



# 2019 Bill Endorsements

## Indiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council

January 31st, 2019 | Per authorizing statute IC 2-5-29, the Council advises the General Assembly on topics related to Indiana youth through the suggestion, endorsement, and advocacy of relevant legislation and policy. The Council is included in the budget of the Indiana Department of Education, supported by grants and donors, and overseen by the Indiana Bar Foundation.

2018-19 Council Session  
Eleventh Session of the Council  
July 2018 to June 2019

2019 Bill Endorsements  
Published January 31st, 2019

2018-19 Council Officers  
Daniel Medina  
Council Chair

Megan Stoner  
Policy Chair

Kelby Stallings  
Communications Chair

Christian Means  
Outreach Chair

2018-19 Membership  
*\*See appendix for a member directory*

Tanner Bowman  
Madeline Erdell  
Kyle Feldkamp  
Cole Ferguson  
Eilidh MacLeod  
Nathan Mertz  
Hayden Redelman  
Abigail Thomas  
Kaden Wood  
Vanessa Zhao

## Council Advisor

Collin Gruver, J.D.  
Director of Civic Education  
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# Letter From Council Leadership

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January 31st, 2019

Respected Members of the Indiana General Assembly,

We, the Indiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council, would like to offer our sincere gratitude for spending your time in reviewing the Council's 2019 Bill Endorsements.

In the weeks since the Council's most recent Annual Report was published last November, our members have been meticulously following along with the developments of the 2019 Legislative Session. Such a dedication has culminated in the endorsement of ten (10) bills currently introduced in either the House or the Senate, and a detailed listing of those youth-related bills are included in the following pages of this report.

The publication of this year's Bill Endorsements reflect our Council's steadfast commitment to the legislative process, during which we serve in our best capacity as representatives for our fellow Hoosier youth. And indeed, this is a responsibility that we take with utmost seriousness. Many of the endorsed bills will begin holding opportunities for witness testimony in the coming weeks, after all, and the Council looks forward to reaching out and voicing support for the listed policies during such public hearings.

Our legislative youth council hopes that this report serves as a catalyst for increased real-time dialogue with the General Assembly. In fact, during our Council's meeting at the Statehouse on February 12th (Legislative Day), we plan to discuss the contents of the report with our lawmakers firsthand.

We look forward to ongoing communications with the General Assembly as the Legislative Session continues. Thank you for your continued support of Hoosier youth all across the Great State of Indiana.

Cordially,

The Indiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council

*Daniel Medina*

Aldo Daniel Medina  
Council Chair  
admedina@iu.edu

*Megan Stoner*

Megan Stoner  
Policy Chair

*Kelby Stallings*

Kelby Stallings  
Communications Chair

*Christian Means*

Christian Means  
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# One-Page List of Bill Endorsements

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## One-Page Brief

This one-page List of Bill Endorsements serves as a brief of the Indiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council’s legislative priorities for the 2019 Legislative Session of the Indiana General Assembly. A more detailed overview on the listed bills (as well as a summary of the Council’s endorsement process) can be found in the remaining pages of the 2019 Bill Endorsements Report.

## The Council’s Endorsed Bills of the 2019 Legislative Session

<b>V</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>†</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>V</b>					<b>W</b>
Education	Senate Bill 29	School materials for juvenile detainees.		Sen. Mike Bohacek [3]	(R-LaPorte)	9-3
Student Services	Senate Bill 267	Integrated school-based mental health.		Sen. Randall Head	(R-Logansport)	9-3
Education	Senate Bill 354	Mental health education and screenings.		Sen. Frank Mvran	(D-Hammond)	9-3
Student Services	Senate Bill 403	School bus route safety.		Sen. Victoria Spartz	(R-Noblesville)	12-0
Education	House Bill 1213	Reinforcing student journalism protections.		Rep. Edward Clere	(R-New Albany)	12-0
Civic Engagement	Senate Bill 34	Smoking in a vehicle with a child present.		Sen. James Merritt [3]	(R-Indianapolis)	10-2
Health and Safety	Senate Bill 192	Non-consensual pornography.		Sen. Mike Bohacek [3]	(R-LaPorte)	11-1
Substance Abuse	Senate Bill 264	Age of Consent		Sen. Frank Mvran	(D-Hammond)	10-2
Health and Safety	Senate Bill 288	Lifeline law extension.		Sen. Mark Stoops	(D-Bloomington)	11-1
Substance Abuse	Senate Bill 464	Removing barriers from homeless youth.		Sen. James Merritt [3]	(R-Indianapolis)	11-1
Health and Safety						
Homelessness						

