
SENATE BILL No. 343

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 36-1.5; IC 36-4; IC 36-7.

Synopsis: Local government reorganization. Eliminates the requirement that a reorganization committee must be appointed to prepare the reorganization plan as part of a proposed local government reorganization, effective January 1, 2014. Provides that the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions (rather than a reorganization committee) shall prepare the reorganization plan that must be adopted by the legislative bodies before the proposed reorganization is placed on the ballot. Requires that a reorganization plan must include a fiscal impact analysis. Specifies the required contents of the fiscal impact analysis. Provides that the fiscal impact analysis must specify any estimated effects on political subdivisions in the county that are not participating in the reorganization and on taxpayers located in those political subdivisions. Requires that the fiscal impact analysis must be submitted to the department of local government finance (DLGF) at least six months before the election in which the public question will be on the ballot. Requires the DLGF to do the following within a reasonable time, but not later than 30 days before the election on the public question: (1) Review the fiscal impact analysis. (2) Make any comments concerning the fiscal impact analysis that the DLGF considers appropriate. (3) Provide comments to the legislative body of the reorganizing political subdivisions and post the comments on the DLGF's Internet web site. Requires the reorganizing political subdivisions to pay the expenses incurred by the DLGF in carrying out the review and preparing the comments. Requires that a brief description of the reorganized political subdivision that will succeed the reorganizing political subdivisions must be placed on the

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Effective: July 1, 2013; January 1, 2014.

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January 8, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.



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ballot containing the public question. Provides that for a public question voted on by voters after June 30, 2013, the county election board shall submit the language to the DLGF for review. Requires the DLGF to review the language of the public question to: (1) evaluate whether the description of the reorganized political subdivision is accurate and not biased; and (2) approve or make binding recommendations to the county election board regarding the ballot language. Requires the county election board to take final action to approve the ballot language. Provides that certification of a public question on a proposed local government reorganization must occur as required for other public questions under the election law. Provides that in the case of a proposed reorganization between a municipality and a township that is voted on by voters after December 31, 2013: (1) the voters residing within the municipality shall be included only in the tally of votes for the municipality and shall not be included in the tally of votes for the township; and (2) the voters who reside within the township but do not reside within the municipality shall be included only in the tally of votes for the township and shall not be included in the tally of votes for the municipality. Requires (rather than allows) the use of an "approval threshold" in the case of a proposed local government reorganization involving: (1) a county and a municipality; or (2) a municipality and a township; for reorganizations voted on after December 31, 2013. (Under current law, "rejection thresholds" are optional and may be used only in a reorganization between a county and a municipality.) Provides that for a reorganization that is voted on after December 31, 2013, between a county and a municipality to be approved, the number of voters voting to approve the reorganization must equal or exceed the approval thresholds set in the reorganization plan: (1) for the municipality; (2) for the area of the county outside the municipality; and (3) countywide. Provides that the approval threshold for the municipality and area of the county outside the municipality must be greater than 50% but not more than 55%. (Under current law the approval percentage for the countywide vote must be greater than 50%.) Specifies that in order for a reorganization that is voted on after December 31, 2013, between a municipality and a township to be approved, the number of voters voting to approve the reorganization must equal or exceed the approval thresholds set in the reorganization plan: (1) for the municipality; (2) for the area of the township outside the municipality; and (3) for the combined area of the township and the municipality. Provides that the approval threshold for the municipality and the area of the township outside the municipality must be greater than 50% but not more than 55%. Provides that the approval percentage for the combined area of the municipality and the township must be greater than 50%. Provides that if a political subdivision is located in whole or in part within one or more other political subdivisions that reorganize and the first political subdivision does not participate in or does not approve the reorganization: (1) the reorganization does not affect the rights, powers, and duties of the first political subdivision; and (2) the reorganized political subdivision may not exercise within the first political subdivision any right, power, or duty unless that right, power, or duty was exercised within the first political subdivision before the reorganization by at least one of the reorganizing political subdivisions. Provides that a plan of reorganization may establish within a reorganized political subdivision territories or districts: (1) in which specified services provided by the reorganized political subdivision will be provided at different levels, quantities, or amounts; and (2) in which the fees, charges, or taxes imposed by the reorganized political subdivision will vary depending on the level, quantity, or amount of the services. Requires a reorganized

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political subdivision to continue to carry out the duties imposed by Indiana law on the reorganizing political subdivisions that combined to form the reorganized political subdivision. Specifies that a reorganized political subdivision created from two or more townships and at least one municipality that have reorganized: (1) may exercise park and recreation powers and establish a park and recreation board if the reorganized political subdivision's plan of reorganization authorizes the reorganized political subdivision to exercise those powers; and (2) may exercise planning and zoning power if the reorganized political subdivision's plan of reorganization authorizes the reorganized political subdivision to exercise those powers. Provides that such a reorganized political subdivision shall, by resolution or in the plan of reorganization, determine the number of members to be appointed to the reorganized political subdivision's park and recreation board, advisory plan commission, and board of zoning appeals. Provides that a political subdivision may not take certain actions within a reorganizing political subdivision after the date on which a plan of reorganization is finally adopted by all reorganizing political subdivisions unless one of the following occurs: (1) All reorganizing political subdivisions agree to allow the action by adopting identical resolutions. (2) The plan is rejected by voters in a referendum. (3) The plan is approved by voters and one of the following occurs: (A) The plan is implemented. (B) One year elapses from the date on which the plan was approved. Requires a town legislative body to adopt a resolution not later than 30 days after a petition is filed for a referendum on changing the town into a city. Provides that the date of the referendum must not be later than the date of the next general election or the date of the next municipal election, whichever is earlier, at which the question can be placed on the ballot. If the referendum passes, requires the first election of city officers to be held on the date of the next general election or municipal election, whichever is earlier, following the date of the referendum. Provides that notwithstanding the statute setting out the classification of municipalities, for purposes of local government administration a municipality reorganized under the local government reorganization statutes may, subject to the approval of the department of local government finance: (1) be classified and described as set forth in the reorganization plan; and (2) maintain characteristics of any of the reorganizing political subdivisions.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

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 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 343

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 36-1.5-2-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 2 JANUARY 1, 2014]. ~~Sec. 6. "Reorganization committee" refers to a~~
- 3 ~~committee established under this article to assist reorganizing political~~
- 4 ~~subdivisions with developing a plan of reorganization.~~
- 5 SECTION 2. IC 36-1.5-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.113-2010,
- 6 SECTION 109, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 7 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 5. (a) Except as provided in
- 8 subsection (b), a reorganization approved under this chapter takes
- 9 effect when all of the following have occurred:
- 10 (1) The later of:
- 11 (A) the date that a copy of a joint certification from the county
- 12 election board in each county in which reorganizing political
- 13 subdivisions are located that indicates that:
- 14 (i) the reorganization has been approved by the voters of
- 15 each reorganizing political subdivision; or



