



SENATOR  
**JIM ARNOLD**  
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 8

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Arnold measure would ensure face-to-face health assessments for National Guard**

INDIANAPOLIS – The Senate Homeland Security, Transportation and Veterans Affairs committee voted 10 to 0 today to approve House Bill (HB) 1178, a bill that would require that post-deployment health assessments be conducted face-to-face with a trained health care provider for members of the Indiana National Guard. State Senator Jim Arnold (D-LaPorte), who is sponsoring the legislation, says the new law would ensure that servicemen and women returning from deployment received more comprehensive health assessment and a better opportunity to address any issues that may be easier to talk about face-to-face instead of over the phone.

“Some of our men and women in the National Guard have served two or even three deployments. Each deployment can take a toll on your physical and emotional health,” Arnold said. “We are very proud of the sacrifice these Hoosiers make each day serving our country and our state, and this is just a small step to ensure that they get the care they deserve when they return from service.”

Also approved unanimously today by the Senate Corrections, Criminal, and Civil Matters committee was HB 1100, a bill sponsored by Arnold that would ban inmates in a county jail from possessing cell phones or other wireless communications devices. The ban would apply to people incarcerated in county jails, including those awaiting trial or returned for additional trials by the Department of Corrections. Violation of the law would be a class A misdemeanor.

Last year Arnold was successful in passing a new state law that enhanced the crime of providing, or trafficking, a cell phone to an inmate to a class C felony.

Both bills will now move to the senate floor for consideration by the full body.

For more information on Senator Arnold, his legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit [www.senatedemocrats.in.gov](http://www.senatedemocrats.in.gov).

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