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 [3] **V** . . . . .

## Detailed List of Bill Endorsements

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### Senate Bill 29 - School materials for juvenile detainees.

Education | Student Services

School materials for juvenile detainees. Provides that, if a child is or will be detained in a juvenile detention facility (facility) for more than seven calendar days and the facility is located in the same county as the school corporation that the child: (1) attended before the child was detained; (2) will attend upon release from the facility; or (3) both attended before the child was detained and will attend upon release; the school corporation must, upon the facility's request, provide to the facility the school materials for the grade level or courses that the child is or would be enrolled in if the child were not detained. Requires the school corporation, upon the facility's request, to deliver the school materials at least once every seven calendar days, excluding school holidays and school vacation periods. Provides that, except for the assessment of rental fees for curricular materials, the school corporation is responsible for the costs associated with preparing and delivering the school materials. Provides that the school corporation is not required to provide the school materials if the: (1) child is released from the facility; or (2) facility requests that the school corporation no longer provide the school materials.

Bill Author (s)	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Mike Bohacek (R-LaPorte)	Christian Means	Eilidh MacLeod Kyle Feldkamp	9-3
Sen. Jeff Raatz (R-Wayne County)			

### Senate Bill 267 - Integrated school-based mental health.

Education | Student Services

Integrated school based mental health. Establishes the integrated school based mental health and substance use disorder services grant program (program) to provide grants to school corporations for the development, implementation, and maintenance of integrated school based mental health and substance use disorder services plans. Requires the department of education to administer the program. Provides that, beginning after June 30, 2020, a school corporation is eligible for a grant if the school corporation meets the requirements of the program. Establishes the requirements to participate in the program and grant amounts.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Randall Head (R-Logansport)	Madeline Erdell	Abigail Thomas	9-3

## Senate Bill 354 - Mental health education and screenings. Education | Student Services

Mental health education and screenings. Requires a school corporation's health education curriculum to include mental health wellness education. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may provide mental health screenings to students if the governing body receives written consent from a student's parent or guardian to provide a mental health screening to the student. Requires the department of education to provide a school corporation with resources regarding mental health wellness upon request by the school corporation.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Frank Mvran (D-Hammond)	Eilidh MacLeod	Kyle Feldkamp	9-3

## Senate Bill 403 - School bus route safety. Education | School Safety

School bus route safety. Provides that the governing body of a public or accredited nonpublic elementary school may not authorize a school bus driver to load or unload a student at a location that requires the student to cross a roadway if the roadway: (1) is a U.S. route or state route; or (2) has a speed limit that exceeds 50 miles per hour. Provides that a governing body may request a waiver for a particular stop for a period not to exceed one year by submitting a request to the state school bus committee.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Victoria Spartz (R-Noblesville)	Kelby Stallings	Tanner Bowman	12-0

## House Bill 1213 - Student journalism protections.

Education | Civic Engagement

Student journalism. Provides freedom of speech and freedom of press protections for grades 7 through 12 and state educational institution student journalists. Requires each school corporation and charter school to adopt a policy concerning student journalist protections. Requires a student media adviser to, each school year, supervise student journalists in grades 7 through 12 in the creation of certain school sponsored media policies. Provides that a public school or school corporation may not suppress school sponsored media unless certain conditions apply. Provides that public schools, school corporations, and state educational institutions are immune from civil liability for any injury resulting from school sponsored media produced by a student journalist, except for acts or omissions that constitute gross negligence or willful, wanton, or intentional misconduct.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Rep. Edward Clere (R-New Albany)	Daniel Medina	Nathan Mertz Colton Ferguson Eilidh MacLeod	12-0