- 1 (ii) in the case of a reorganization described in section
 2 **1(a)(7) or** 1(a)(9) of this chapter, the reorganization has
 3 been approved as set forth in section 32(b) **or 32(c)** of this
 4 chapter;
 5 is recorded as required by section 31 of this chapter; or
 6 (B) the date specified in the finally adopted plan of
 7 reorganization.
- 8 (2) The appointed or elected officers of the reorganized political
 9 subdivision are elected (as prescribed by section 36 of this
 10 chapter) or appointed and qualified, if:
- 11 (A) the reorganized political subdivision is a new political
 12 subdivision and reorganizing political subdivisions are not
 13 being consolidated into one (1) of the reorganizing political
 14 subdivisions;
 15 (B) the reorganized political subdivision will have different
 16 boundaries than any of the reorganizing political subdivisions;
 17 (C) the reorganized political subdivision will have different
 18 appointment or election districts than any of the reorganizing
 19 political subdivisions; or
 20 (D) the finally adopted plan of reorganization requires new
 21 appointed or elected officers before the reorganization
 22 becomes effective.
- 23 (b) A reorganization approved under this chapter may not take effect
 24 during the year preceding a year in which a federal decennial census is
 25 conducted. A consolidation that would otherwise take effect during the
 26 year preceding a year in which a federal decennial census is conducted
 27 takes effect January 1 of the year in which a federal decennial census
 28 is conducted.
- 29 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) as that subsection existed on
 30 December 31, 2009, a reorganization that took effect January 2, 2010,
 31 because of the application of subsection (b), as that subsection existed
 32 on December 31, 2009, is instead considered to take effect January 1,
 33 2010, without the adoption of an amended reorganization plan.
- 34 SECTION 3. IC 36-1.5-4-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
 35 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 36 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 10. (a) The legislative body of a political
 37 subdivision may initiate a proposed reorganization under this chapter
 38 by adopting a resolution that:
- 39 (1) proposes a reorganization; **and**
 40 (2) names the political subdivisions that would be reorganized in
 41 the proposed reorganization. **and**
 42 (3) **only in the case of a proposed reorganization described in**

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1 section 1(a)(9) of this chapter, states whether the vote on the
2 public question regarding the reorganization shall be:

3 (A) conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of
4 this chapter, without a rejection threshold; or

5 (B) conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of
6 this chapter, with a rejection threshold.

7 (b) The clerk of the political subdivision adopting the resolution
8 shall certify the resolution to the clerk of each political subdivision
9 named in the resolution.

10 SECTION 4. IC 36-1.5-4-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
11 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 12. (a) If a petition is certified to the
13 legislative body of a political subdivision under section 11 of this
14 chapter, the legislative body shall conduct a public hearing on the
15 proposed reorganization not sooner than five (5) days after publishing
16 a notice of the public hearing under IC 5-3-1. Not more than thirty (30)
17 days after the conclusion of the public hearing the legislative body shall
18 adopt a resolution, substantially in the form prescribed by the
19 department of local government finance, to do any of the following:

20 (1) Decline to participate in the proposed reorganization.

21 (2) Propose a reorganization with the political subdivisions named
22 in the petition.

23 (3) Propose a reorganization with political subdivisions that differ
24 in part or in whole from the political subdivisions named in the
25 petition.

26 (b) In the case of a resolution adopted under this section proposing
27 a reorganization described in section 1(a)(9) of this chapter, the
28 resolution must also state whether the vote on the public question
29 regarding the reorganization shall be:

30 (1) conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of this
31 chapter, without a rejection threshold; or

32 (2) conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of this
33 chapter, with a rejection threshold.

34 (c) (b) The clerk of the political subdivision adopting a resolution
35 proposing a reorganization under this section shall certify the
36 resolution to the clerk of each political subdivision named in the
37 resolution.

38 SECTION 5. IC 36-1.5-4-13, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
39 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
40 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 13. (a) The legislative body of a political
41 subdivision that receives a certified resolution under section 10 or 12
42 of this chapter may do any of the following:

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- 1 (1) Adopt a resolution declining to participate in a proposed
2 reorganization.
3 (2) Adopt a substantially identical resolution proposing to
4 participate in a proposed reorganization with the political
5 subdivisions named in a resolution certified to the political
6 subdivision.
7 (3) Adopt a resolution proposing to participate in a proposed
8 reorganization with political subdivisions that differ in part or in
9 whole from the political subdivisions named in a resolution
10 certified to the political subdivision.

11 (b) ~~In the case of a resolution adopted under this section proposing~~
12 ~~to participate in a proposed reorganization described in section 1(a)(9)~~
13 ~~of this chapter, the resolution must also state whether the vote on the~~
14 ~~public question regarding the reorganization shall be:~~

- 15 (1) ~~conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of this~~
16 ~~chapter, without a rejection threshold; or~~
17 (2) ~~conducted on a countywide basis under section 30(b) of this~~
18 ~~chapter, with a rejection threshold.~~

19 (c) (b) The clerk of the political subdivision adopting a resolution
20 proposing a reorganization under this section shall certify the
21 resolution to the clerk of each political subdivision named in the
22 resolution.

23 SECTION 6. IC 36-1.5-4-15 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
24 JANUARY 1, 2014]. Sec. 15: Not later than thirty (30) days after the
25 clerk of the last political subdivision to adopt a reorganization
26 resolution under this chapter has certified the substantially identical
27 resolution to all of the political subdivisions named in the resolution,
28 the reorganizing political subdivisions shall appoint the number of
29 individuals specified in section 16 of this chapter to serve on a
30 reorganization committee to develop a plan of reorganization for the
31 reorganizing political subdivisions.

32 SECTION 7. IC 36-1.5-4-16 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
33 JANUARY 1, 2014]. Sec. 16: (a) Members shall be appointed to a
34 reorganization committee as follows:

- 35 (1) In accordance with an agreement adopted by the reorganizing
36 political subdivisions. An agreement under this subdivision must
37 provide that not more than a simple majority of the members
38 appointed by each political subdivision may be members of the
39 same political party.
40 (2) If an agreement does not provide for the membership of a
41 reorganization committee under this chapter, three (3) members
42 shall be appointed by the executive of each political subdivision

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1 participating in the reorganization. Not more than two (2) of the
 2 members appointed by an executive of a political subdivision may
 3 be members of the same political party.

4 (b) The members of a reorganization committee serve at the
 5 pleasure of the appointing authority. The reorganization committee
 6 shall select a chairperson and any other officers that the reorganization
 7 committee determines necessary from the members of the
 8 reorganization committee.

9 (c) The members of a reorganization committee serve without
 10 compensation. The members, however, are entitled to reimbursement
 11 from the reorganizing political subdivisions for the necessary expenses
 12 incurred in the performance of their duties.

13 (d) The reorganizing political subdivisions shall provide necessary
 14 office space; supplies; and staff to the reorganization committee. The
 15 reorganizing political subdivisions may employ attorneys; accountants;
 16 consultants; and other professionals for the reorganization committee.

17 (e) Except as otherwise provided in an agreement adopted by the
 18 reorganizing political subdivisions, claims for expenditures for the
 19 reorganization committee shall be made to the fiscal officer for the
 20 reorganizing political subdivision with the largest population. The
 21 fiscal officer shall pay the necessary expenditures and obtain
 22 reimbursement from the reorganizing political subdivisions:

- 23 (1) in accordance with an agreement adopted by the reorganizing
 24 political subdivisions; or
- 25 (2) in the absence of an agreement, in proportion to the population
 26 of each reorganizing political subdivision.

