



SENATE BILL No. 409

DIGEST OF SB 409 (Updated February 18, 2021 3:02 pm - DI 87)

Citations Affected: IC 12-7; IC 12-13; IC 12-20; IC 36-6; IC 36-9.

Synopsis: Various township matters. Provides that a township trustee serves as a member of the township legislative body for purposes of casting a vote to break a tie, except for a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation. Makes changes to the information required to be submitted by a township in the township's annual report. Requires the township trustee to annually certify and note on the township budget submitted to the department that the township trustee has filed the township's uniform written standards for township assistance with the county board of commissioners. Allows a township trustee to be appointed as a director of a county building authority. Provides that a township is not required to publish the portion of its annual abstract of receipts and expenditures that provides statements of: (1) receipts, showing their source; and (2) expenditures, showing the combined gross payment, according to classification of expense, to each person. Provides that the abstract must state that a complete abstract containing the statements described in (1) and (2) is filed with and available for public inspection in the county auditor's office.

Effective: July 1, 2021.

Niemeyer, Rogers

January 25, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government. February 11, 2021, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass. February 18, 2021, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.



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.

SENATE BILL No. 409

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

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

1	SECTION 1. IC 12-7-2-24.9, AS ADDED BY P.L.180-2005,
2	SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 24.9. "Case contact", for purposes of
4	IC 12-20-28-3, has the meaning set forth in IC 12-20-28-3(b). This
5	section expires January 1, 2023.
6	SECTION 2. IC 12-7-2-192.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.180-2005,
7	SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
8	JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 192.4. "Total number of recipients", for purposes
9	of IC 12-20-28-3, has the meaning set forth in the following:
10	(1) IC 12-20-28-3(d). This subdivision expires January 1, 2023.
11	(2) IC 12-20-28-3(e). This subdivision applies after December
12	31, 2022.
13	SECTION 3. IC 12-7-2-192.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.180-2005,
14	SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
15	JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 192.5. "Total number of requests for assistance",
16	for purposes of IC 12-20-28-3, has the meaning set forth in
17	IC 12-20-28-3(e). IC 12-20-28-3(f).



1 2	SECTION 4. IC 12-13-16-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.73-2020, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 10. Beginning July 1, 2021, the office of the
4	secretary shall:
5	(1) compile data regarding 211 services, including:
6	(A) community needs, including utility, housing, and food
7	assistance;
8	(B) the number of referrals to community resources;
9	(C) the number of individuals seeking assistance in each
10	county; and
11	(D) all community resource providers, including township
12	trustees; and
13	(2) enter into data sharing agreements with entities approved by
14	the office of the secretary that allow the approved entities to
15	access data compiled under this section in a manner that is
16	consistent with state and federal privacy laws.
17	SECTION 5. IC 12-20-5.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.73-2005,
18	SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19	JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 1. (a) The township trustee shall process all
20	applications for township assistance according to uniform written
21	standards and without consideration of the race, creed, nationality, or
22 23 24	gender of the applicant or any member of the applicant's household.
23	(b) The township's standards for the issuance of township assistance
	and the processing of applications must be:
25	(1) governed by the requirements of this article;
26	(2) proposed by the township trustee, adopted by the township
27	board, and filed with the board of county commissioners;
28	(3) reviewed and updated annually to reflect changes in the cost
29	of basic necessities in the township and changes in the law;
30	(4) published in a single written document, including addenda
31	attached to the document; and
32	(5) posted in a place prominently visible to the public in all
33	offices of the township trustee where township assistance
34	applications are taken or processed.
35	(c) The township trustee shall annually certify that the uniform
36	written standards for the issuance of township assistance have been
37	filed with the board of county commissioners as required under
38	subsection (b)(2). The certification shall be noted in the township's
39	budget submitted to the department of local government finance's
40	computer gateway under IC 6-1.1-17-3.
11	SECTION 6 IC 12 20 5 5 2 AS AMENDED BY DI 72 2005

SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 3. (a) The township trustee shall ensure adequate
access to township assistance services, including a published telephone
number in the name of the township published in the annual report
as provided in IC 12-20-28-3 and the township's budget submitted
to the department of local government finance's computer gateway
under IC 6-1.1-17-3.