## Senate Bill 34 - Smoking in a vehicle with a child present.

Health and Safety | Substance Abuse

Smoking in a motor vehicle with a small child present. Provides that a person who smokes in a motor vehicle while a child less than six years of age is a passenger commits a Class B infraction. Provides that a person who is convicted of smoking in a motor vehicle while a child less than six years of age is a passenger and has committed the same offense three prior times during a 12 month period commits a Class A infraction.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. James Merritt (R-Northeast Indianapolis)	Christian Means	Nathan Mertz Tanner Bowman	10-2
Sen. Eddie Melton (D-Gary)			

Senate Bill 192 - Non-consensual pornography.  
Health and Safety | Sexual Offenses

Nonconsensual pornography. Defines "intimate image" and creates a civil cause of action against a person who displays or distributes an intimate image without the consent of the individual depicted in the intimate image. Provides that a prevailing plaintiff is entitled to court costs, reasonable attorney's fees, and: (1) actual damages; or (2) liquidated damages not to exceed \$10,000. Establishes criteria to be used by the trier of fact in determining damages.

Bill Author (s)	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Mike Bohacek (R-LaPorte)	Christian Means	Colton Ferguson Abigail Thomas Kelby Stallings	11-1
Sen. Aaron Freeman (R-Southeast Indianapolis)			
Sen. Ron Alting (R-West Lafayette Metro)			

Senate Bill 264 - Age of consent.  
Health and Safety | Sexual Offenses

Age of consent. Adds the criminal offense of indiscretion, which is committed when a person who is at least 22 years of age engages in sexual intercourse or other sexual conduct, fondling, or touching with a child who is at least 16 years of age but less than 18 years of age. Adds indiscretion to the list of: (1) sex offenses; and (2) offenses that would determine if a child is a child in need of services. Makes conforming amendments.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Frank Mvran (D-Hammond)	Abigail Thomas	N/A	10-2



Senate Bill 288 - Lifeline law extension.  
Health and Safety | Substance Abuse

Lifeline law. Provides immunity from arrest, prosecution, probation or parole revocation, and civil forfeiture for an offense involving: (1) delivering alcohol to a minor or providing a place for a minor to consume alcohol; (2) possession of paraphernalia; (3) possession of a syringe; (4) possession of a controlled substance; or (5) delivery of a controlled substance for no compensation; if the law enforcement contact with the person was due to the reporting of a medical emergency or relates to the person being the victim of a sex crime, or to the reporting of a crime, and certain other conditions are met. Specifies that the arrest and criminal immunity provisions of the lifeline law also apply to the person requiring medical attention. Specifies that a person to whom the lifeline law currently applies is also immune to: (1) civil forfeiture; and (2) probation and parole revocation. Repeals an obsolete provision.

Bill Author	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. Mark Stoops (D-Bloomington)	Hayden Redelman	Colton Ferguson Kelby Stallings Madeline Erdell	11-1

Senate Bill 464 - Removing barriers for homeless youth.  
Health and Safety | Homelessness

Homeless youth. Provides that a homeless youth may have access to: (1) the youth's birth certificate; (2) a photo identification; and (3) a driver's license; without charge or the consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian, if the homeless youth meets certain guidelines and possesses a fee and consent waiver affidavit. Provides that the department of workforce development must adopt a rule to permit a homeless youth who presents a fee and consent waiver affidavit to register and take the high school equivalency examination without charge or the consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian.