27 SECTION 8. IC 36-1.5-4-17 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 28 JANUARY 1, 2014]. Sec. 17: A reorganization committee may do the
 29 following:

- 30 (1) Adopt procedures governing the internal management of the
 31 reorganization committee.
- 32 (2) Conduct public hearings on the plan of reorganization as the
 33 reorganization committee determines necessary or appropriate.
- 34 (3) Review the books and records of any reorganizing political
 35 subdivision.
- 36 (4) Administer oaths.
- 37 (5) Issue and enforce subpoenas and discovery orders under
 38 IC 4-21-5.

39 SECTION 9. IC 36-1.5-4-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.113-2010,
 40 SECTION 110, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 41 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 18. (a) A reorganization
 42 committee **(before January 1, 2014) or the legislative bodies of the**

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1 **reorganizing political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013)** shall
 2 prepare a comprehensive plan of reorganization for the reorganizing
 3 political subdivisions. The plan of reorganization governs the actions,
 4 duties, and powers of the reorganized political subdivision that are not
 5 specified by law.

6 (b) The plan of reorganization must include at least the following:

7 (1) The name and a description of the reorganized political
 8 subdivision that will succeed the reorganizing political
 9 subdivisions.

10 (2) A description of the boundaries of the reorganized political
 11 subdivision.

12 (3) Subject to section 40 of this chapter, a description of the
 13 taxing areas in which taxes to retire obligations of the
 14 reorganizing political subdivisions will be imposed.

15 (4) A description of the membership of the legislative body, fiscal
 16 body, and executive of the reorganized political subdivision, a
 17 description of the election districts or appointment districts from
 18 which officers will be elected or appointed, and the manner in
 19 which the membership of each elected or appointed office will be
 20 elected or appointed.

21 (5) A description of the services to be offered by the reorganized
 22 political subdivision and the service areas in which the services
 23 will be offered.

24 (6) The disposition of the personnel, the agreements, the assets,
 25 and, subject to section 40 of this chapter, the liabilities of the
 26 reorganizing political subdivisions, including the terms and
 27 conditions upon which the transfer of property and personnel will
 28 be achieved.

29 (7) Any other matter that the:

30 (A) reorganization committee **(before January 1, 2014)**
 31 determines **or the legislative bodies of the reorganizing**
 32 **political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013) determine**
 33 to be necessary or appropriate; or

34 (B) legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions
 35 require the reorganization committee **(before January 1,**
 36 **2014);**

37 to include in the plan of reorganization.

38 **(8) This subdivision applies only to a reorganization described**
 39 **in section 1(a)(7) of this chapter that is voted on by voters**
 40 **after December 31, 2013, regardless of when the plan of**
 41 **reorganization is adopted. The reorganization committee**
 42 **(before January 1, 2014) or the legislative bodies of the**

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1 reorganizing political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013)
 2 shall include in the reorganization plan an approval
 3 threshold, specified as a percentage, that applies for purposes
 4 of section 32(b) of this chapter. The approval threshold must
 5 be the same for each municipality that is a party to the
 6 proposed reorganization and to each township that is a party
 7 to the proposed reorganization. The approval threshold must
 8 be greater than fifty percent (50%), but not more than
 9 fifty-five percent (55%).

10 (9) This subdivision applies only to a reorganization described
 11 in section 1(a)(7) of this chapter that is voted on by voters
 12 after December 31, 2013, regardless of when the plan of
 13 reorganization is adopted. The reorganization committee
 14 (before January 1, 2014) or the legislative bodies of the
 15 reorganizing political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013)
 16 shall determine and include in the reorganization plan the
 17 percentage of voters in both the municipality and the
 18 township voting on the public question regarding the
 19 proposed reorganization who must vote in favor of the
 20 proposed reorganization for the public question to be
 21 approved. This percentage is referred to in this chapter as the
 22 "municipality-township vote approval percentage". The
 23 municipality-township vote approval percentage must be
 24 greater than fifty percent (50%).

25 (8) (10) In the case of a reorganization described in section
 26 1(a)(9) of this chapter, if the legislative bodies of the reorganizing
 27 political subdivisions have specified that the vote on the public
 28 question regarding the reorganization shall be conducted on a
 29 countywide basis under section 30(b) of this chapter with a
 30 rejection threshold; the reorganization committee (before
 31 January 1, 2014) or the legislative bodies of the reorganizing
 32 political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013) shall include
 33 in the reorganization plan a ~~rejection~~ **an approval** threshold,
 34 specified as a percentage, that applies for purposes of section
 35 ~~32(b)~~ **32(c)** of this chapter. The ~~rejection~~ **approval** threshold
 36 must be the same for each municipality that is a party to the
 37 proposed reorganization and to the county that is a party to the
 38 proposed reorganization. **The approval threshold must be**
 39 **greater than fifty percent (50%), but not more than fifty-five**
 40 **percent (55%).**

41 (9) (11) In the case of a reorganization described in section
 42 1(a)(9) of this chapter, the reorganization committee (before

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1 **January 1, 2014) or the legislative bodies of the reorganizing**
 2 **political subdivisions (after December 31, 2013)** shall
 3 determine and include in the reorganization plan the percentage
 4 of voters voting on the public question regarding the proposed
 5 reorganization who must vote, on a countywide basis, in favor of
 6 the proposed reorganization for the public question to be
 7 approved. This percentage is referred to in this chapter as the
 8 "countywide vote approval percentage". The countywide vote
 9 approval percentage must be greater than fifty percent (50%).

10 ~~(10)~~ **(12)** The **statement fiscal impact analysis** required by
 11 subsection ~~(e)~~: **(d)**.

12 ~~(e)~~ In the case of a reorganization described in section ~~1(a)(9)~~ of this
 13 chapter, the reorganization committee may not change the decision of
 14 the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions
 15 regarding whether the vote on the public question regarding the
 16 reorganization shall be conducted on a countywide basis without a
 17 rejection threshold or with a rejection threshold.

18 ~~(d)~~ Upon completion of the plan of reorganization, the
 19 reorganization committee shall present the plan of reorganization to the
 20 legislative body of each of the reorganizing political subdivisions for
 21 adoption. The initial plan of reorganization must be submitted to the
 22 legislative body of each of the reorganizing political subdivisions not
 23 later than one ~~(1)~~ year after the clerk of the last political subdivision
 24 that adopts a reorganization resolution under this chapter has certified
 25 the resolution to all of the political subdivisions named in the
 26 resolution.

