
HOUSE BILL No. 1487

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-14; IC 34-30-2.

Synopsis: Public access issues. Requires a public agency to: (1) allow inspection or copying; or (2) make copies; of a public record within a reasonable time after the request is received by the agency. Provides that a court may impose a civil penalty against any or all of the following for violating the public records law or the open door law: (1) An officer or management level employee of a public agency. (2) The public agency. Provides that the court may impose a civil penalty of: (1) not more than \$100 for the first violation; and (2) not more than \$500 for any additional violations. Provides that a court may: (1) impose only one civil penalty against an individual in an action even if the court finds that the individual committed multiple violations; and (2) impose another civil penalty against an individual in a separate action. Provides that if an officer of a state or local government agency orders a management level employee to: (1) not give proper notice of a public meeting or executive session; or (2) deny or interfere with a person's request to inspect or copy a public document; the employee is not subject to a civil penalty for violating the statute. Provides that if a local government agency has the capacity to send electronic mail, the agency shall provide notice to anyone (other than news media) that makes an annual request for notice by: (1) transmitting the notice by electronic mail; or (2) posting the notice on the agency's Internet web site (if the agency has an Internet web site). Provides that a court may not declare a governmental action void for failure to give notice by electronic mail or posting on the local government agency's web site, if the agency made a good faith effort to comply with the statute. Provides that a public agency may withhold personal information from
(Continued next page)

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Effective: July 1, 2011.

Richardson, Bosma

January 20, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Government and Regulatory Reform.



public disclosure regarding an individual less than 18 years of age who participates in an activity conducted or supervised by a state educational institution, including personal information regarding the individual's parent or guardian. Requires (rather than allows) a court to review public records in camera to determine whether redaction of the records violates the public records act. Provides that if a formal complaint is filed, the public access counselor shall review public records in camera without redaction (excluding redacted information that is the work product of an attorney) to determine whether the redaction of the records violates the access to public records act. Provides that unredacted documents that are in the possession of the public access counselor for in camera inspection are confidential while in the possession of the public access counselor. Creates an education fund for a program administered by the public access counselor to train public officials and educate the public on the rights of the public and the responsibilities of public agencies under the public access laws. Gives a public agency the discretion whether to disclose a public record requested by an offender containing personal information relating to a judge, law enforcement officer, or family member of a judge or law enforcement officer.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

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 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1487



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 5-14-1.5-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.177-2005,
2 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 5. (a) Public notice of the date, time, and place of
4 any meetings, executive sessions, or of any rescheduled or reconvened
5 meeting, shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours (excluding
6 Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) before the meeting. This
7 requirement does not apply to reconvened meetings (not including
8 executive sessions) where announcement of the date, time, and place
9 of the reconvened meeting is made at the original meeting and recorded
10 in the memoranda and minutes thereof, and there is no change in the
11 agenda.

12 (b) Public notice shall be given by the governing body of a public
13 agency ~~by:~~ **as follows:**

14 (1) **The governing body of a public agency shall give public**
15 **notice by** posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the



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public agency holding the meeting or, if no such office exists, at the building where the meeting is to be held. ~~and~~

(2) The governing body of a public agency shall give public notice by delivering notice to all news media ~~which that~~ deliver by ~~January †~~ an annual written request for ~~such the~~ notices **not later than December 31** for the next succeeding calendar year to the governing body of the public agency. The governing body shall give notice by one (1) of the following methods, **which shall be determined by the governing body:**

- (A) Depositing the notice in the United States mail with postage prepaid.
- (B) Transmitting the notice by electronic mail, **if the public agency has the capacity to transmit electronic mail.**
- (C) Transmitting the notice by facsimile (fax).

(3) This subdivision applies only to the governing body of a public agency of a political subdivision described in section 2(a)(2), 2(a)(4), or 2(a)(5) of this chapter. The governing body shall give public notice by delivering notice to any person (other than news media) who delivers an annual written request for the notices not later than December 31 for the next succeeding calendar year to the governing body. The governing body shall give notice by one (1) of the following methods, which shall be determined by the governing body:

- (A) Transmitting the notice by electronic mail, if the public agency has the capacity to send electronic mail.**
- (B) Publishing the notice on the public agency's web site at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, if the public agency has an Internet web site.**

A court may not declare void under section 7 of this chapter any policy, decision, or final action based on a failure to give a person notice under subdivision (3) if the public agency made a good faith effort to comply. If a governing body comes into existence after ~~January †~~, **December 31**, it shall comply with this ~~subdivision~~ **subsection** upon receipt of a written request for notice. In addition, a state agency (as defined in IC 4-13-1-1) shall provide electronic access to the notice through the computer gateway administered by the office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1.

(c) Notice of regular meetings need be given only once each year, except that an additional notice shall be given where the date, time, or place of a regular meeting or meetings is changed. This subsection does not apply to executive sessions.

(d) If a meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving actual

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1 or threatened injury to person or property, or actual or threatened
2 disruption of the governmental activity under the jurisdiction of the
3 public agency by any event, then the time requirements of notice under
4 this section shall not apply, but:

5 (1) news media which have requested notice of meetings **under**
6 **subsection (b)(2)** must be given the same notice as is given to the
7 members of the governing body; and

8 (2) the public must be notified by posting a copy of the notice
9 according to ~~this section~~: **subsection (b)(1)**.