- (b) A township assistance office, if separate from the township trustee's residence, must be designated by a clearly visible sign that lists the:
 - (1) township trustee's name;

- (2) availability of township assistance; and
- (3) township assistance office's telephone number.

The sign must conform to all local zoning and signage restrictions.

SECTION 7. IC 12-20-28-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2009, SECTION 106, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 3. (a) The definitions in this section apply to a report that is required to be filed under this section.

- (b) As used in this section, "case contact" means any act of service in which a township employee has reason to enter a comment or narrative into the record of an application for township assistance under this article regardless of whether the applicant receives or does not receive township assistance funds. This subsection expires January 1, 2023.
- (c) As used in this section, "total number of households containing township assistance recipients" means the sum to be determined by counting the total number of individuals who file an application for which assistance is granted. A household may be counted only once during a calendar year regardless of the number of times assistance is provided if the same individual makes the application for assistance.
- (d) As used in this section, "total number of recipients" means the number of individuals who are members of a household that receives assistance on at least one (1) occasion during the calendar year. An individual may be counted only one (1) time during a calendar year regardless of the:
 - (1) number of times assistance is provided; or
 - (2) number of households in which the individual resides during a particular year.

This subsection expires January 1, 2023.

(e) This subsection applies to a report filed after December 31, 2022. As used in this section, "total number of recipients" means the number of individuals who are members of a household that receives assistance on at least one (1) occasion during the calendar



1	year. An individual may be counted for each time assistance is
2	separately provided regardless of the:
3	(1) number of times assistance is provided; or
4	(2) number of households in which the individual resides
5	during a particular year.
6	(e) (f) As used in this section, "total number of requests for
7	assistance" means the number of times an individual or a household
8	separately requests any type of township assistance.
9	(f) (g) The township trustee shall file an annual statistical report on
10	township housing, medical care, utility assistance, food assistance,
11	burial assistance, food pantry assistance, services related to
12	representative payee programs, services related to special
13	nontraditional programs, and case management services with the state
14	board of accounts. The township trustee shall provide a copy of the
15	annual statistical report to the county auditor. The county auditor shall
16	keep the copy of the report in the county auditor's office. Except as
17	provided in subsection (k), (l), the report must be made on a form
18	provided by the state board of accounts. The report must contain the
19	following information:
20	(1) The total number of requests for assistance.
21	(2) The total number of each of the following:
21 22 23	(A) Recipients of township assistance.
23	(B) Households containing recipients of township assistance.
24	(C) Case contacts made with or on behalf of:
25 26	(i) recipients of township assistance; or
26	(ii) members of a household receiving township assistance.
27	This subdivision expires January 1, 2023.
28	(3) This subdivision applies to a report filed after December
29	31, 2022. The total number of each of the following:
30	(A) Recipients of township assistance.
31	(B) Households containing recipients of township
32	assistance.
33	(C) Individuals denied township assistance.
34	(3) (4) The total value of benefits provided to recipients of
35	township assistance.
36	(5) This subdivision applies to a report filed after December
37	31, 2022. The total value of benefits denied to individuals
38	applying for township assistance.
39	(4) (6) The total value of benefits provided through the efforts of
40	township staff from sources other than township funds.
41	(5) (7) The total number of each of the following:
12	(A) Recipients of township assistance and households