27 **(c)** In the case of a plan of reorganization submitted to a political
 28 subdivision by a reorganization committee after June 30, 2010, **and**
 29 **before January 1, 2014, or prepared by the legislative bodies of the**
 30 **reorganizing political subdivisions after December 31, 2013**, the
 31 political subdivision shall post a copy of the plan of reorganization on
 32 an Internet web site maintained or authorized by the political
 33 subdivision not more than thirty (30) days after receiving the plan of
 34 reorganization from the reorganization committee **(before January 1,**
 35 **2014) or (after December 31, 2013) not more than thirty (30) days**
 36 **after the plan of reorganization is prepared by the legislative**
 37 **bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions. If the plan of**
 38 **reorganization is amended, the political subdivision shall post the**
 39 **amended plan on the Internet web site maintained or authorized by**
 40 **the political subdivision within seven (7) days after the amended**
 41 **plan is adopted.**

42 ~~(e)~~ **(d)** A reorganization committee must include in the plan of

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1 reorganization submitted to a political subdivision after June 30, 2010;
 2 a statement of: **The legislative bodies of the reorganizing political**
 3 **subdivisions preparing a reorganization plan after December 31,**
 4 **2013, must include in the plan of reorganization a fiscal impact**
 5 **analysis of the proposed reorganization. The fiscal impact analysis**
 6 **must include at least the following:**

7 (1) whether a fiscal impact analysis concerning the proposed
 8 reorganization has been prepared or has not been prepared by or
 9 on behalf of the reorganization committee; and

10 (2) whether a fiscal impact analysis concerning the proposed
 11 reorganization has been made available or has not been made
 12 available to the public by or on behalf of the reorganization
 13 committee.

14 (1) **The estimated effect of the proposed reorganization on**
 15 **taxpayers in each of the political subdivisions to which the**
 16 **proposed reorganization applies, including the expected tax**
 17 **rates, tax levies, expenditure levels, service levels, and annual**
 18 **debt service payments in those political subdivisions.**

19 (2) **A description of the planned services to be provided in the**
 20 **reorganized political subdivision and the method or methods**
 21 **of financing the planned services. The fiscal impact analysis**
 22 **must:**

23 (A) **present itemized estimated costs for each department**
 24 **or agency of the reorganized political subdivision; and**

25 (B) **explain how specific and detailed expenses will be**
 26 **funded from taxes, fees, grants, and other funding.**

27 (3) **A description of the capital improvements to be provided**
 28 **in the reorganized political subdivision and the method or**
 29 **methods of financing those capital improvements.**

30 (4) **Any estimated effects on political subdivisions in the**
 31 **county that are not participating in the reorganization and on**
 32 **taxpayers located in those political subdivisions.**

33 (e) **The legislative bodies of the reorganizing political**
 34 **subdivisions preparing a plan of reorganization after December 31,**
 35 **2013, must submit the fiscal impact analysis described in**
 36 **subsection (d) to the department of local government finance at**
 37 **least six (6) months before the election in which the public question**
 38 **will be on the ballot. A legislative body of a reorganizing political**
 39 **subdivision may not adopt a plan of reorganization unless the**
 40 **legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions have**
 41 **submitted the fiscal impact analysis to the department of local**
 42 **government finance as required by this subsection. The**

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1 department of local government finance must do the following
2 within a reasonable time, but not later than thirty (30) days before
3 the date of the election in which the public question will be on the
4 ballot:

- 5 (1) Review the fiscal impact analysis.
- 6 (2) Make any comments concerning the fiscal impact analysis
7 that the department considers appropriate.
- 8 (3) Provide the department's comments under subdivision (2)
9 to the legislative body of the reorganizing political
10 subdivisions.
- 11 (4) Post the department's comments under subdivision (2) on
12 the department's Internet web site.

13 The department of local government finance shall certify to the
14 legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions the total
15 amount of expense incurred by the department in carrying out the
16 department's review and preparing the department's comments.
17 Upon receipt of the department's certification of the expenses, the
18 reorganizing political subdivisions shall immediately pay to the
19 treasurer of state the amount charged. The share of the cost to be
20 paid by each reorganizing political subdivision shall be determined
21 by the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions.
22 Money paid by a reorganizing political subdivision under this
23 subsection shall be deposited in the state general fund.

24 SECTION 10. IC 36-1.5-4-19, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
25 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
26 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 19. The legislative body of each of the
27 reorganizing political subdivisions shall provide for the following:

- 28 (1) Consideration of a plan of reorganization ~~presented by a~~
29 ~~reorganization committee~~ in the form of a resolution incorporating
30 the plan of reorganization in full or by reference.
- 31 (2) Reading of the resolution incorporating the plan of
32 reorganization in at least two (2) separate meetings of the
33 legislative body of the political subdivision.
- 34 (3) Conducting a public hearing on the plan of reorganization:
35 (A) not sooner than five (5) days after notice of the public
36 hearing is published under IC 5-3-1; and
37 (B) before the legislative body takes final action on the
38 resolution to adopt the plan of reorganization.

39 SECTION 11. IC 36-1.5-4-20, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
40 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
41 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 20. At a public hearing on a plan of
42 reorganization conducted under section 19 of this chapter, or in a

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1 public meeting held not more than thirty (30) days after the public
2 hearing concludes, a legislative body of a reorganizing political
3 subdivision shall do one (1) of the following:

- 4 (1) Adopt the plan of reorganization. ~~as presented to the~~
5 ~~legislative body.~~
- 6 (2) Adopt the plan of reorganization with modifications.
- 7 (3) Reject the plan of reorganization. ~~and order a reorganization~~
8 ~~committee to submit a new plan of reorganization within thirty~~
9 ~~(30) days after the legislative body rejects the plan of~~
10 ~~reorganization.~~

11 SECTION 12. IC 36-1.5-4-22, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
12 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
13 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 22. The legislative body of each
14 reorganizing political subdivision shall take any of the actions
15 described in section 20 of this chapter on a revised plan of
16 reorganization ~~submitted by a reorganization committee~~ and each
17 resolution modifying a plan of reorganization or revised plan of
18 reorganization in the same manner as the legislative body may take
19 action on the initially submitted plan of reorganization.

20 SECTION 13. IC 36-1.5-4-23, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
21 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
22 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 23. The legislative body of a reorganizing
23 political subdivision shall certify the legislative body's final action on
24 a plan of reorganization or revised plan of reorganization, as modified
25 by the legislative body, in the manner prescribed by the department of
26 local government finance, to the following:

- 27 ~~(1) The chair of the reorganization committee.~~
- 28 (2) (1) The clerk of each reorganizing political subdivision.
- 29 (3) (2) The county fiscal officer of each county in which a
30 reorganizing political subdivision is located.
- 31 (4) (3) The county recorder of each county in which a
32 reorganizing political subdivision is located.

33 SECTION 14. IC 36-1.5-4-23.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
34 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
35 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 23.5. ~~The following apply~~ If the legislative
36 bodies of all political subdivisions that have been presented with ~~a~~ **an**
37 **initial** plan of reorganization **prepared** under section ~~18(d)~~ **18** of this
38 chapter have not adopted a **final** plan of reorganization ~~either as~~
39 ~~presented by the reorganization committee or as modified by all of the~~
40 ~~political subdivisions,~~ within one (1) year after the initial plan of
41 reorganization is presented,

- 42 (1) ~~Not later than one (1) month after the end of the one (1) year~~

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1 period in which the legislative bodies must adopt a plan of
 2 reorganization; the reorganization committee shall submit a final
 3 plan of reorganization to the legislative bodies of the political
 4 subdivisions:

5 (2) Not later than one (1) month after receiving the final plan of
 6 reorganization under subdivision (1); each of the legislative
 7 bodies must:

8 (A) hold a hearing on the final plan of reorganization; and

9 (B) adopt either a resolution approving the final plan of
 10 reorganization or a resolution rejecting the final plan of
 11 reorganization.