10 (e) This section shall not apply where notice by publication is
11 required by statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation.

12 (f) This section shall not apply to:

13 (1) the department of local government finance, the Indiana board
14 of tax review, or any other governing body which meets in
15 continuous session, except that this section applies to meetings of
16 these governing bodies which are required by or held pursuant to
17 statute, ordinance, rule, or regulation; or

18 (2) the executive of a county or the legislative body of a town if
19 the meetings are held solely to receive information or
20 recommendations in order to carry out administrative functions,
21 to carry out administrative functions, or confer with staff
22 members on matters relating to the internal management of the
23 unit. "Administrative functions" do not include the awarding of
24 contracts, the entering into contracts, or any other action creating
25 an obligation or otherwise binding a county or town.

26 (g) This section does not apply to the general assembly.

27 (h) Notice has not been given in accordance with this section if a
28 governing body of a public agency convenes a meeting at a time so
29 unreasonably departing from the time stated in its public notice that the
30 public is misled or substantially deprived of the opportunity to attend,
31 observe, and record the meeting.

32 SECTION 2. IC 5-14-1.5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.179-2007,
33 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
34 JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 7. (a) An action may be filed by any person in any
35 court of competent jurisdiction to:

36 (1) obtain a declaratory judgment;

37 (2) enjoin continuing, threatened, or future violations of this
38 chapter; or

39 (3) declare void any policy, decision, or final action:

40 (A) taken at an executive session in violation of section 3(a) of
41 this chapter;

42 (B) taken at any meeting of which notice is not given in

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- 1 accordance with section 5 of this chapter;
- 2 (C) that is based in whole or in part upon official action taken
- 3 at any:
- 4 (i) executive session in violation of section 3(a) of this
- 5 chapter;
- 6 (ii) meeting of which notice is not given in accordance with
- 7 section 5 of this chapter; or
- 8 (iii) series of gatherings in violation of section 3.1 of this
- 9 chapter; or
- 10 (D) taken at a meeting held in a location in violation of section
- 11 8 of this chapter.

12 The plaintiff need not allege or prove special damage different from
 13 that suffered by the public at large.

14 (b) Regardless of whether a formal complaint or an informal inquiry
 15 is pending before the public access counselor, any action to declare any
 16 policy, decision, or final action of a governing body void, or to enter an
 17 injunction which would invalidate any policy, decision, or final action
 18 of a governing body, based on violation of this chapter occurring before
 19 the action is commenced, shall be commenced:

- 20 (1) prior to the delivery of any warrants, notes, bonds, or
- 21 obligations if the relief sought would have the effect, if granted,
- 22 of invalidating the notes, bonds, or obligations; or
- 23 (2) with respect to any other subject matter, within thirty (30)
- 24 days of either:
- 25 (A) the date of the act or failure to act complained of; or
- 26 (B) the date that the plaintiff knew or should have known that
- 27 the act or failure to act complained of had occurred;

28 whichever is later. If the challenged policy, decision, or final action is
 29 recorded in the memoranda or minutes of a governing body, a plaintiff
 30 is considered to have known that the act or failure to act complained of
 31 had occurred not later than the date that the memoranda or minutes are
 32 first available for public inspection.

33 (c) If a court finds that a governing body of a public agency has
 34 violated this chapter, it may not find that the violation was cured by the
 35 governing body by only having taken final action at a meeting that
 36 complies with this chapter.

37 (d) In determining whether to declare any policy, decision, or final
 38 action void, a court shall consider the following factors among other
 39 relevant factors:

- 40 (1) The extent to which the violation:
- 41 (A) affected the substance of the policy, decision, or final
- 42 action;

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1 (B) denied or impaired access to any meetings that the public
2 had a right to observe and record; and
3 (C) prevented or impaired public knowledge or understanding
4 of the public's business.
5 (2) Whether voiding of the policy, decision, or final action is a
6 necessary prerequisite to a substantial reconsideration of the
7 subject matter.
8 (3) Whether the public interest will be served by voiding the
9 policy, decision, or final action by determining which of the
10 following factors outweighs the other:
11 (A) The remedial benefits gained by effectuating the public
12 policy of the state declared in section 1 of this chapter.
13 (B) The prejudice likely to accrue to the public if the policy,
14 decision, or final action is voided, including the extent to
15 which persons have relied upon the validity of the challenged
16 action and the effect declaring the challenged action void
17 would have on them.
18 (4) Whether the defendant acted in compliance with an informal
19 inquiry response or advisory opinion issued by the public access
20 counselor concerning the violation.
21 (e) If a court declares a policy, decision, or final action of a
22 governing body of a public agency void, the court may enjoin the
23 governing body from subsequently acting upon the subject matter of
24 the voided act until it has been given substantial reconsideration at a
25 meeting or meetings that comply with this chapter.
26 (f) In any action filed under this section, a court shall award
27 reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other reasonable expenses
28 of litigation to the prevailing party if:
29 (1) the plaintiff prevails; or
30 (2) the defendant prevails and the court finds that the action is
31 frivolous and vexatious.
32 The plaintiff is not eligible for the awarding of attorney's fees, court
33 costs, and other reasonable expenses if the plaintiff filed the action
34 without first seeking and receiving an informal inquiry response or
35 advisory opinion from the public access counselor, unless the plaintiff
36 can show the filing of the action was necessary to prevent a violation
37 of this chapter.
38 **(g) A court may assess a civil penalty under section 7.5 of this**
39 **chapter.**
40 ~~(g)~~ **(h)** A court shall expedite the hearing of an action filed under
41 this section.
42 SECTION 3. IC 5-14-1.5-7.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA

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1 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: **Sec. 7.5. (a) As used in this section,**
 3 **"individual" means:**
 4 (1) **an officer of a public agency; or**
 5 (2) **a management level employee of a public agency.**
 6 **(b) If an individual intentionally fails to perform a duty imposed**
 7 **on the individual under this chapter by:**
 8 (1) **failing to give proper notice of a regular meeting, special**
 9 **meeting, or executive session;**
 10 (2) **taking final action outside a regular meeting or special**
 11 **meeting;**
 12 (3) **participating in a secret ballot during a meeting;**
 13 (4) **discussing in an executive session subjects not eligible for**
 14 **an executive session;**
 15 (5) **failing to prepare a memorandum of a meeting required**
 16 **by section 4 of this chapter; or**
 17 (6) **participating in at least one (1) gathering of a series of**
 18 **gatherings under section 3.1 of this chapter;**
 19 **the individual, the public agency of which the individual is an**
 20 **officer or employee, or the individual and agency are subject to a**
 21 **civil penalty under subsection (c).**
 22 **(c) Except as provided in subsection (f), the court may impose**
 23 **the following civil penalties against an individual or a public**
 24 **agency:**
 25 (1) **Not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) for the first**
 26 **violation.**
 27 (2) **Not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for each**
 28 **additional violation.**
 29 **The court may impose a penalty upon an individual and an agency**
 30 **in the same action. The penalty imposed under this section is in**
 31 **addition to any other civil or criminal penalty imposed. However,**
 32 **in any one (1) action brought under this section, a court may**
 33 **impose only one (1) civil penalty against an individual, even if the**
 34 **court finds that the individual committed multiple violations. This**
 35 **subsection does not preclude a court from imposing another civil**
 36 **penalty against an individual in a separate action, but an individual**
 37 **may not be assessed more than one (1) civil penalty in any one (1)**
 38 **action brought under this section.**
 39 **(d) A court shall distribute monthly to the auditor of state any**
 40 **penalties collected under this section for deposit in the education**
 41 **fund established by IC 5-14-4-14.**
 42 **(e) An individual is personally liable for a civil penalty imposed**

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1 **under this section. A civil penalty imposed against a public agency**
 2 **shall be paid from the public agency's budget.**

3 **(f) If an officer of a public agency directs an individual who is**
 4 **employed in a management level position to perform any action**
 5 **under subsection (b)(1), the management level employee is not**
 6 **subject to civil penalties under subsection (c).**

7 SECTION 4. IC 5-14-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,
 8 SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 3. (a) Any person may inspect and
 10 copy the public records of any public agency during the regular
 11 business hours of the agency, except as provided in section 4 of this
 12 chapter. A request for inspection or copying must:

13 (1) identify with reasonable particularity the record being
 14 requested; and

15 (2) be, at the discretion of the agency, in writing on or in a form
 16 provided by the agency.

17 No request may be denied because the person making the request
 18 refuses to state the purpose of the request, unless such condition is
 19 required by other applicable statute.

20 (b) A public agency may not deny or interfere with the exercise of
 21 the right stated in subsection (a). **Within a reasonable time after the**
 22 **request is received by the agency,** the public agency shall either:

23 (1) provide the requested copies to the person making the request;
 24 or

25 (2) allow the person to make copies:

26 (A) on the agency's equipment; or

27 (B) on the person's own equipment.

28 (c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), a public agency may or
 29 may not do the following:

30 (1) In accordance with a contract described in section 3.5 of this
 31 chapter, permit a person to inspect and copy through the use of
 32 enhanced access public records containing information owned by
 33 or entrusted to the public agency.

34 (2) Permit a governmental entity to use an electronic device to
 35 inspect and copy public records containing information owned by
 36 or entrusted to the public agency.

37 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e), a public agency that
 38 maintains or contracts for the maintenance of public records in an
 39 electronic data storage system shall make reasonable efforts to provide
 40 to a person making a request a copy of all disclosable data contained
 41 in the records on paper, disk, tape, drum, or any other method of
 42 electronic retrieval if the medium requested is compatible with the

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1 agency's data storage system. This subsection does not apply to an
2 electronic map.

3 (e) A state agency may adopt a rule under IC 4-22-2, and a political
4 subdivision may enact an ordinance, prescribing the conditions under
5 which a person who receives information on disk or tape under
6 subsection (d) may or may not use the information for commercial
7 purposes, including to sell, advertise, or solicit the purchase of
8 merchandise, goods, or services, or sell, loan, give away, or otherwise
9 deliver the information obtained by the request to any other person for
10 these purposes. Use of information received under subsection (d) in
11 connection with the preparation or publication of news, for nonprofit
12 activities, or for academic research is not prohibited. A person who
13 uses information in a manner contrary to a rule or ordinance adopted
14 under this subsection may be prohibited by the state agency or political
15 subdivision from obtaining a copy or any further data under subsection
16 (d).

