



Reprinted
April 9, 1999

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 94

DIGEST OF SB 94 (Updated April 8, 1999 3:42 pm - DI 51)

Citations Affected: IC 34-6; IC 34-13.

Synopsis: Governmental immunity for Y2K computer errors. Grants immunity to the state of Indiana, a political subdivision, and any employee of the state or a political subdivision from tort liability that is caused by an error resulting from or caused by a failure to recognize the year 1999, 2000, or a subsequent year, including an incorrect date or incorrect mechanical or electronic interpretation of a date that is produced, calculated, or generated by a computer, an information system, or equipment using microchips. Indicates that a physician who is employed by a governmental entity has immunity for these computer errors. Provides that the immunity expires on June 30, 2003.

Effective: December 31, 1998 (retroactive).

Kenley, Alexa

(HOUSE SPONSORS — DVORAK, BOSMA, FRENZ)

January 6, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedures.

January 21, 1999, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.
January 25, 1999, read second time, ordered engrossed. Engrossed.
January 26, 1999, read third time, passed. Yeas 32, nays 16.

HOUSE ACTION

March 3, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.
April 5, 1999, amended, reported — Do Pass.
April 8, 1999, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.

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First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

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 1998 General Assembly.

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 94

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state and local administration.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 34-6-2-38 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 1998 (RETROACTIVE)]:
3 Sec. 38. (a) "Employee" and "public employee", for purposes of
4 IC 34-13-2, IC 34-13-3, IC 34-13-4, and IC 34-30-14, mean a person
5 presently or formerly acting on behalf of a governmental entity,
6 whether temporarily or permanently or with or without compensation,
7 including members of boards, committees, commissions, authorities,
8 and other instrumentalities of governmental entities, volunteer
9 firefighters (as defined in IC 36-8-12-2), and elected public officials.
10 (b) The term also includes attorneys at law whether employed by the
11 governmental entity as employees or independent contractors and
12 physicians licensed under IC 25-22.5 and optometrists who provide
13 medical or optical care to confined offenders (as defined in IC 11-8-1)
14 within the course of their employment by or contractual relationship
15 with the department of correction. However, the term does not include:
16 (1) an independent contractor (other than an attorney at law, a

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- 1 physician, or an optometrist described in this section);
- 2 (2) an agent or employee of an independent contractor;
- 3 (3) a person appointed by the governor to an honorary advisory or
- 4 honorary military position; or
- 5 (4) a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 with regard to a claim
- 6 against the physician for an act or omission occurring or allegedly
- 7 occurring in the physician's capacity as an employee of a hospital.
- 8 **(c) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 who is an employee of**
- 9 **a governmental entity (as defined in IC 34-6-2-49) shall be**
- 10 **considered a public employee for purposes of IC 34-13-3-3(20).**
- 11 SECTION 2. IC 34-13-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 1998 (RETROACTIVE)]:
- 13 Sec. 3. A governmental entity or an employee acting within the scope
- 14 of the employee's employment is not liable if a loss results from:
 - 15 (1) the natural condition of unimproved property;
 - 16 (2) the condition of a reservoir, dam, canal, conduit, drain, or
 - 17 similar structure when used by a person for a purpose that is not
 - 18 foreseeable;
 - 19 (3) the temporary condition of a public thoroughfare that results
 - 20 from weather;
 - 21 (4) the condition of an unpaved road, trail, or footpath, the
 - 22 purpose of which is to provide access to a recreation or scenic
 - 23 area;
 - 24 (5) the initiation of a judicial or an administrative proceeding;
 - 25 (6) the performance of a discretionary function; however, the
 - 26 provision of medical or optical care as provided in IC 34-6-2-38
 - 27 shall be considered as a ministerial act;
 - 28 (7) the adoption and enforcement of or failure to adopt or enforce
 - 29 a law (including rules and regulations), unless the act of
 - 30 enforcement constitutes false arrest or false imprisonment;
 - 31 (8) an act or omission performed in good faith and without malice
 - 32 under the apparent authority of a statute which is invalid if the
 - 33 employee would not have been liable had the statute been valid;
 - 34 (9) the act or omission of anyone other than the governmental
 - 35 entity or the governmental entity's employee;
 - 36 (10) the issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of, or failure
 - 37 or refusal to issue, deny, suspend, or revoke, any permit, license,
 - 38 certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization, where the
 - 39 authority is discretionary under the law;
 - 40 (11) failure to make an inspection, or making an inadequate or
 - 41 negligent inspection, of any property, other than the property of
 - 42 a governmental entity, to determine whether the property

