

SENATE BILL No. 201

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 2-5-36-9; IC 16-19-3-33.

Synopsis: Child welfare studies. Requires the commission on improving the status of children in Indiana to study the needs of struggling families and their unborn and born children. Requires the Indiana department of health to develop and propose, not later than July 1, 2024, a strategic plan to: (1) evaluate the needs of unborn and born children; (2) assess the available resources in each county to provide for the needs of unborn and born children; and (3) determine the disparity in each county between the needs of unborn and born children and the available resources.

Effective: Upon passage.

Qaddoura

January 10, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Family and Children Services.



First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

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 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 201

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning family and social services.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 2-5-36-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.101-2022,
- 2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 3 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 9. The commission shall do the following:
- 4 (1) Study and evaluate the following:
- 5 (A) Access to services for vulnerable youth.
- 6 (B) Availability of services for vulnerable youth.
- 7 (C) Duplication of services for vulnerable youth.
- 8 (D) Funding of services available for vulnerable youth.
- 9 (E) Barriers to service for vulnerable youth.
- 10 (F) Communication and cooperation by agencies concerning
- 11 vulnerable youth.
- 12 (G) Implementation of programs or laws concerning
- 13 vulnerable youth.
- 14 (H) The consolidation of existing entities that serve vulnerable
- 15 youth.
- 16 (I) Data from state agencies relevant to evaluating progress,
- 17 targeting efforts, and demonstrating outcomes.



- 1 (J) Crimes of sexual violence against children.
 2 (K) The impact of social networking ~~web sites~~, **websites**,
 3 cellular telephones and wireless communications devices,
 4 digital media, and new technology on crimes against children.
 5 (2) Review and make recommendations concerning pending
 6 legislation.
 7 (3) Promote information sharing concerning vulnerable youth
 8 across the state.
 9 (4) Promote best practices, policies, and programs.
 10 (5) Cooperate with:
 11 (A) other child focused commissions;
 12 (B) the judicial branch of government;
 13 (C) the executive branch of government;
 14 (D) stakeholders; and
 15 (E) members of the community.
 16 (6) Create a statewide juvenile justice oversight body to carry out
 17 the following duties described in section 9.3 of this chapter:
 18 (A) Develop a plan to collect and report statewide juvenile
 19 justice data.
 20 (B) Establish procedures and policies related to the use of:
 21 (i) a validated risk screening tool and a validated risk and
 22 needs assessment tool;
 23 (ii) a detention tool to inform the use of secure detention;
 24 (iii) a plan to determine how information from the tools
 25 described in this clause is compiled and shared and with
 26 whom the information will be shared; and
 27 (iv) a plan to provide training to judicial officers on the
 28 implementation of the tools described in this clause.
 29 (C) Develop criteria for the use of diagnostic assessments as
 30 described in IC 31-37-19-11.7.
 31 (D) Develop a statewide plan to address the provision of
 32 broader behavioral health services to children in the juvenile
 33 justice system.
 34 (E) Develop a plan for the provision of transitional services for
 35 a child who is a ward of the department of correction as
 36 described in IC 31-37-19-11.5.
 37 (F) Develop a plan for grant programs described in section 9.3
 38 of this chapter.
 39 The initial appointments and designations to the statewide
 40 juvenile justice oversight body described in this subdivision shall
 41 be made not later than May 31, 2022. The chief justice of the
 42 supreme court shall designate the chair of the statewide juvenile



1 justice oversight body and shall make the initial appointments and
 2 designations to the statewide juvenile justice oversight body,
 3 which may incorporate members of an existing committee or
 4 subcommittee formed under the commission. The initial meeting
 5 of the oversight body shall be held not later than July 1, 2022.

6 (7) Submit a report not later than September 1 of each year
 7 regarding the commission's work during the previous year. The
 8 report shall be submitted to the legislative council, the governor,
 9 and the chief justice of Indiana. The report to the legislative
 10 council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

11 **(8) Study the needs of struggling families and their unborn
 12 and born children.**

13 SECTION 2. IC 16-19-3-33 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 14 AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 33. (a) The state department, in
 16 consultation with other state agencies, shall develop and propose
 17 a strategic plan to:**

18 **(1) evaluate the needs of unborn and born children;**

19 **(2) assess the available resources in each county to provide for
 20 the needs of unborn and born children; and**

21 **(3) determine the disparity in each county between the needs
 22 of unborn and born children described in subdivision (1) and
 23 the available resources in the county described in subdivision**

24 **(2).**

25 **(b) The state department shall submit the strategic plan
 26 described in subsection (a) to the legislative council not later than
 27 July 1, 2024. The report must be in an electronic format under
 28 IC 5-14-6.**

29 SECTION 3. **An emergency is declared for this act.**