12 If a legislative body does not adopt a resolution under this
 13 subdivision within the one (1) month period; the failure to adopt
 14 a resolution is considered to be an approval of the final plan of
 15 reorganization:

16 (3) If a legislative body adopts a resolution approving the final
 17 plan of reorganization; the legislative body shall certify its
 18 approval under section 23 of this chapter.

19 (4) If any of the legislative bodies adopts a resolution rejecting the
 20 final plan of reorganization; the registered voters of a political
 21 subdivision in which the ~~final~~ **initial** plan of reorganization was
 22 ~~rejected by~~ **presented to** a legislative body under subdivision (2)
 23 **but not adopted** may submit a petition to the clerk of the circuit
 24 court approving ~~the a~~ final plan of reorganization and requesting
 25 that a public question be held on the final plan of reorganization.
 26 The petition must be submitted not later than one hundred eighty
 27 (180) days after ~~the date that is one (1) year after the initial~~
 28 **plan of reorganization was presented to the** legislative body.
 29 ~~voted to reject the final plan of reorganization:~~ If the petition is
 30 signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the voters of the political
 31 subdivision, as determined by the vote cast in the political
 32 subdivision for secretary of state at the most recent general
 33 election:

34 (A) **(1)** the political subdivision is considered to have approved
 35 the holding of the public question on the final plan of
 36 reorganization, notwithstanding the vote by the legislative body
 37 rejecting the final plan of reorganization; and

38 (B) **(2)** the clerk of the circuit court shall certify approval of the
 39 final plan of the reorganization and the holding of the public
 40 question in the manner specified in section 23 of this chapter.

41 SECTION 15. IC 36-1.5-4-28, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
 42 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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1 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 28. (a) For a public question voted on by voters
 2 after June 30, 2013, a public question under this chapter shall be
 3 placed on the ballot in all of the precincts that are located in the
 4 reorganizing political subdivisions in substantially the following form:

5 (Insert a brief description of the structure of the proposed
 6 reorganized political subdivision that will succeed the
 7 reorganizing political subdivisions.)

8 "Shall _____ (insert name of political subdivision) and
 9 _____ (insert name of political subdivision) reorganize as a
 10 single political subdivision?"

11 (b) The public question must appear on the ballot in the form
 12 approved by the county election board. A brief description of the
 13 reorganized political subdivision that will succeed the reorganizing
 14 political subdivisions, and the public question described in
 15 subsection (a), shall be placed on the ballot in the form prescribed
 16 by IC 3-10-9-4. For a public question voted on by voters after June
 17 30, 2013, the county election board shall submit the language to the
 18 department of local government finance for review.

19 (c) The department of local government finance shall review the
 20 language of the public question to evaluate whether the description
 21 of the reorganized political subdivision that will succeed the
 22 reorganizing political subdivisions is accurate and is not biased
 23 against either a vote in favor of the reorganization or a vote against
 24 the reorganization. The department of local government finance
 25 may:

- 26 (1) approve the ballot language as submitted; or
 27 (2) modify the ballot language as necessary to ensure that the
 28 description of the reorganized political subdivision that will
 29 succeed the reorganizing political subdivisions is accurate and
 30 is not biased.

31 The department of local government finance shall certify its
 32 approval or recommendations to the county election board not
 33 more than ten (10) days after the language of the public question
 34 is submitted to the department for review. If the department of
 35 local government finance recommends a modification to the ballot
 36 language, the county election board shall, after reviewing the
 37 recommendations of the department of local government finance,
 38 submit modified ballot language to the department for the
 39 department's approval or recommendation of any additional
 40 modifications. The public question may not be certified under
 41 IC 3-10-9-3 unless the department of local government finance has
 42 first certified the department's final approval of the ballot

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1 **language for the public question.**

2 SECTION 16. IC 36-1.5-4-30, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
 3 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 4 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 30. (a) Except as provided in ~~subsection~~
 5 **subsections (b) and (c)**, at the same time that election results are
 6 certified under IC 3, the circuit court clerk of each of the counties in
 7 which a public question under this chapter is on the ballot shall jointly
 8 issue, in the form prescribed by the state election board, a certificate
 9 declaring whether the public question is approved or rejected by a
 10 majority of the voters voting on the public question in each of the
 11 reorganizing political subdivisions. In addition to any other
 12 requirements in IC 3 concerning filing of the certification, the
 13 certification shall be sent to each of the following:

- 14 (1) The clerk of each of the reorganizing political subdivisions.
 15 (2) The county auditor of each county in which a reorganizing
 16 political subdivision is located.
 17 (3) The county recorder of each county in which a reorganizing
 18 political subdivision is located.
 19 (4) The state board of accounts.
 20 (5) The department of local government finance.
 21 (6) The department of state revenue.
 22 (7) The budget agency.
 23 (8) If any of the reorganizing political subdivisions is a school
 24 corporation, the department of education.

25 **(b) In the case of a public question on a reorganization**
 26 **described in section 1(a)(7) of this chapter that is voted on by**
 27 **voters after December 31, 2013:**

- 28 (1) **the public question on a plan of reorganization shall be**
 29 **placed on the ballot for consideration by the voters of the**
 30 **reorganizing municipality and township;**
 31 (2) **the vote on the public question by the voters of a**
 32 **reorganizing municipality and township shall be tabulated by**
 33 **determining the sum of the votes of voters who reside in:**
 34 (A) **each reorganizing municipality and not the**
 35 **reorganizing township;**
 36 (B) **the reorganizing township and not the reorganizing**
 37 **municipality; and**
 38 (C) **each reorganizing municipality and the reorganizing**
 39 **township;**
 40 (3) **the vote on the public question by the voters of:**
 41 (A) **each reorganizing municipality; and**
 42 (B) **each reorganizing township (excluding the voters of the**

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1 **reorganizing municipalities);**
2 **shall be tabulated separately; and**
3 **(4) the circuit court clerk shall issue, in a form prescribed by**
4 **the state election board, separate certificates regarding**
5 **whether the public question is approved or rejected by the**
6 **voters of:**
7 **(A) each reorganizing municipality and township as set**
8 **forth in subdivision (2)(C);**
9 **(B) each reorganizing municipality; and**
10 **(C) each reorganizing township, excluding the voters of the**
11 **reorganizing municipalities;**
12 **voting on the public question.**
13 ~~(b)~~ **(c) In the case of a public question on a reorganization described**
14 **in section 1(a)(9) of this chapter:**
15 (1) the public question on a plan of reorganization shall be placed
16 on the ballot for consideration by the voters of the entire county;
17 (2) the vote on the public question by the voters of the entire
18 county shall be tabulated;
19 (3) ~~if the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political~~
20 ~~subdivisions have agreed that the vote on the public question shall~~
21 ~~be conducted with a rejection threshold;~~ the vote on the public
22 question by the voters of:
23 (A) each reorganizing municipality; and
24 (B) the county (excluding the voters of the reorganizing
25 municipalities);
26 shall be tabulated separately; and
27 (4) the circuit court clerk shall issue, in a form prescribed by the
28 state election board, separate certificates regarding whether the
29 public question is approved or rejected by the voters of:
30 (A) the entire county;
31 (B) each reorganizing municipality; ~~(if the legislative bodies~~
32 ~~of the reorganizing political subdivisions have agreed that the~~
33 ~~vote on the public question shall be conducted with a rejection~~
34 ~~threshold); and~~
35 (C) the county, excluding the voters of the reorganizing
36 municipalities; ~~(if the legislative bodies of the reorganizing~~
37 ~~political subdivisions have agreed that the vote on the public~~
38 ~~question shall be conducted with a rejection threshold);~~
39 voting on the public question.
40 SECTION 17. IC 36-1.5-4-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006,
41 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
42 JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 32. (a) This subsection does not apply to a

