

COLOR

YOUR WAY THROUGH INDIANA GOVERNMENT



Distributed by:
State Representative
Tom Saunders
www.in.gov/h54
h54@in.gov



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In Indiana, there are THREE branches of government:

The Legislative Branch is the “voice of the people” and writes the laws that we must all follow.

The Executive Branch oversees the state government agencies and implements state laws. This is where the governor works!



The Judicial Branch reviews and applies the laws of the state and our nation.

I work in the Legislative Branch. Let me tell you more about it...

There are TWO major parties in each legislative body:

REPUBLICAN PARTY

The Republican symbol is the elephant.

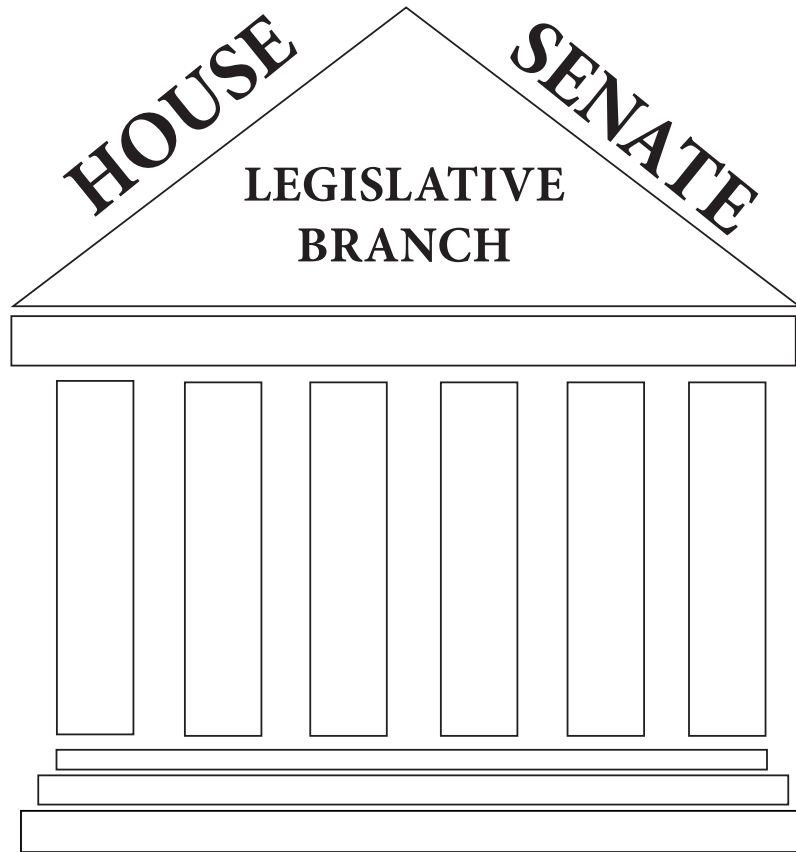


DEMOCRAT PARTY

The Democrat symbol is the donkey.



In the Legislative Branch, there are two bodies that make Indiana's laws:



100

House of

Representatives

+

50

Senate

150

General Assembly Members

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The design of the Indiana state flag is the result of a design competition with more than two hundred proposals received and examined. The winning design by Mooresville, Indiana artist Paul Hadley was adopted by the Indiana General Assembly on May 31, 1917.

On a field of blue, the flag displays a torch, colored gold and surrounded by an outer circle of thirteen stars and an inner circle of five stars. The largest star, positioned at the top of the torch and below the state name, represents Indiana, the nineteenth state.