Bill Author (s)	Council Sponsor	Council Co-Sponsors	Vote Margin
Sen. James Merritt (R-Northeast Indianapolis)	Daniel Medina	N/A	11-1
Sen. Randall Head (R-Logansport)			
Sen. J.D. Ford (D-Northwest Indianapolis)			

# About the Council’s Endorsement Process

## 2019 Endorsement Process Calendar

1. Bills must be filed with the General Assembly by .
2. Council Chair begins accepting House and Senate Bill suggestions on and sets a submission deadline of .
3. Preliminary Vote is held to narrow down all suggestions to the Top Ten Bills **8** . The ballot is sent out on and closes on .  
The Top Ten Bills move onto a second Confirmation Vote for ratification
4. “Yes/No” Confirmation Vote is held to ratify Top Ten Bills for endorsement. The ballot is sent out on and closes on .  
Final vote is tallied and recorded.
5. Report is compiled and submitted by the Chair to the Indiana General Assembly on .

**ILYAC 2019 Bill Endorsements - Preliminary Vote**

Select Ten (10) Bills and Submit Vote by Monday, January 21st at 11:59pm ET

Select ten (10) out of the twenty (20) listed bills for suggested endorsement by the Council. Please note that is is not a ballot for selecting the bills you personally agree with. Instead, it is a ballot for selecting the bills you think would be best for the Council to represent and advocate for.

1. First and Last Name

2. Education

1. **SB 17 / HB 1144 - Tax credit for teacher's classroom supplies.** | Identical Bill introduced in both House and Senate | Sen. Lonnie Randolph (D-Gary) and Rep. Robin Shackelford (D-Far East Indianapolis) | Tax credit for teachers' classroom supplies. Increases the income tax credit for an individual employed as a teacher for amounts expended on classroom supplies from \$100 to \$500 per taxable year.

2. **SB 29 - School materials for juvenile detainees.** | Sen. Mike Bohacek (R-LaPorte) | if a child is or will be detained in a juvenile detention facility (facility) for more than seven calendar days and the facility is located in the same county, [a

3. **HB 1162 - Cursive writing.** | Rep. Sheila Klunker (D-Lafayette) | Requiring school corporations and non-public elementary schools to include cursive writing in their curriculum.

4. **HB 1213 - Restoring Tinker-era student journalism protections.** | Sen. Ed Clere (R-New Albany) | Provides freedom of speech and freedom of press protections for grades 7 through 12 and state educational institution student journalists. Requires each school corporation and charter school to adopt a policy concerning student journalist protections. Strengthens Tinker-era protections in response to Hazelwood-era roll-backs on student journalism protections.

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## Summary of the 2019 Endorsement Process

The 2019 Bill Endorsement process was conducted entirely within the month of January. The endorsement suggestions window opened on January 11th, and a total of twenty (20) bills from both the House and the Senate were submitted by Council members. A majority of these bills were submitted during a work period that was provided during an official Council meeting on January 11th. A detailed listing on all twenty bills was not provided in this Report, but can be obtained by contacting the Council Chair

Over the course of the following two weeks, these bills were narrowed down to ten (10) bills, including nine (9) Senate Bills and one (1) House Bill, through the Preliminary Vote. These ten bills were all later ratified through the Confirmation Vote by overwhelmingly large margins.

## Rationale Behind the Publication of Bill Endorsements

The Council first began publishing Bill Endorsements during the 2018 Legislative Session, although it did not publish the listing as a full-fledged Report until the following year, during the 2019 Legislative Session. While the Report is not required by the Council’s Authorizing Statute, the Council’s leadership team believes that such a publication is valuable for numerous reasons, including but not limited to:

- During a given academic year, the Council publishes an Annual Report in November (which includes ) well before the General Assembly officially convenes for Legislative Session. By publishing a second Report in late January, the Council is able to facilitate a more timely discussion with lawmakers through its endorsement of # mere weeks (or even days) before public hearings are held on those bills.
- The Bill Endorsement process is designed to engage every single member in state-level legislative affairs, as seen through the fact that every member is required to submit at least one bill for suggested endorsement (as well as the fact that a bill cannot be endorsed until a majority vote is reached). Together, the assignments required for successful Bill Endorsement publication encourage every council member to 1) become more familiar with their state district representatives, 2) research policy initiatives being considered on the state level, and 3) become comfortable with differences between the State-level legislative process and the more familiar Federal-level legislative process.

