January 27, 2012

SENATE BILL No. 259

DIGEST OF SB 259 (Updated January 25, 2012 3:20 pm - DI 116)

Citations Affected: IC 5-14.

Synopsis: School consolidation executive session. Allows discussion of strategy with respect to school consolidation to be conducted in an executive session.

Effective: July 1, 2012.

Alting

January 4, 2012, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.
January 26, 2012, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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January 27, 2012

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

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 2011 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 259

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:

SECTION 1. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.139-2011, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012]: Sec. 6.1. (a) As used in this section, "public official" means a person:

(1) who is a member of a governing body of a public agency; or

(2) whose tenure and compensation are fixed by law and who executes an oath.

(b) Executive sessions may be held only in the following instances:

(1) Where authorized by federal or state statute.

(2) For discussion of strategy with respect to any of the following:

(A) Collective bargaining.

(B) Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing.

(C) The implementation of security systems.

(D) The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties.

(E) School consolidation.

However, all such strategy discussions must be necessary for competitive or bargaining reasons and may not include competitive or bargaining adversaries.

(3) For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems.

(4) Interviews and negotiations with industrial or commercial prospects or agents of industrial or commercial prospects by the Indiana economic development corporation, the office of tourism development, the Indiana finance authority, the ports of Indiana, an economic development commission, the Indiana state department of agriculture, a local economic development organization (as defined in IC 5-28-11-2(3)), or a governing body of a political subdivision.

(5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees.

(6) With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction:

(A) to receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct; and

(B) to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, a student, or an independent contractor who is:

(i) a physician; or

(ii) a school bus driver.

(7) For discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.

(8) To discuss before a placement decision an individual student's abilities, past performance, behavior, and needs.

(9) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.

(10) When considering the appointment of a public official, to do the following:

(A) Develop a list of prospective appointees.

(B) Consider applications.

(C) Make one (1) initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration.

Notwithstanding IC 5-14-3-4(b)(12), a governing body may release and shall make available for inspection and copying in accordance with IC 5-14-3-3 identifying information concerning

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prospective appointees not initially excluded from further consideration. An initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration may not reduce the number of prospective appointees to fewer than three (3) unless there are fewer than three (3) prospective appointees. Interviews of prospective appointees must be conducted at a meeting that is open to the public.

(11) To train school board members with an outside consultant about the performance of the role of the members as public officials.

(12) To prepare or score examinations used in issuing licenses, certificates, permits, or registrations under IC 25.

(13) To discuss information and intelligence intended to prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat of terrorism.

(14) To train members of a board of aviation commissioners appointed under IC 8-22-2 or members of an airport authority board appointed under IC 8-22-3 with an outside consultant about the performance of the role of the members as public officials. A board may hold not more than one (1) executive session per calendar year under this subdivision.

(c) A final action must be taken at a meeting open to the public.

(d) Public notice of executive sessions must state the subject matter by specific reference to the enumerated instance or instances for which executive sessions may be held under subsection (b). The requirements stated in section 4 of this chapter for memoranda and minutes being made available to the public is modified as to executive sessions in that the memoranda and minutes must identify the subject matter considered by specific reference to the enumerated instance or instances for which public notice was given. The governing body shall certify by a statement in the memoranda and minutes of the governing body that no subject matter was discussed in the executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

(e) A governing body may not conduct an executive session during a meeting, except as otherwise permitted by applicable statute. A meeting may not be recessed and reconvened with the intent of circumventing this subsection.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Education and Career Development, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 259, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is made to Senate Bill 259 as introduced.)

KRUSE, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 2.

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