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1 reorganization described in section **1(a)(7) or 1(a)(9)** of this chapter.
 2 A reorganization as specified in the plan of reorganization is approved
 3 if a majority of the voters in each reorganizing political subdivision
 4 voting on the public question approve the public question on the
 5 reorganization. **If a reorganizing political subdivision includes the**
 6 **territory of another reorganizing political subdivision,** the vote of
 7 voters of a reorganizing political subdivision (~~for example, a city~~) who
 8 also are voters in a second reorganizing political subdivision (~~for~~
 9 ~~example, a township~~) that is geographically larger than the first
 10 political subdivision and that includes the territory of the first political
 11 subdivision shall be included only in the tally of votes for the first
 12 reorganizing political subdivision in which the voters reside.

13 **(b) This subsection applies only to a reorganization described in**
 14 **section 1(a)(7) of this chapter. This subsection applies only to a**
 15 **reorganization voted on by voters after December 31, 2013. In the**
 16 **case of a proposed reorganization between a municipality and a**
 17 **township, the reorganization is approved only if:**

18 **(1) the percentage of all voters voting on the public question**
 19 **who:**

20 **(A) reside in:**

21 **(i) the reorganizing municipality and not the**
 22 **reorganizing township;**

23 **(ii) the reorganizing township and not the reorganizing**
 24 **municipality; and**

25 **(iii) both the reorganizing municipality and the**
 26 **reorganizing township; and**

27 **(B) vote in favor of the proposed reorganization;**
 28 **is greater than fifty percent (50%);**

29 **(2) the percentage of voters of the reorganizing municipality**
 30 **voting on the public question in favor of the reorganization**
 31 **equals or exceeds the approval threshold included in the final**
 32 **reorganization plan, which must be greater than fifty percent**
 33 **(50%) but not more than fifty-five percent (55%); and**

34 **(3) the percentage of voters who reside within the**
 35 **reorganizing township but do not reside within the**
 36 **reorganizing municipality and who vote on the public**
 37 **question in favor of the reorganization equals or exceeds the**
 38 **approval threshold included in the final reorganization plan,**
 39 **which must be greater than fifty percent (50%) but not more**
 40 **than fifty-five percent (55%).**

41 **If the reorganization is not approved, the reorganization is**
 42 **terminated. In tabulating the votes under subdivisions (2) and (3),**



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1 **the vote of voters of a reorganizing municipality who are also**
2 **voters in the reorganizing township shall be included only in the**
3 **tally of votes for the municipality in which the voters reside.**

4 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** This subsection applies **The following apply** only to a
5 reorganization described in section 1(a)(9) of this chapter.

6 **(1) In the case of a public question voted on by voters before**
7 **January 1, 2014, the reorganization is approved only if:**

8 ~~(1)~~ **(A)** the percentage of voters voting on the public question
9 who vote, on a countywide basis, in favor of the proposed
10 reorganization is at least equal to the countywide vote approval
11 percentage specified in the final reorganization plan;

12 ~~(2)~~ **(B)** if the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political
13 subdivisions have agreed that the vote on the public question
14 shall be conducted with a ~~rejection~~ **an approval** threshold,
15 **and** the percentage of voters of the county (excluding the
16 voters of the reorganizing municipalities) voting on the public
17 question who vote against the reorganization is less than the
18 ~~rejection~~ **approval** threshold included in the final
19 reorganization plan; and

20 ~~(3)~~ **(C)** if the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political
21 subdivisions have agreed that the vote on the public question
22 shall be conducted with a ~~rejection~~ **an approval** threshold,
23 **and** the percentage of voters of each reorganizing municipality
24 voting on the public question who vote against the
25 reorganization is less than the ~~rejection~~ **approval** threshold
26 included in the final reorganization plan.

27 **(2) In the case of a public question voted on by voters after**
28 **December 31, 2013, the reorganization is approved only if all**
29 **of the following requirements are met:**

30 **(A) More than fifty percent (50%) of the voters in the**
31 **county voting on the public question vote (on a countywide**
32 **basis) in favor of the proposed reorganization.**

33 **(B) The percentage of voters of the reorganizing county**
34 **(excluding the voters of the reorganizing municipalities)**
35 **voting on the public question in favor of the reorganization**
36 **equals or exceeds the approval threshold included in the**
37 **final reorganization plan. The approval threshold must be**
38 **greater than fifty percent (50%) but not more than**
39 **fifty-five percent (55%).**

40 **(C) The percentage of voters of each reorganizing**
41 **municipality voting on the public question in favor of the**
42 **reorganization equals or exceeds the approval threshold**

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included in the final reorganization plan. The approval threshold must be greater than fifty percent (50%) but not more than fifty-five percent (55%).

If the reorganization is not approved, the reorganization is terminated. If the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions have agreed that the vote in the public question shall be conducted with a rejection threshold, then In tabulating the votes under subdivisions (2) and (3); **subsection (c)(1)(B), (c)(1)(C), (c)(2)(B), and (c)(2)(C)**, the vote of voters of a reorganizing municipality who also are voters in the county shall be included only in the tally of votes for the municipality in which the voters reside.

SECTION 18. IC 36-1.5-4-33, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 33. Except in the case of a reorganization described in section 1(a)(9) of this chapter, if a reorganization is not approved by the majority of the voters in each reorganizing political subdivision voting on the public question, the reorganization is terminated. A political subdivision in which voters of the political subdivision approved the reorganization may continue with a reorganization with another political subdivision in which the reorganization was approved only if a new plan of reorganization is approved by the voters of each political subdivision in the manner provided by this chapter. ~~The reorganization committee shall adopt a plan to specify how matters related to the termination of the reorganization shall be handled.~~

SECTION 19. IC 36-1.5-4-34, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014]: Sec. 34. (a) This section applies if:

- (1) in the case of a reorganization that is not described in section **1(a)(7) or** 1(a)(9) of this chapter, the majority of the voters of each of the reorganizing political subdivisions voting on the public question approve the public question concerning the reorganization; or
- (2) in the case of a reorganization described in section **1(a)(7) or** 1(a)(9) of this chapter, the reorganization is approved as set forth in section **32(b) or 32(c)** of this chapter.

(b) The political subdivisions are reorganized in the form and under the conditions specified by the legislative bodies of the reorganizing political subdivisions in the plan of reorganization filed with the county recorder under this chapter.

SECTION 20. IC 36-1.5-4-38, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 38. (a) A reorganized political subdivision has the powers granted by statute to a political subdivision of the same type as the reorganized political subdivision. However, if authorized by the plan of reorganization approved by the voters in a public question under this chapter, the reorganized political subdivision will exercise a power or have the officers or number of offices that a statute would have permitted any of the reorganizing political subdivisions to have.