STATE FLAG

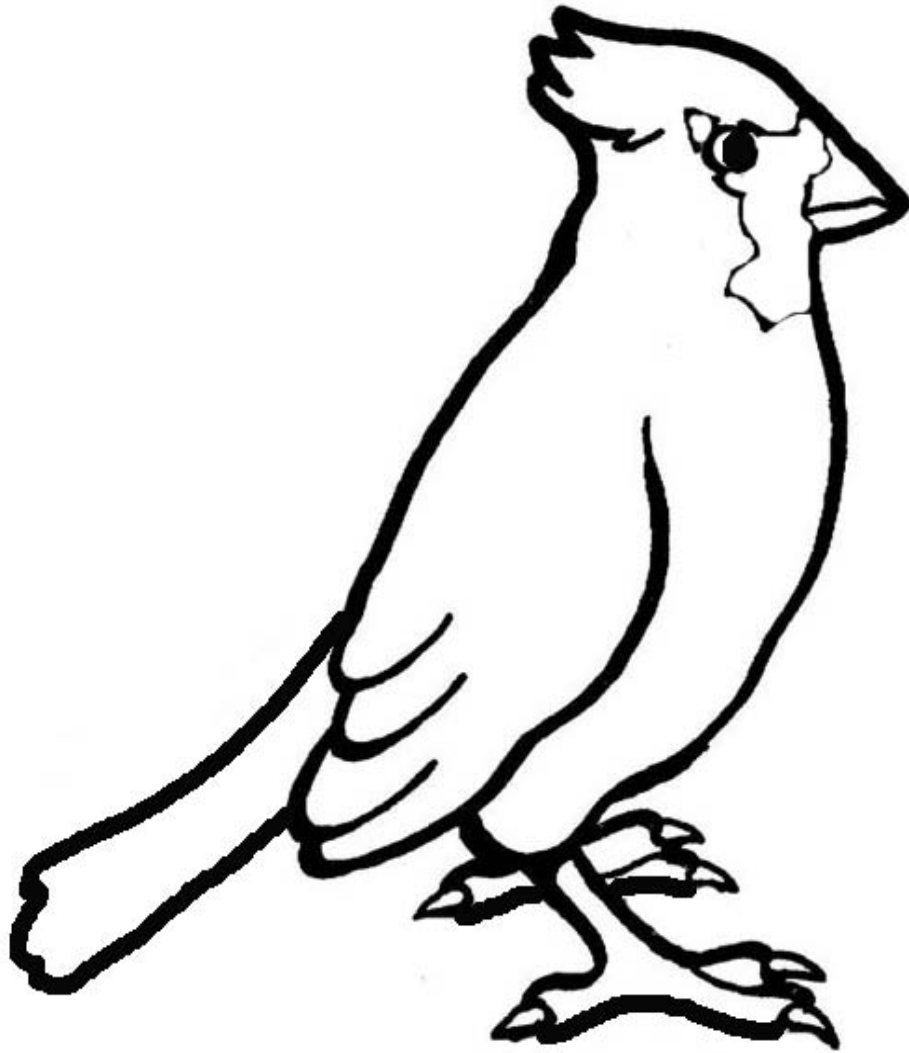
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The state seal depicts a pioneer scene portraying “how the early people of Indiana overcame the wilderness.” The seal has been in use since 1801, but it was not officially adopted until 1963.

STATE SEAL

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The cardinal was adopted as the state bird of Indiana in 1933. The northern cardinal is also the state bird for six other states: Illinois, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

These birds are great singers.

STATE BIRD

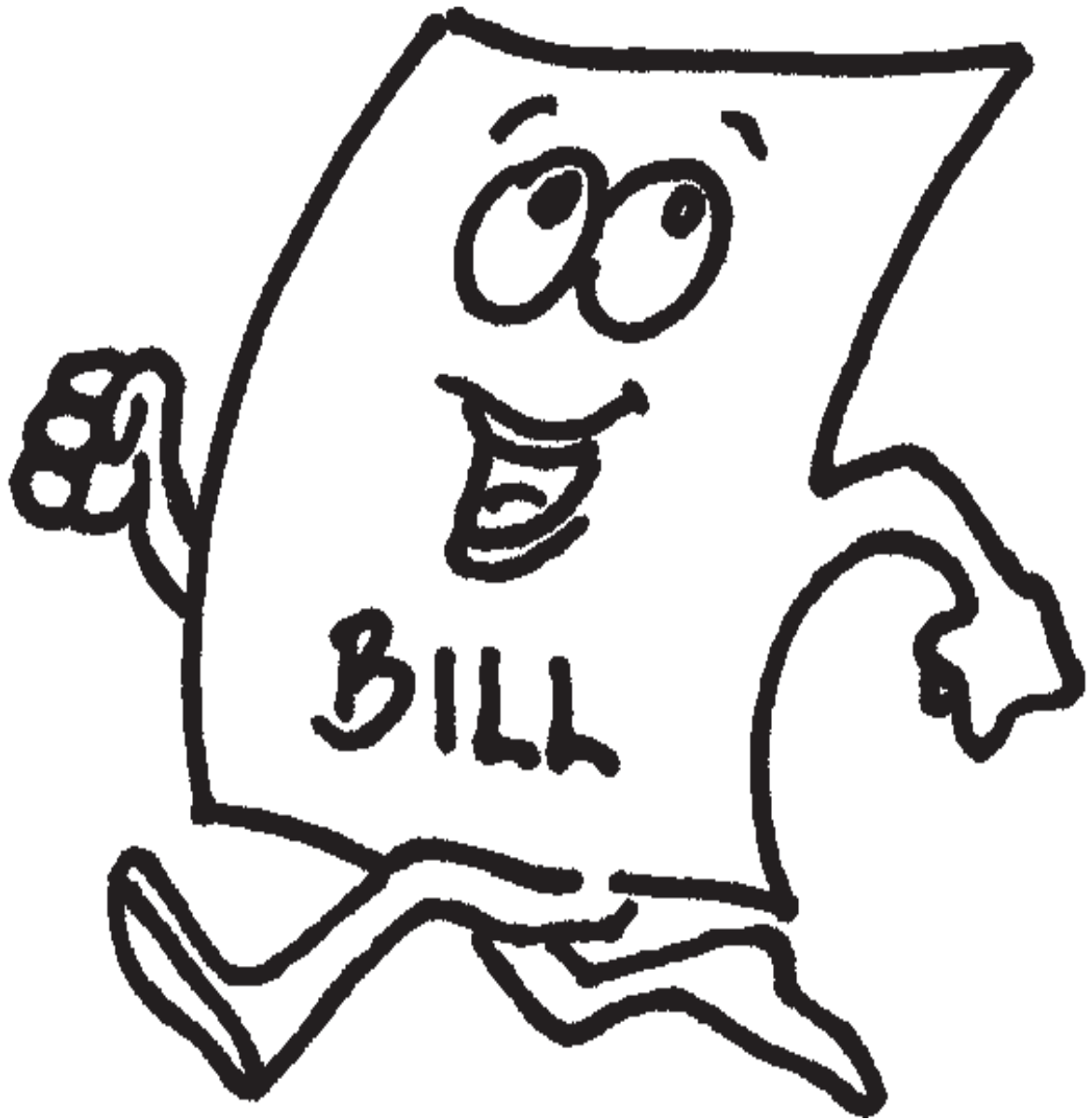
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The peony was adopted as the state flower on March 15, 1913. The peony blooms the last of May and early June in various shades of red, pink and white.