## Moving Forward on Future Bill Endorsement Publications<sup>1</sup>

This year, the Top Ben Bills selected during the Preliminary Vote included nine (9) Senate Bills and just one (1) House Bill. Moving forward, the Council will discuss tentative plans that would limit the number of endorsement to no more than five (5) Bills each from the Senate and House. This would prevent this year’s situation from occurring again; in addition, it would provide the Council with the opportunity to engage with of our bicameral legislature in a more effective manner.

Moving forward, the Chair also plans to continue the inclusion of a “Letter from Council Leadership” in future Bill Endorsements reports (rather than the traditional “Letter from the Chair”). This inclusion of a Letter from both the Chair and the remaining Vice Chairs provides a “recognition” to all members of the Council leadership team; in addition, the Letter serves as an encouragement for at-large members to pursue Council leadership positions in the future.

Tentative plans to discuss the council-developed Bill Endorsement Process with the Youth Advisory Councils (YACs) of other States, such as Washington, Louisiana, and Iowa are also under consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> Requests for Preliminary and Confirmation Vote example ballots, as well as any comments, concerns, or suggestions for future Bill Endorsement Publications, can all be submitted to the Council Chair at [admedina@iu.edu](mailto:admedina@iu.edu).

# Appendix A | 2018-19 Council Membership Directory

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 [Contact: admedina@iu.edu]  
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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
 Arsenal Technical High School and IUPUI

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Elwood, Indiana | Madison County  
 Ivy Tech Community College: Indianapolis

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Muncie, Indiana | Delaware County  
 DePauw University

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Westfield, Indiana | Hamilton County  
 Purdue University

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Nashville, Indiana | Brown County  
 Brown County High School

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Newburgh, Indiana | Warrick County  
 The Signature School

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Granger, Indiana | Saint Joseph County  
 Saint Joseph High School

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Carmel, Indiana | Hamilton County  
 Indiana University: Bloomington

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Evansville, Indiana | Vanderburgh County  
 The Signature School

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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
 Perry Meridian High School

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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
Bishop Chatard High School

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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
Cathedral High School

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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
Southport High School

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Indianapolis, Indiana | Marion County  
Indiana University: Bloomington

# Appendix B | History of the Council

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## Key Legislative Events

2008 Legislative Session of the General Assembly

House Enrolled Act 1162, authored by State Representative Matthew Bell, creates the Council. The resulting Indiana Code is established as the Council’s Authorizing Statute (IC 2-5-29).

Indiana Department of Education

The Council meets for the first time in August 2008. Justin Kingsolver, a Wells Scholar at Indiana University, is elected as the first Council Chair, and Rep. Matthew Bell serves as Council Advisor. The first Annual Report is published in October 2008.

2010 Legislative Session of the General Assembly

1. A Dedicated Fund is established to allow for the raising of private funds. [ / ]
2. Responsibility for Council staffing is moved from the Indiana DOE to the Indiana Bar Foundation. [ \$ ]

Rep. Matthew Bell leaves his position as both State Representative and Council Advisor; administrative staff at the Indiana Bar Foundation become the Council’s new advisors.

## Notable Council Initiatives

The Council adopts an application process initiative for approximately two years.

The Council advocates for a national legislative youth council initiative, and publishes a Special Report in mid-2012.

The Council lobbies legislators during Organization Day, and publishes bill endorsements for the 2018 Legislative Session.

The Council adopts a modified application process which facilitates the speed of member appointments, establishes a website maintained and updated by members ( ) and organizes a Council Legislative Day on the Capitol grounds.