(b) This subsection applies to reorganizations approved by voters after June 30, 2013. Notwithstanding subsection (a), if:

(1) a first political subdivision is located in whole or in part within one (1) or more other political subdivisions that reorganize under this article; and

(2) the first political subdivision does not participate in or does not approve the reorganization;

the reorganization does not affect the rights, powers, and duties of the first political subdivision, and the reorganized political subdivision may not exercise within the first political subdivision any right, power, or duty unless that right, power, or duty was exercised within the first political subdivision before the reorganization by at least one (1) of the reorganizing political subdivisions.

SECTION 21. IC 36-1.5-4-39, AS ADDED BY P.L.186-2006, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 39. (a) If a law does not permit the reorganized political subdivision to exercise generally throughout the territory of the reorganized political subdivision a power that any of the reorganizing political subdivisions had before the reorganization, the reorganized political subdivision may exercise the power outside the original territory of the reorganizing political subdivision only by following the laws applicable to the expansion of the service area of the reorganizing political subdivision.

(b) Subject to subsection (a), a reorganized political subdivision that results from a reorganization under this chapter must continue to carry out the duties imposed by Indiana law on the reorganizing political subdivisions that combined to form the reorganized political subdivision.

SECTION 22. IC 36-1.5-4-39.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 39.5. A plan of reorganization may establish within a reorganized political subdivision territories or districts:

(1) in which specified services provided by the reorganized

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1 political subdivision will be provided at different levels,
 2 quantities, or amounts; and
 3 (2) in which the fees, charges, or taxes imposed by the
 4 reorganized political subdivision will vary depending on the
 5 level, quantity, or amount of the services provided.

6 SECTION 23. IC 36-1.5-4-44 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 7 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 44. (a) A reorganized political
 9 subdivision consisting of:

10 (1) two (2) or more townships; and
 11 (2) at least one (1) municipality;
 12 that has reorganized under this article may exercise park and
 13 recreation powers under IC 36-10 if the reorganized political
 14 subdivision's plan of reorganization authorizes the reorganized
 15 political subdivision to exercise those powers.

16 (b) If a reorganized political subdivision's plan of reorganization
 17 authorizes the reorganized political subdivision to exercise park
 18 and recreation powers under IC 36-10, the reorganized political
 19 subdivision may establish a park and recreation board.

20 (c) A park and recreation board established by a reorganized
 21 political subdivision under this section:

22 (1) shall exercise park and recreation functions within the
 23 reorganized political subdivision; and
 24 (2) has the powers and duties of both a municipal park and
 25 recreation board and a township park and recreation board
 26 under IC 36-10.

27 (d) A reorganized political subdivision may by resolution or in
 28 the reorganized political subdivision's plan of reorganization
 29 determine:

30 (1) the number of members to be appointed to the reorganized
 31 political subdivision's park and recreation board;
 32 (2) the person or entity that shall appoint or remove those
 33 members;
 34 (3) any required qualifications for those members; and
 35 (4) the terms of those members.

36 SECTION 24. IC 36-1.5-4-45 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 37 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 45. (a) Except as provided in
 39 subsections (c) through (e), a political subdivision may not take an
 40 action described in subsection (b) within a reorganizing political
 41 subdivision after the date on which a plan of reorganization is
 42 finally adopted by all reorganizing political subdivisions.

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1 (b) A political subdivision may not take any of the following
2 actions partially or wholly within a reorganizing political
3 subdivision after the date on which a plan of reorganization is
4 finally adopted by all reorganizing political subdivisions unless all
5 reorganizing political subdivisions agree by adopting identical
6 resolutions:

- 7 (1) Initiate an annexation of territory.
- 8 (2) Establish a fire protection territory or fire protection
9 district.
- 10 (3) Extend water, sewer, or any other infrastructure to the
11 political subdivision.
- 12 (4) Expand zoning jurisdiction under IC 36-7-4-205.

13 (c) This chapter does not prohibit:

- 14 (1) a political subdivision subject to the reorganization from
15 taking an action under subsection (b) within the political
16 subdivision's own boundaries; and
- 17 (2) any of the reorganizing political subdivisions from taking
18 an action under subsection (b) for the purpose of
19 implementing the plan of reorganization.

20 (d) A political subdivision may take an action described in
21 subsection (b) after the date on which the reorganization is rejected
22 by the voters under section 33 of this chapter.

23 (e) If a reorganization is approved by the voters under section
24 34 of this chapter, a political subdivision may not take an action
25 under subsection (b) until the earlier of the following:

- 26 (1) The plan of reorganization has been implemented.
- 27 (2) One (1) year after the date on which the reorganization is
28 approved under section 34 of this chapter.

29 SECTION 25. IC 36-4-1-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
30 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
31 1, 2013]: **Sec. 1.5.** Notwithstanding section 1 of this chapter, for
32 purposes of local government administration under this title, a
33 municipality reorganized under IC 36-1.5 may, subject to the
34 approval of the department of local government finance:

- 35 (1) be classified and described as set forth in the
36 reorganization plan adopted under IC 36-1.5-4; and
- 37 (2) maintain characteristics of any of the reorganizing
38 political subdivisions.

39 SECTION 26. IC 36-4-1.5-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.111-2005,
40 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
41 JULY 1, 2013]: **Sec. 2.** A town may be changed into a city through the
42 following:

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- 1 (1) The town legislative body must adopt a resolution submitting
 2 to the town's voters the question of whether the town should be
 3 changed into a city. The town legislative body shall adopt a
 4 resolution described in this subdivision if at least the number of
 5 registered voters of the town equal to ten percent (10%) of the
 6 total votes cast in the town at the last election for secretary of
 7 state sign a petition requesting the town legislative body to adopt
 8 such a resolution. In determining the number of signatures
 9 required under this subdivision, any fraction that exceeds a whole
 10 number shall be disregarded.
- 11 (2) **The town legislative body must adopt the resolution under**
 12 **subdivision (1) not later than thirty (30) days after the date on**
 13 **which a petition having a sufficient number of signatures is**
 14 **filed.** A resolution adopted under subdivision (1) must fix the date
 15 for an election on the question of whether the town should be
 16 changed into a city **as follows:**
- 17 (A) **If the election is to be on the same date as a general**
 18 **election or municipal election:**
- 19 (i) **the resolution must state that fact and be certified in**
 20 **accordance with IC 3-10-9-3; and**
- 21 (ii) **the election must be held on the date of the next**
 22 **general election or municipal election, whichever is**
 23 **earlier, at which the question can be placed on the ballot**
 24 **under IC 3-10-9-3.**
- 25 (B) **If the election is to be a special election, the date must be:**
 26 ~~(A)~~ (i) **not less than thirty (30) and ~~(B)~~ not more than sixty**
 27 **(60) days after the notice of the election; and**
- 28 (ii) **not later than the next general election or municipal**
 29 **election, whichever is earlier, at which the question can**
 30 **be placed on the ballot under IC 3-10-9-3.**
- 31 ~~If the election is to be on the same date as a general election the~~
 32 ~~resolution must state that fact and be certified in accordance with~~
 33 ~~IC 3-10-9-3.~~
- 34 (3) The town legislative body shall file a copy of the resolution
 35 adopted under subdivision (1) with the circuit court clerk of each
 36 county in which the town is located. The circuit court clerk shall
 37 immediately certify the resolution to the county election board.
- 38 (4) The county election board shall give notice of the election in
 39 the manner prescribed by IC 3-8-2-19. IC 3-10-6 applies to the
 40 election.
- 41 (5) The question described in subdivision (1) shall be placed on
 42 the ballot in the form prescribed by IC 3-10-9-4. The text of the