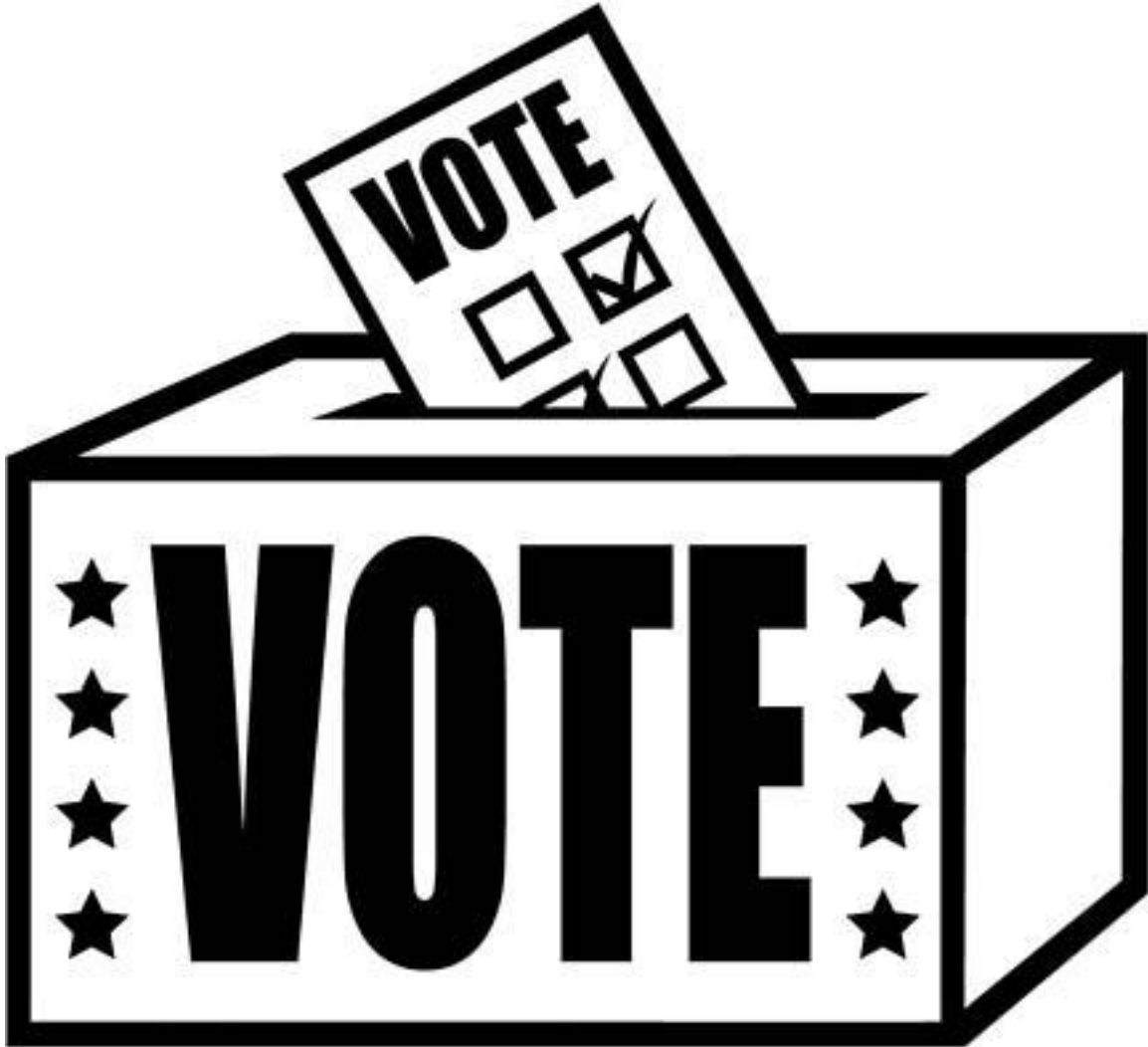
STATE FLOWER

“HOW DOES A BILL



BECOME A LAW?”

Legislators listen to ideas from the people in the community and write bills to help them.



They present the bills to the House and the Senate.

Once a bill is passed by both legislative bodies, it is sent to the governor's desk for approval.

The governor will either sign the bill or veto the bill. If the governor vetoes the bill, it will not become a law.

If the governor signs the bill, it's a law.