17 (f) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a public
18 agency is not required to create or provide copies of lists of names and
19 addresses (including electronic mail account addresses) unless the
20 public agency is required to publish such lists and disseminate them to
21 the public under a statute. However, if a public agency has created a
22 list of names and addresses (excluding electronic mail account
23 addresses) it must permit a person to inspect and make memoranda
24 abstracts from the list unless access to the list is prohibited by law. The
25 lists of names and addresses (including electronic mail account
26 addresses) described in subdivisions (1) through (3) may not be
27 disclosed by public agencies to any individual or entity for political
28 purposes and may not be used by any individual or entity for political
29 purposes. In addition, the lists of names and addresses (including
30 electronic mail account addresses) described in subdivisions (1)
31 through (3) may not be disclosed by public agencies to commercial
32 entities for commercial purposes and may not be used by commercial
33 entities for commercial purposes. The prohibition in this subsection
34 against the disclosure of lists for political or commercial purposes
35 applies to the following lists of names and addresses (including
36 electronic mail account addresses):

- 37 (1) A list of employees of a public agency.
- 38 (2) A list of persons attending conferences or meetings at a state
39 educational institution or of persons involved in programs or
40 activities conducted or supervised by the state educational
41 institution.
- 42 (3) A list of students who are enrolled in a public school

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- 1 corporation if the governing body of the public school corporation
- 2 adopts a policy:
- 3 (A) with respect to disclosure related to a commercial purpose,
- 4 prohibiting the disclosure of the list to commercial entities for
- 5 commercial purposes;
- 6 (B) with respect to disclosure related to a commercial purpose,
- 7 specifying the classes or categories of commercial entities to
- 8 which the list may not be disclosed or by which the list may
- 9 not be used for commercial purposes; or
- 10 (C) with respect to disclosure related to a political purpose,
- 11 prohibiting the disclosure of the list to individuals and entities
- 12 for political purposes.

13 A policy adopted under subdivision (3)(A) or (3)(B) must be uniform
 14 and may not discriminate among similarly situated commercial entities.
 15 For purposes of this subsection, "political purposes" means influencing
 16 the election of a candidate for federal, state, legislative, local, or school
 17 board office or the outcome of a public question or attempting to solicit
 18 a contribution to influence the election of a candidate for federal, state,
 19 legislative, local, or school board office or the outcome of a public
 20 question.

21 (g) A public agency may not enter into or renew a contract or an
 22 obligation:

- 23 (1) for the storage or copying of public records; or
- 24 (2) that requires the public to obtain a license or pay copyright
- 25 royalties for obtaining the right to inspect and copy the records
- 26 unless otherwise provided by applicable statute;
- 27 if the contract, obligation, license, or copyright unreasonably impairs
- 28 the right of the public to inspect and copy the agency's public records.

29 (h) If this section conflicts with IC 3-7, the provisions of IC 3-7
 30 apply.

31 SECTION 5. IC 5-14-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.94-2010,
 32 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 33 JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 4. (a) The following public records are excepted
 34 from section 3 of this chapter and may not be disclosed by a public
 35 agency, unless access to the records is specifically required by a state
 36 or federal statute or is ordered by a court under the rules of discovery:

- 37 (1) Those declared confidential by state statute.
- 38 (2) Those declared confidential by rule adopted by a public
- 39 agency under specific authority to classify public records as
- 40 confidential granted to the public agency by statute.
- 41 (3) Those required to be kept confidential by federal law.
- 42 (4) Records containing trade secrets.

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- 1 (5) Confidential financial information obtained, upon request,
- 2 from a person. However, this does not include information that is
- 3 filed with or received by a public agency pursuant to state statute.
- 4 (6) Information concerning research, including actual research
- 5 documents, conducted under the auspices of a state educational
- 6 institution, including information:
 - 7 (A) concerning any negotiations made with respect to the
 - 8 research; and
 - 9 (B) received from another party involved in the research.
- 10 (7) Grade transcripts and license examination scores obtained as
- 11 part of a licensure process.
- 12 (8) Those declared confidential by or under rules adopted by the
- 13 supreme court of Indiana.
- 14 (9) Patient medical records and charts created by a provider,
- 15 unless the patient gives written consent under IC 16-39 or as
- 16 provided under IC 16-41-8.
- 17 (10) Application information declared confidential by the board
- 18 of the Indiana economic development corporation under
- 19 IC 5-28-16.
- 20 (11) A photograph, a video recording, or an audio recording of an
- 21 autopsy, except as provided in IC 36-2-14-10.
- 22 (12) A Social Security number contained in the records of a
- 23 public agency.
- 24 (b) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (a), the following
- 25 public records shall be excepted from section 3 of this chapter at the
- 26 discretion of a public agency:
 - 27 (1) Investigatory records of law enforcement agencies. However,
 - 28 certain law enforcement records must be made available for
 - 29 inspection and copying as provided in section 5 of this chapter.
 - 30 (2) The work product of an attorney representing, pursuant to
 - 31 state employment or an appointment by a public agency:
 - 32 (A) a public agency;
 - 33 (B) the state; or
 - 34 (C) an individual.
 - 35 (3) Test questions, scoring keys, and other examination data used
 - 36 in administering a licensing examination, examination for
 - 37 employment, or academic examination before the examination is
 - 38 given or if it is to be given again.
 - 39 (4) Scores of tests if the person is identified by name and has not
 - 40 consented to the release of the person's scores.
 - 41 (5) The following:
 - 42 (A) Records relating to negotiations between the Indiana

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economic development corporation, the ports of Indiana, the Indiana state department of agriculture, the Indiana finance authority, an economic development commission, a local economic development organization (as defined in IC 5-28-11-2(3)), or a governing body of a political subdivision with industrial, research, or commercial prospects, if the records are created while negotiations are in progress.