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- 1 question shall be: "Shall the town of _____ change into a
2 city?".
- 3 (6) If a majority of the voters voting on the question described in
4 subdivision (1) vote "yes", the town is changed into a city as
5 provided in this chapter. If a majority of the voters voting on the
6 question vote "no", the town remains a town.
- 7 SECTION 27. IC 36-4-1.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.111-2005,
8 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 3. (a) A town legislative body may satisfy the
10 requirements of this section in an ordinance adopted either before or
11 after the town's voters vote on the question described in section 2 of
12 this chapter.
- 13 (b) If a resolution is adopted under section 2 of this chapter, the
14 town legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the
15 transition from governance as a town to governance as a city. The
16 ordinance adopted under this section must include the following
17 details:
- 18 (1) A division of the town into city legislative body districts as
19 provided in the applicable provisions of IC 36-4-6.
- 20 (2) Provisions for the election of the following officers:
- 21 (A) The city executive.
- 22 (B) The members of the city legislative body.
- 23 (C) The city clerk or city clerk-treasurer as appropriate under
24 IC 36-4-10.
- 25 (3) The date of the first election of the city officers. The first
26 election may be held only on the date of **a the next** general
27 election or a municipal election, **whichever is earlier, following**
28 **the date fixed for an election under section 2 of this chapter on**
29 **the question of whether the town should be changed into a**
30 **city**. Candidates for election to the city offices shall be
31 nominated:
- 32 (A) at the corresponding primary election during a general
33 election year or a municipal election year; or
34 (B) as otherwise provided in IC 3.
- 35 (4) Subject to section 4 of this chapter, the term of office of each
36 city officer elected at the first election of city officers.
- 37 (5) Any other details the town legislative body considers useful in
38 providing for the transition of the town into a city.
- 39 (c) An ordinance adopted under this section is effective only if the
40 voters of the town approve the conversion of the town into a city under
41 section 2(6) of this chapter.
- 42 (d) The provisions of an ordinance adopted under this section are

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1 subject to all other laws governing the structure of city government.

2 (e) Subject to this chapter, the town legislative body or the city
3 legislative body (after the town is changed into a city) may amend an
4 ordinance adopted under this section.

5 SECTION 28. IC 36-4-3-1.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
6 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
7 1, 2013]: **Sec. 1.4. If a township is a participant in a proposed
8 reorganization under IC 36-1.5-4-1(a)(2), IC 36-1.5-4-1(a)(7), or
9 IC 36-1.5-4-1(a)(8), a municipality may not adopt an annexation
10 ordinance annexing territory within the township within the period
11 set forth in IC 36-1.5-4-45.**

12 SECTION 29. IC 36-7-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: **Sec. 1. (a) Except as
14 provided in subsection (b), this chapter applies to all units except
15 townships.**

16 **(b) A unit consisting of:**

17 **(1) two (2) or more townships; and**

18 **(2) at least one (1) municipality;**

19 **that has reorganized under IC 36-1.5 may exercise planning and
20 zoning power under IC 36-7-4 if the unit's plan of reorganization
21 under IC 36-1.5 authorizes the unit to exercise planning and zoning
22 powers.**

23 SECTION 30. IC 36-7-4-107 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
24 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: **Sec. 107. If a provision of this chapter
26 requires a power to be exercised by adoption of an ordinance, a
27 unit described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) shall exercise the power by
28 adoption of a resolution.**

29 SECTION 31. IC 36-7-4-202.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
30 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: **Sec. 202.5. (a) ADVISORY.
32 Notwithstanding any other law, the legislative body of a unit
33 described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) may establish by resolution an advisory
34 plan commission.**

35 **(b) ADVISORY. If an advisory plan commission is established
36 under this section by a unit described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) and the unit
37 adopts a comprehensive plan under this chapter:**

38 **(1) the advisory plan commission of the unit shall exercise the
39 planning and zoning functions within the unit;**

40 **(2) the advisory plan commission of the unit may not exercise
41 planning and zoning functions within a municipality that has
42 established a plan commission under this chapter (other than**

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1 a municipality that participated in the reorganization of the
2 unit under IC 36-1.5);

3 (3) the county plan commission may not exercise planning and
4 zoning functions within the unit; and

5 (4) except as provided in subdivision (2), a municipal plan
6 commission of a municipality (other than a municipality that
7 participated in the reorganization of the unit under IC 36-1.5)
8 may not exercise planning and zoning functions within the
9 unit.

10 Notwithstanding any other law, if a municipality (other than a
11 municipality that participated in the reorganization of the unit
12 under IC 36-1.5) annexes territory within a unit described in
13 IC 36-7-2-1(b) after the unit has established an advisory plan
14 commission under this section, the municipal plan commission of
15 that municipality may not exercise planning and zoning functions
16 within that annexed territory.

17 (c) **ADVISORY.** Except as specifically provided in this chapter,
18 an advisory plan commission established under this section by a
19 unit described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) shall exercise the planning and
20 zoning functions within the unit in the same manner that a
21 municipal plan commission established under this chapter
22 exercises planning and zoning functions for a municipality.

23 (d) **ADVISORY.** Notwithstanding any other provision, if an
24 advisory plan commission is established under this section by a unit
25 described in IC 36-7-2-1(b), the legislative body of the unit shall, by
26 resolution or in the unit's plan of reorganization under IC 36-1.5,
27 determine:

28 (1) the number of members to be appointed to the unit's
29 advisory plan commission;

30 (2) the person or entity that shall appoint or remove those
31 members;

32 (3) any required qualifications for those members;

33 (4) the terms of those members; and

34 (5) whether any members or advisory members shall be
35 appointed by the county in which the unit is located or by a
36 municipality located within the unit.

37 SECTION 32. IC 36-7-4-901.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
38 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
39 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 901.5. (a) If an advisory plan
40 commission is established under section 202.5 of this chapter by a
41 unit described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) and the unit adopts a
42 comprehensive plan under this chapter, the legislative body of the

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unit shall establish a board of zoning appeals.

(b) A board of zoning appeals established under this section:

(1) shall exercise the board's powers and duties under this chapter within the unit in the same manner that a municipal board of zoning appeals established under this chapter exercises powers and duties under this chapter for a municipality; and

(2) may not exercise the board's powers and duties under this chapter within a municipality that has established a plan commission under this chapter (other than a municipality that participated in the reorganization of the unit under IC 36-1.5).

(c) Notwithstanding any other law, if the legislative body of a unit described in IC 36-7-2-1(b) establishes a board of zoning appeals under this section, the legislative body of the unit shall, by resolution or in the unit's plan of reorganization under IC 36-1.5, determine:

(1) the number of members to be appointed to the unit's board of zoning appeals;

(2) the person or entity that shall appoint or remove those members;

(3) any required qualifications for those members; and

(4) the terms of those members.

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