1	receiving utility assistance.
2	(B) Recipients assisted by township staff in receiving utility
3	assistance from sources other than township funds.
4	(6) (8) The total value of benefits provided for the payment of
5	utilities, including the value of benefits of utility assistance
6	provided through the efforts of township staff from sources other
7	than township funds.
8	(7) (9) The total number of each of the following:
9	(A) Recipients of township assistance and households
10	receiving housing assistance.
11	(B) Recipients assisted by township staff in receiving housing
12	assistance from sources other than township funds.
13	(8) (10) The total value of benefits provided for housing
14	assistance, including the value of benefits of housing assistance
15	provided through the efforts of township staff from sources other
16	than township funds.
17	(9) (11) The total number of each of the following:
18	(A) Recipients of township assistance and households
19	receiving food assistance.
20	(B) Recipients assisted by township staff in receiving food
21	assistance from sources other than township funds.
22	(10) (12) The total value of food assistance provided, including
23	the value of food assistance provided through the efforts of
24	township staff from sources other than township funds.
25	(11) (13) The total number of each of the following:
26	(A) Recipients of township assistance and households
27	provided health care.
28	(B) Recipients assisted by township staff in receiving health
29	care assistance from sources other than township funds.
30	(12) (14) The total value of health care provided, including the
31	value of health care assistance provided through the efforts of
32	township staff from sources other than township funds.
33	(13) (15) The total number of funerals, burials, and cremations.
34	(14) (16) The total value of funerals, burials, and cremations,
35	including the difference between the:
36	(A) actual value of the funerals, burials, and cremations; and
37	(B) amount paid by the township for the funerals, burials, and
38	cremations.
39	(15) (17) The total of each of the following:
40	(A) Number of nights of emergency shelter provided to the
41	homeless.
42	(B) Number of nights of emergency shelter provided to
⊤ ∠	(b) Number of highes of efficiency sheller provided to



1	homeless individuals through the efforts of township staff from
2	sources other than township funds.
3	(C) Value of the nights of emergency shelter provided to
4	homeless individuals by the township and the value of the
5	nights of emergency shelter provided through the efforts of the
6	township staff from sources other than township funds.
7	(16) (18) The total of each of the following:
8	(A) Number of referrals of township assistance applicants to
9	other programs.
10	(B) Value of the services provided by the township in making
11	referrals to other programs.
12	(17) (19) The total number of training programs or job placements
13	found for recipients of township assistance with the assistance of
14	the township trustee.
15	(18) (20) The number of hours spent by recipients of township
16	assistance at workfare.
17	(19) (21) The total value of the services provided by workfare to
18	the township and other agencies.
19	(20) (22) The total amount of reimbursement for assistance
20	received from:
21	(A) recipients;
22 23 24 25	(B) members of recipients' households; or
23	(C) recipients' estates;
24	under IC 12-20-6-10, IC 12-20-27-1, or IC 12-20-27-1.5.
	(21) (23) The total amount of reimbursement for assistance
26	received from medical programs under IC 12-20-16-2(e).
27	(22) (24) The total of each of the following:
28	(A) Number of individuals assisted through a representative
29	payee program.
30	(B) Amount of funds processed through the representative
31	payee program that are not township funds.
32	(23) (25) The total of each of the following:
33	(A) Number of individuals assisted through special
34	nontraditional programs provided through the township
35	without the expenditure of township funds.
36	(B) Amount of funds used to provide the special nontraditional
37	programs that are not township funds.
38	(24) (26) The total of each of the following:
39	(A) Number of hours an investigator of township assistance
10	spends providing case management services to a recipient of
11	
11 12	township assistance or a member of a household receiving