(B) Notwithstanding clause (A), the terms of the final offer of public financial resources communicated by the Indiana economic development corporation, the ports of Indiana, the Indiana finance authority, an economic development commission, or a governing body of a political subdivision to an industrial, a research, or a commercial prospect shall be available for inspection and copying under section 3 of this chapter after negotiations with that prospect have terminated.

(C) When disclosing a final offer under clause (B), the Indiana economic development corporation shall certify that the information being disclosed accurately and completely represents the terms of the final offer.

(6) Records that are intra-agency or interagency advisory or deliberative material, including material developed by a private contractor under a contract with a public agency, that are expressions of opinion or are of a speculative nature, and that are communicated for the purpose of decision making.

(7) Diaries, journals, or other personal notes serving as the functional equivalent of a diary or journal.

(8) Personnel files of public employees and files of applicants for public employment, except for:

(A) the name, compensation, job title, business address, business telephone number, job description, education and training background, previous work experience, or dates of first and last employment of present or former officers or employees of the agency;

(B) information relating to the status of any formal charges against the employee; and

(C) the factual basis for a disciplinary action in which final action has been taken and that resulted in the employee being suspended, demoted, or discharged.

However, all personnel file information shall be made available to the affected employee or the employee's representative. This subdivision does not apply to disclosure of personnel information generally on all employees or for groups of employees without the

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- 1 request being particularized by employee name.
- 2 (9) Minutes or records of hospital medical staff meetings.
- 3 (10) Administrative or technical information that would
- 4 jeopardize a record keeping or security system.
- 5 (11) Computer programs, computer codes, computer filing
- 6 systems, and other software that are owned by the public agency
- 7 or entrusted to it and portions of electronic maps entrusted to a
- 8 public agency by a utility.
- 9 (12) Records specifically prepared for discussion or developed
- 10 during discussion in an executive session under IC 5-14-1.5-6.1.
- 11 However, this subdivision does not apply to that information
- 12 required to be available for inspection and copying under
- 13 subdivision (8).
- 14 (13) The work product of the legislative services agency under
- 15 personnel rules approved by the legislative council.
- 16 (14) The work product of individual members and the partisan
- 17 staffs of the general assembly.
- 18 (15) The identity of a donor of a gift made to a public agency if:
- 19 (A) the donor requires nondisclosure of the donor's identity as
- 20 a condition of making the gift; or
- 21 (B) after the gift is made, the donor or a member of the donor's
- 22 family requests nondisclosure.
- 23 (16) Library or archival records:
- 24 (A) which can be used to identify any library patron; or
- 25 (B) deposited with or acquired by a library upon a condition
- 26 that the records be disclosed only:
- 27 (i) to qualified researchers;
- 28 (ii) after the passing of a period of years that is specified in
- 29 the documents under which the deposit or acquisition is
- 30 made; or
- 31 (iii) after the death of persons specified at the time of the
- 32 acquisition or deposit.
- 33 However, nothing in this subdivision shall limit or affect contracts
- 34 entered into by the Indiana state library pursuant to IC 4-1-6-8.
- 35 (17) The identity of any person who contacts the bureau of motor
- 36 vehicles concerning the ability of a driver to operate a motor
- 37 vehicle safely and the medical records and evaluations made by
- 38 the bureau of motor vehicles staff or members of the driver
- 39 licensing medical advisory board regarding the ability of a driver
- 40 to operate a motor vehicle safely. However, upon written request
- 41 to the commissioner of the bureau of motor vehicles, the driver
- 42 must be given copies of the driver's medical records and

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1 evaluations.

2 (18) School safety and security measures, plans, and systems,

3 including emergency preparedness plans developed under 511

4 IAC 6.1-2-2.5.

5 (19) A record or a part of a record, the public disclosure of which

6 would have a reasonable likelihood of threatening public safety

7 by exposing a vulnerability to terrorist attack. A record described

8 under this subdivision includes:

9 (A) a record assembled, prepared, or maintained to prevent,

10 mitigate, or respond to an act of terrorism under IC 35-47-12-1

11 or an act of agricultural terrorism under IC 35-47-12-2;

12 (B) vulnerability assessments;

13 (C) risk planning documents;

14 (D) needs assessments;

15 (E) threat assessments;

16 (F) intelligence assessments;

17 (G) domestic preparedness strategies;

18 (H) the location of community drinking water wells and

19 surface water intakes;

20 (I) the emergency contact information of emergency

21 responders and volunteers;

22 (J) infrastructure records that disclose the configuration of

23 critical systems such as communication, electrical, ventilation,

24 water, and wastewater systems; and

25 (K) detailed drawings or specifications of structural elements,

26 floor plans, and operating, utility, or security systems, whether

27 in paper or electronic form, of any building or facility located

28 on an airport (as defined in IC 8-21-1-1) that is owned,

29 occupied, leased, or maintained by a public agency. A record

30 described in this clause may not be released for public

31 inspection by any public agency without the prior approval of

32 the public agency that owns, occupies, leases, or maintains the

33 airport. The public agency that owns, occupies, leases, or

34 maintains the airport:

35 (i) is responsible for determining whether the public

36 disclosure of a record or a part of a record has a reasonable

37 likelihood of threatening public safety by exposing a

38 vulnerability to terrorist attack; and

39 (ii) must identify a record described under item (i) and

40 clearly mark the record as "confidential and not subject to

41 public disclosure under IC 5-14-3-4(b)(19)(J) without

42 approval of (insert name of submitting public agency)".