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- 1 complied with or violates any law or contains a hazard to health
 2 or safety;
- 3 (12) entry upon any property where the entry is expressly or
 4 impliedly authorized by law;
- 5 (13) misrepresentation if unintentional;
- 6 (14) theft by another person of money in the employee's official
 7 custody, unless the loss was sustained because of the employee's
 8 own negligent or wrongful act or omission;
- 9 (15) injury to the property of a person under the jurisdiction and
 10 control of the department of correction if the person has not
 11 exhausted the administrative remedies and procedures provided
 12 by section 7 of this chapter;
- 13 (16) injury to the person or property of a person under supervision
 14 of a governmental entity and who is:
- 15 (A) on probation; or
- 16 (B) assigned to an alcohol and drug services program under
 17 IC 12-23, a minimum security release program under
 18 IC 11-10-8, or a community corrections program under
 19 IC 11-12;
- 20 (17) design of a highway (as defined in IC 9-13-2-73) if the
 21 claimed loss occurs at least twenty (20) years after the public
 22 highway was designed or substantially redesigned; except that
 23 this subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a responsible
 24 governmental entity from the continuing duty to provide and
 25 maintain public highways in a reasonably safe condition;
- 26 (18) development, adoption, implementation, operation,
 27 maintenance, or use of an enhanced emergency communication
 28 system; or
- 29 (19) injury to a student or a student's property by an employee of
 30 a school corporation if the employee is acting reasonably under a
 31 discipline policy adopted under IC 20-8.1-5.1-7(b); or
- 32 **(20) an error resulting from or caused by a failure to**
 33 **recognize the year 1999, 2000, or a subsequent year, including**
 34 **an incorrect date or incorrect mechanical or electronic**
 35 **interpretation of a date, that is produced, calculated, or**
 36 **generated by:**
- 37 (A) a computer;
- 38 (B) an information system; or
- 39 (C) equipment using microchips;
- 40 **that is owned or operated by a governmental entity. However,**
 41 **this subdivision does not apply to acts or omissions amounting**
 42 **to gross negligence, willful or wanton misconduct, or**

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1 **intentional misconduct. For purposes of this subdivision,**
2 **evidence of gross negligence may be established by a party by**
3 **showing failure of a governmental entity to undertake an**
4 **effort to review, analyze, remediate, and test its electronic**
5 **information systems or by showing failure of a governmental**
6 **entity to abate, upon notice, an electronic information system**
7 **error that caused damage or loss.**

8 **However, subdivision (20) expires on June 30, 2003.**

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

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedures, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 94, 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 3, between lines 16 and 17, begin a new line blocked left and insert:

"However, subdivision (20) expires on June 30, 2003."

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 94 as introduced.)

MEEKS R, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0.

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SENATE MOTION

Mr. President: I move that Senator Alexa be added as second author of Senate Bill 94.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill 94, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 3, line 16, after "misconduct." insert "**For purposes of this subdivision, evidence of gross negligence may be established by a party by showing failure of a governmental entity to undertake an effort to review, analyze, remediate, and test its electronic information systems or by showing failure of a governmental entity to abate, upon notice, an electronic information system error that caused damage or loss.**".

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 94 as printed January 22, 1999.)

VILLALPANDO, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 11, nays 2.

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HOUSE MOTION

Mr. Speaker: I move that Engrossed Senate Bill 94 be amended to read as follows:

Page 1, between the enacting clause and line 1, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 1. IC 34-6-2-38 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 1998 (RETROACTIVE)]:
Sec. 38. (a) "Employee" and "public employee", for purposes of IC 34-13-2, IC 34-13-3, IC 34-13-4, and IC 34-30-14, mean a person presently or formerly acting on behalf of a governmental entity, whether temporarily or permanently or with or without compensation, including members of boards, committees, commissions, authorities, and other instrumentalities of governmental entities, volunteer firefighters (as defined in IC 36-8-12-2), and elected public officials.

(b) The term also includes attorneys at law whether employed by the governmental entity as employees or independent contractors and physicians licensed under IC 25-22.5 and optometrists who provide medical or optical care to confined offenders (as defined in IC 11-8-1) within the course of their employment by or contractual relationship with the department of correction. However, the term does not include:

- (1) an independent contractor (other than an attorney at law, a physician, or an optometrist described in this section);
- (2) an agent or employee of an independent contractor;
- (3) a person appointed by the governor to an honorary advisory or honorary military position; or
- (4) a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 with regard to a claim against the physician for an act or omission occurring or allegedly occurring in the physician's capacity as an employee of a hospital.

(c) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 who is an employee of a governmental entity (as defined in IC 34-6-2-49) shall be considered a public employee for purposes of IC 34-13-3-3(20)."

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

(Reference is to ESB 94 as printed April 6, 1999.)

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