1	(B) Value of the case management services provided.
2	(25) (27) The total number of housing inspections performed by
3	the township.
4	(28) The township trustee's name and telephone number as
5	provided in IC 12-20-5.5-3.
6	If the total number or value of any item required to be reported under
7	this subsection is zero (0), the township trustee shall include the
8	notation "0" in the report where the total number or value is required
9	to be reported.
10	(g) (h) The state board of accounts shall compare and compile all
11	data reported under subsection (f) (g) into a statewide statistical report.
12	The department shall summarize the data compiled by the state board
13	of accounts that relate to the fixing of township budgets, levies, and tax
14	rates and shall include the department's summary within the statewide
15	statistical report prepared under this subsection. Before July 1 of each
16	year, the state board of accounts shall file the statewide statistical
17	report prepared under this subsection with the executive director of the
18	legislative services agency in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
19	(h) (i) The state board of accounts shall forward a copy of:
20	(1) each annual report forwarded to the board under subsection
21	(f); (g); and
22	(2) the statewide statistical report under subsection (g); (h);
23	to the department and the division of family resources.
24	(i) (j) The division of family resources shall include in the division's
25	periodic reports made to the United States Department of Health and
26	Human Services concerning the Temporary Assistance for Needy
27	Families (TANF) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs
28	information forwarded to the division under subsection (h) (i)
29	concerning the total number of recipients of township assistance and
30	the total dollar amount of benefits provided.
31	(j) (k) The department may not approve the budget of a township
32	trustee who fails to file an annual report under subsection (f) (g) in the
33	preceding calendar year.
34	(k) (l) This section does not prevent the electronic transfer of data
35	required to be reported under IC 12-2-1-40 (before its repeal) or this
36	section if the following conditions are met:
37	(1) The method of reporting is acceptable to both the township
38	trustee reporting the information and the governmental entity to
39	which the information is reported.
40	(2) A written copy of information reported by electronic transfer
41	is on file with the township trustee reporting information by
42	electronic means.



	8
1	(1) (m) The information required to be reported by the township
2	trustee under this section shall be maintained by the township trustee
3	in accordance with IC 5-15-6.
4	SECTION 8. IC 36-6-4-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017,
5	SECTION 157, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
6	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 13. (a) When the executive prepares
7	the annual report required by section 12 of this chapter, the executive
8	shall also prepare, on forms prescribed by the state board of accounts,
9	an abstract of receipts and expenditures:
10	(1) showing the sum of money in each fund of the township at the
11	beginning of the year;
12	(2) showing the sum of money received in each fund of the
13	township during the year;
14	(3) showing the sum of money paid from each fund of the
15	township during the year;
16	(4) showing the sum of money remaining in each fund of the
17	township at the end of the year;
18	(5) containing a statement of receipts, showing their source; and
19	(6) containing a statement of expenditures, showing the combined
20	gross payment, according to classification of expense, to each
21	person.
22	(b) Within four (4) weeks after the third Tuesday following the first
23	Monday in February, the executive shall publish the portion of the
24	abstract described in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(4) abstract
25	prescribed by subsection (a) in accordance with IC 5-3-1 with a
26	statement that a complete abstract that contains the statements
27	required under subsection (a)(5) and (a)(6) is available for
28	inspection in the county auditor's office. The abstract must state that:
29	(1) a complete and detailed annual report, a complete abstract,
30	and the accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons

- (1) a complete and detailed annual report, a complete abstract, and the accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons paid money by the township have been filed with the county auditor; and
- (2) that the chair of the township legislative body has a copy of the report that is available for inspection by any taxpayer of the township.
- (c) An executive who fails to comply with this section commits a Class C infraction.

SECTION 9. IC 36-6-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.266-2013, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 4. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), two (2) members of the legislative body constitute a quorum. The township executive shall serve by virtue of office as a member of



the township legislative body for the purpose of casting the deciding vote to break a tie. However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter).

(b) Before January 1, 2017, four (4) members of the legislative body in a county containing a consolidated city constitute a quorum. After December 31, 2016, three (3) members of the legislative body in a county having a consolidated city constitute a quorum. The township executive shall serve by virtue of office as a member of the township legislative body for the purpose of casting the deciding vote to break a tie. However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter).

- (c) This subsection applies to a township government that:
 - (1) is created by a merger of township governments under IC 36-6-1.5; and
 - (2) elects a the township board legislative body under section 2.1 of this chapter.