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1 This subdivision does not apply to a record or portion of a record
 2 pertaining to a location or structure owned or protected by a
 3 public agency in the event that an act of terrorism under
 4 IC 35-47-12-1 or an act of agricultural terrorism under
 5 IC 35-47-12-2 has occurred at that location or structure, unless
 6 release of the record or portion of the record would have a
 7 reasonable likelihood of threatening public safety by exposing a
 8 vulnerability of other locations or structures to terrorist attack.
 9 (20) The following personal information concerning a customer
 10 of a municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1):
 11 (A) Telephone number.
 12 (B) Address.
 13 (C) Social Security number.
 14 (21) The following personal information about a complainant
 15 contained in records of a law enforcement agency:
 16 (A) Telephone number.
 17 (B) The complainant's address. However, if the complainant's
 18 address is the location of the suspected crime, infraction,
 19 accident, or complaint reported, the address shall be made
 20 available for public inspection and copying.
 21 (22) Notwithstanding subdivision (8)(A), the name,
 22 compensation, job title, business address, business telephone
 23 number, job description, education and training background,
 24 previous work experience, or dates of first employment of a law
 25 enforcement officer who is operating in an undercover capacity.
 26 (23) Records requested by an offender that:
 27 (A) contain personal information relating to:
 28 (i) a correctional officer (as defined in IC 5-10-10-1.5);
 29 (ii) a law enforcement officer (as defined in
 30 IC 35-41-1-17);
 31 (iii) a judge (as defined in IC 33-38-12-3);
 32 (iv) the victim of a crime; or
 33 (v) a family member of a correctional officer, law
 34 enforcement officer (as defined in IC 35-41-1-17), judge
 35 (as defined in IC 33-38-12-3), or the victim of a crime; or
 36 (B) concern or could affect the security of a jail or correctional
 37 facility.
 38 (24) Information concerning an individual less than eighteen
 39 (18) years of age who participates in a conference, meeting,
 40 program, or activity conducted or supervised by a state
 41 educational institution. The information includes the
 42 following regarding the individual or the individual's parent

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or guardian:

(A) Name.

(B) Address.

(C) Telephone number.

(D) Electronic mail account address.

(c) Nothing contained in subsection (b) shall limit or affect the right of a person to inspect and copy a public record required or directed to be made by any statute or by any rule of a public agency.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, a public record that is classified as confidential, other than a record concerning an adoption or patient medical records, shall be made available for inspection and copying seventy-five (75) years after the creation of that record.

(e) Only the content of a public record may form the basis for the adoption by any public agency of a rule or procedure creating an exception from disclosure under this section.

(f) Except as provided by law, a public agency may not adopt a rule or procedure that creates an exception from disclosure under this section based upon whether a public record is stored or accessed using paper, electronic media, magnetic media, optical media, or other information storage technology.

(g) Except as provided by law, a public agency may not adopt a rule or procedure nor impose any costs or liabilities that impede or restrict the reproduction or dissemination of any public record.

(h) Notwithstanding subsection (d) and section 7 of this chapter:

(1) public records subject to IC 5-15 may be destroyed only in accordance with record retention schedules under IC 5-15; or

(2) public records not subject to IC 5-15 may be destroyed in the ordinary course of business.

SECTION 6. IC 5-14-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 9. (a) A denial of disclosure by a public agency occurs when the person making the request is physically present in the office of the agency, makes the request by telephone, or requests enhanced access to a document and:

(1) the person designated by the public agency as being responsible for public records release decisions refuses to permit inspection and copying of a public record when a request has been made; or

(2) twenty-four (24) hours elapse after any employee of the public agency refuses to permit inspection and copying of a public record when a request has been made;

whichever occurs first.

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1 (b) If a person requests by mail or by facsimile a copy or copies of
2 a public record, a denial of disclosure does not occur until seven (7)
3 days have elapsed from the date the public agency receives the request.
4 (c) If a request is made orally, either in person or by telephone, a
5 public agency may deny the request orally. However, if a request
6 initially is made in writing, by facsimile, or through enhanced access,
7 or if an oral request that has been denied is renewed in writing or by
8 facsimile, a public agency may deny the request if:
9 (1) the denial is in writing or by facsimile; and
10 (2) the denial includes:
11 (A) a statement of the specific exemption or exemptions
12 authorizing the withholding of all or part of the public record;
13 and
14 (B) the name and the title or position of the person responsible
15 for the denial.
16 (d) This subsection applies to a board, a commission, a department,
17 a division, a bureau, a committee, an agency, an office, an
18 instrumentality, or an authority, by whatever name designated,
19 exercising any part of the executive, administrative, judicial, or
20 legislative power of the state. If an agency receives a request to inspect
21 or copy a record that the agency considers to be excepted from
22 disclosure under section 4(b)(19) of this chapter, the agency may
23 consult with the counterterrorism and security council established by
24 IC 10-19-8-1. If an agency denies the disclosure of a record or a part of
25 a record under section 4(b)(19) of this chapter, the agency or the
26 counterterrorism and security council shall provide a general
27 description of the record being withheld and of how disclosure of the
28 record would have a reasonable likelihood of threatening the public
29 safety.
30 (e) A person who has been denied the right to inspect or copy a
31 public record by a public agency may file an action in the circuit or
32 superior court of the county in which the denial occurred to compel the
33 public agency to permit the person to inspect and copy the public
34 record. Whenever an action is filed under this subsection, the public
35 agency must notify each person who supplied any part of the public
36 record at issue:
37 (1) that a request for release of the public record has been denied;
38 and
39 (2) whether the denial was in compliance with an informal inquiry
40 response or advisory opinion of the public access counselor.
41 Such persons are entitled to intervene in any litigation that results from
42 the denial. The person who has been denied the right to inspect or copy

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1 need not allege or prove any special damage different from that
2 suffered by the public at large.

