forth in the statute governing county surveyors. Amends the Indiana Code provision concerning the establishment of property lines by means of a legal survey to specify that the lines established are binding on all affected landowners, including a landowner who claims title under a claim of adverse possession.

**Effective:** July 1, 2020.

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## Doriot

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January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.  
January 23, 2020, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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January 24, 2020

Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

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 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 71

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 34-11-2-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 11. **(a) Except as**  
3 **provided in subsection (b)**, an action upon contracts in writing other  
4 than those for the payment of money, and including all mortgages other  
5 than chattel mortgages, deeds of trust, judgments of courts of record,  
6 and for the recovery of the possession of real estate, must be  
7 commenced within ten (10) years after the cause of action accrues.  
8 However, an action upon contracts in writing other than those for the  
9 payment of money entered into before September 1, 1982, not  
10 including chattel mortgages, deeds of trust, judgments of courts of  
11 record, or for the recovery of the possession of real estate, must be  
12 commenced within twenty (20) years after the cause of action accrues.  
13 **(b) This subsection applies to an action:**  
14 **(1) for the recovery of the possession of real estate;**  
15 **(2) that involves or is affected by a line located and**  
16 **established by a professional surveyor under IC 36-2-12-10;**  
17 **and**

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1           **(3) that accrues before the lines are located and established as**  
 2           **described in subdivision (2).**

3           **An action to which this subsection applies must be commenced**  
 4           **before the expiration of the appeal period set forth in**  
 5           **IC 36-2-12-14.**

6           SECTION 2. IC 36-2-12-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.159-2018,  
 7           SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 8           JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 10. (a) The county surveyor shall maintain a legal  
 9           survey record book, which must contain a record of all the legal  
 10          surveys made in the county showing outline maps of each section,  
 11          grant, tract, subdivision, or group of sections, grants, tracts, and  
 12          subdivisions in sufficient detail so that the approximate location of  
 13          each legal survey can be shown. Legal surveys shall be indexed by  
 14          location.

15          (b) A landowner desiring to establish the location of the line  
 16          between the landowner's land and that of an adjoining landowner by  
 17          means of a legal survey may do so as follows:

18               (1) The landowner shall procure a professional surveyor  
 19               registered under IC 25-21.5 to locate the line in question and shall  
 20               compensate the professional surveyor.

21               (2) The professional surveyor shall notify the owners of adjoining  
 22               lands that the professional surveyor is going to make the survey.  
 23               The notice must be given by registered or certified mail at least  
 24               twenty (20) days before the survey is started.

25               (3) The lines and corners shall be properly marked, monumented  
 26               by durable material with letters and figures establishing such lines  
 27               and corners, referenced, and tied to corners shown in the corner  
 28               record book in the office of the county surveyor or to corners  
 29               shown on a plat recorded in the plat books in the office of the  
 30               county recorder.

31               (4) The professional surveyor shall present to the county surveyor  
 32               for entry in the legal survey record book a plat of the legal survey  
 33               and proof of notice to the adjoining landowners. The professional  
 34               surveyor shall give notice to adjoining landowners by registered  
 35               or certified mail within ten (10) days after filing of the survey.

36          (c) The lines located and established under subsection (b) are  
 37          binding on all landowners affected and their heirs and assigns,  
 38          **including an affected landowner who claims title under a claim of**  
 39          **adverse possession:**

40               **(1) that has not been filed in a court with jurisdiction; or**

41               **(2) with respect to which:**

42                   **(A) a deed reflecting the adverse possession; or**



1                   **(B) an affidavit under IC 36-2-11-19(a)(4);**  
2                   **has not been recorded in the office of the recorder of the**  
3                   **county in which the property is located;**  
4                   **as of the date the survey is entered into the legal survey record**  
5                   **book under this section,** unless an appeal is taken under section 14 of  
6                   this chapter. The right to appeal commences when the plat of the legal  
7                   survey is entered by the county surveyor in the legal survey record  
8                   book.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 71, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 71 as introduced.)

KOCH, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0

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