A majority of the members of the **township** legislative body constitute a quorum. If a township board legislative body has an even number of members, the township executive shall serve as an ex officio by virtue of office as a member of the township board legislative body for the purpose of casting the deciding vote to break a tie. However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter).

SECTION 10. IC 36-9-13-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017, SECTION 305, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 11. (a) A county building authority is under the control of a board of directors. This board consists of five (5) directors, who shall be appointed by a majority vote of the building authority trustees. Each of the original directors shall serve from the date of the director's appointment until the first day of February in the second year after the director's appointment, and until the director's successor is appointed and has qualified.

- (b) A person may be appointed as a director only if the person satisfies all of the following:
 - (1) **The person** is at least thirty (30) years of age.
 - (2) **The person** has been a resident of the county five (5) years immediately preceding the person's appointment. and



1	(3) I ne person is not an officer or employee of an eligible entity.
2	However, a township executive may be appointed as a
3	director.
4	(c) Before entering upon the director's duties, each director shall
5	take and subscribe an oath of office (in the usual form), which shall be
6	endorsed upon the director's certificate of appointment. The certificate
7	shall be promptly filed with the county clerk.
8	SECTION 11. IC 36-9-13-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017,
9	SECTION 308, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
10	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 17. A trustee or director who:
11	vacates the trustee's or director's office if the trustee or director
12	does any of the following:
13	(1) The trustee or director ceases to be a resident of the county.
14	or
15	(2) The trustee or director becomes an officer or employee of an
16	eligible entity. However, a director does not vacate the
17	director's office by becoming a township executive.
18	vacates the trustee's or director's office.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Local Government, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 409, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17.

Delete pages 2 through 3.

Page 4, delete lines 1 through 13.

Page 7, line 5, strike "(k)," and insert "(l),".

Page 10, line 19, after "(j)" insert "(k)".

Page 10, line 19, reset in roman "The department may not approve the budget of a township trustee".

Page 10, reset in roman lines 20 through 21.

Page 10, line 22, strike "(k)" and insert "(l)".

Page 10, line 31, strike "(1)" and insert "(m)".

Page 10, delete lines 34 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 8. IC 36-6-4-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017, SECTION 157, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021]: Sec. 13. (a) When the executive prepares the annual report required by section 12 of this chapter, the executive shall also prepare, on forms prescribed by the state board of accounts, an abstract of receipts and expenditures:

- (1) showing the sum of money in each fund of the township at the beginning of the year;
- (2) showing the sum of money received in each fund of the township during the year;
- (3) showing the sum of money paid from each fund of the township during the year;
- (4) showing the sum of money remaining in each fund of the township at the end of the year;
- (5) containing a statement of receipts, showing their source; and
- (6) containing a statement of expenditures, showing the combined gross payment, according to classification of expense, to each person.
- (b) Within four (4) weeks after the third Tuesday following the first Monday in February, the executive shall publish the **portion of the abstract described in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(4) abstract prescribed by subsection (a)** in accordance with IC 5-3-1 with a statement that a complete abstract that contains the statements required under subsection (a)(5) and (a)(6) is available for



inspection in the county auditor's office. The abstract must state that:

- (1) a complete and detailed annual report, a complete abstract, and the accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons paid money by the township have been filed with the county auditor; and
- (2) that the chair of the township legislative body has a copy of the report that is available for inspection by any taxpayer of the township.
- (c) An executive who fails to comply with this section commits a Class C infraction.".

Page 11, delete lines 1 through 19.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 409 as introduced.)

BUCK, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0.

SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senate Bill 409 be amended to read as follows:

Page 7, line 32, strike "(f)" and insert "(g)".

Page 9, line 2, after "tie." insert "However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter)."

Page 9, line 9, after "tie." insert "However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter)."

Page 9, line 19, after "tie." insert "However, the township executive may not vote to break a tie on the adoption of an ordinance to increase the township executive's compensation (as defined in section 10 of this chapter)."

(Reference is to SB 409 as printed February 12, 2021.)

NIEMEYER