3 (f) The court shall determine the matter de novo, with the burden of
4 proof on the public agency to sustain its denial. If the issue in de novo
5 review under this section is whether a public agency properly denied
6 access to a public record because the record is exempted under section
7 4(a) of this chapter, the public agency meets its burden of proof under
8 this subsection by establishing the content of the record with adequate
9 specificity and not by relying on a conclusory statement or affidavit.

10 (g) If the issue in a de novo review under this section is whether a
11 public agency properly denied access to a public record because the
12 record is exempted under section 4(b) of this chapter:

13 (1) the public agency meets its burden of proof under this
14 subsection by:

15 (A) proving that the record falls within any one (1) of the
16 categories of exempted records under section 4(b) of this
17 chapter; and

18 (B) establishing the content of the record with adequate
19 specificity and not by relying on a conclusory statement or
20 affidavit; and

21 (2) a person requesting access to a public record meets the
22 person's burden of proof under this subsection by proving that the
23 denial of access is arbitrary or capricious.

24 (h) The court may review the public record in camera to determine
25 whether any part of it may be withheld under this chapter. **However,**
26 **if the complaint alleges that a public agency denied disclosure of a**
27 **public record by redacting information in the public record, the**
28 **court shall conduct an in camera inspection of the public record**
29 **without the information redacted.**

30 (i) In any action filed under this section, a court shall award
31 reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other reasonable expenses
32 of litigation to the prevailing party if:

33 (1) the plaintiff substantially prevails; or

34 (2) the defendant substantially prevails and the court finds the
35 action was frivolous or vexatious.

36 The plaintiff is not eligible for the awarding of attorney's fees, court
37 costs, and other reasonable expenses if the plaintiff filed the action
38 without first seeking and receiving an informal inquiry response or
39 advisory opinion from the public access counselor, unless the plaintiff
40 can show the filing of the action was necessary because the denial of
41 access to a public record under this chapter would prevent the plaintiff
42 from presenting that public record to a public agency preparing to act

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1 on a matter of relevance to the public record whose disclosure was
2 denied.

3 **(j) A court may assess a civil penalty under section 9.5 of this**
4 **chapter.**

5 ~~(j)~~ **(k) A court shall expedite the hearing of an action filed under this**
6 **section.**

7 SECTION 7. IC 5-14-3-9.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
8 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
9 1, 2011]: **Sec. 9.5. (a) As used in this section, "individual" means:**

10 **(1) an officer of a public agency; or**

11 **(2) a management level employee of a public agency.**

12 **(b) If an individual intentionally:**

13 **(1) denies or interferes with a person's request for inspection**
14 **or copying of a public record and:**

15 **(A) the person's request meets the requirements of this**
16 **chapter; and**

17 **(B) the record is subject to disclosure by law; or**

18 **(2) charges a copying fee that exceeds the amount permitted**
19 **by this chapter;**

20 **the individual, the public agency of which the individual is an**
21 **officer or employee, or the individual and agency are subject to a**
22 **civil penalty under subsection (c).**

23 **(c) The court may impose the following civil penalties against an**
24 **individual or a public agency:**

25 **(1) Not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) for the first**
26 **violation.**

27 **(2) Not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for each**
28 **additional violation.**

29 **The court may impose a penalty upon an individual and an agency**
30 **in the same action. The penalty imposed under this section is in**
31 **addition to any other civil or criminal penalty imposed. However,**
32 **in any one (1) action brought under this section, a court may**
33 **impose only one (1) civil penalty against an individual, even if the**
34 **court finds that the individual committed multiple violations. This**
35 **subsection does not preclude a court from imposing another civil**
36 **penalty against an individual in a separate action, but an individual**
37 **may not be assessed more than one (1) civil penalty in any one (1)**
38 **action brought under this section.**

39 **(d) A court shall distribute monthly to the auditor of state any**
40 **penalties collected under this section for deposit in the education**
41 **fund established by IC 5-14-4-14.**

42 **(e) An individual is personally liable for a civil penalty imposed**

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1 under this section. A civil penalty imposed against a public agency
2 shall be paid from the public agency's budget.

3 (f) If an officer of a public agency directs an individual who is
4 employed in a management level position to perform any action
5 under subsection (b)(1), the management level employee is not
6 subject to civil penalties under subsection (c).

7 SECTION 8. IC 5-14-4-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
8 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
9 1, 2011]: Sec. 14. (a) An education fund is established to fund a
10 program under section 10(1) of this chapter.

- 11 (b) The fund consists of the following:
 - 12 (1) Civil penalties collected under IC 5-14-1.5-7.5 and
 - 13 IC 5-14-3-9.5.
 - 14 (2) Money appropriated by the general assembly.
 - 15 (3) Grants, gifts, contributions, and money received from any
 - 16 other source.

17 (c) The treasurer of state shall administer the fund. The
18 following may be paid from money in the fund:

- 19 (1) Expenses of administering the fund.
- 20 (2) Nonrecurring administrative expenses incurred to carry
- 21 out this section.

22 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
23 revert to the state general fund.

24 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
25 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
26 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that
27 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

28 SECTION 9. IC 5-14-5-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 9. Except as provided in section 10
30 of this chapter, the counselor shall issue an advisory opinion on the
31 complaint not later than thirty (30) days after:

- 32 (1) the complaint is filed; or
- 33 (2) an in camera inspection is completed under section 10.5 of
- 34 this chapter.

35 SECTION 10. IC 5-14-5-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
36 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 10. (a) If the counselor
37 determines that a complaint has priority, the counselor shall issue an
38 advisory opinion on the complaint not later than seven (7) days after:

- 39 (1) the complaint is filed; or
- 40 (2) an in camera inspection is completed under section 10.5 of
- 41 this chapter.

42 (b) The counselor shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing

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1 criteria for complaints that have priority.

2 SECTION 11. IC 5-14-5-10.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
3 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: **Sec. 10.5. (a) Except as provided in**
5 **subsection (e), if a formal complaint is filed alleging that a public**
6 **agency denied disclosure of a public record by redacting**
7 **information in the public record, the counselor shall conduct an in**
8 **camera inspection of the public record without the information**
9 **redacted.**

10 **(b) Both parties to the dispute shall be notified of the in camera**
11 **inspection. However, neither the parties nor their representatives**
12 **may be present during the inspection.**

13 **(c) The counselor shall provide a written notice to the public**
14 **agency that includes the following:**

15 **(1) A statement of the date, time, place, and nature of the**
16 **inspection.**

17 **(2) The documents to be inspected.**

18 **(3) The manner in which the documents must be presented to**
19 **the counselor for inspection.**

20 **(4) Any other information the counselor considers relevant.**

21 **(d) Except as provided in subsection (e), the public agency shall:**

22 **(1) deliver the documents specified under subsection (c)(2) to**
23 **the counselor for inspection in a sealed envelope; and**

24 **(2) deliver to the counselor and the complainant:**

25 **(A) a certification signed by the custodian of the**
26 **documents stipulating that the copies of the documents**
27 **delivered to the counselor are true and complete copies of**
28 **the documents in question with no alterations or**
29 **redactions; and**

30 **(B) an in camera inspection index that:**

31 **(i) gives the title or name of each document, or any part**
32 **of the document, claimed to be exempt from disclosure;**

33 **(ii) provides a description of each document that is**
34 **general enough to explain the exemptions without**
35 **compromising the alleged reason for the exemption from**
36 **disclosure;**

37 **(iii) lists the reasons that each document, or any part of**
38 **the document, is alleged to be exempt from disclosure;**
39 **and**

40 **(iv) fully explains why the alleged reason for exemption**
41 **from disclosure applies to each document.**

42 **(e) If the redacted information in a public record is the work**

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1 product of an attorney (as defined in IC 5-14-3-2(q)), the counselor
2 may not inspect the public record with the redaction removed. If
3 the notice provided by the counselor under subsection (c) requests
4 disclosure of redacted information that is the work product of an
5 attorney, the public agency shall do the following:

6 (1) Deliver the documents specified under subsection (c)(2) to
7 the counselor with the information redacted.

8 (2) Deliver an index to the counselor and the complainant
9 that:

10 (A) gives the title or name of each document, or any part
11 of the document, claimed to be exempt from disclosure on
12 the basis that the document or any part of the document is
13 the work product of an attorney;

14 (B) provides a description of each document that is general
15 enough to explain the exemption without compromising the
16 alleged reason for the exemption from disclosure;

17 (C) lists the reasons that each document, or any part of the
18 document, is alleged to be exempt from disclosure; and

19 (D) fully explains why the alleged reason for exemption
20 from disclosure applies to each document.

21 (f) The counselor or anyone else authorized to inspect the
22 documents may not make copies of the documents or take notes
23 making reference to specific information contained in the
24 documents. Upon completion of an in camera inspection, the
25 counselor shall seal the documents and return them to the
26 custodian of the documents. The sealed documents are confidential
27 while in the possession of the counselor.

28 (g) An advisory opinion issued on the complaint may not discuss
29 the specific contents of the documents and may refer only to the
30 assigned reference number or the general descriptions of the
31 documents listed in the in camera inspection index.

32 (h) This section does not prohibit a court from conducting an in
33 camera inspection of a public record under IC 5-14-3-9(h) without
34 the information redacted that is the work product of an attorney
35 (as defined in IC 5-14-3-2(q)).

36 SECTION 12. IC 34-30-2-14.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
37 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: **Sec. 14.1. IC 5-14-1.5-7.5 (Concerning**
39 **a public employee who, acting on the orders of a superior, fails to**
40 **provide proper notice of a public meeting or executive session).**

41 SECTION 13. IC 34-30-2-14.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
42 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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1 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: **Sec. 14.2. IC 5-14-3-9.5 (Concerning**
2 **a public employee who, acting on the orders of a superior, denies**
3 **or interferes with a person's request for inspection or copying of a**
4 **public record).**

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