



NEWS RELEASE

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Deig announces summer study on pseudoephedrine tracking

INDIANAPOLIS— State Senator Bob Deig (D-Mount Vernon) announced today that a legislative study committee has been charged with the review of improving efforts to fight methamphetamine production and use in Indiana. Deig said the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee was assigned with a study of the issue, along with several other topics, yesterday by the Indiana General Assembly's Legislative Council. The committee is expected to report findings this fall and make recommendations for the upcoming legislative session.

"The common denominator in the problem of methamphetamine production is ephedrine," said Deig. "In order to fix the problem, there needs to be a reformulation of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine to make them unusable in the production process of methamphetamine or they need to be thoroughly controlled."

Specifically, the committee is charged with studying the effects of methamphetamine on state and local governments and individuals, the implementation and effectiveness of a pseudoephedrine tracking system, and whether ephedrine and pseudoephedrine should be classified as controlled substances available by prescription only.

This study was assigned as part of a new law approved this year, [House Enrolled Act 1320](#), which prohibits a retailer from selling, and a purchaser from purchasing, more than 3.6 grams of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine on one day, or nine grams of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine in a 30-day period.

Another legislative study will focus on the viability and utilization of the Evansville State Hospital and the Evansville State Psychiatric Treatment Center for Children. Deig said that he will be paying close attention to the Commission on Mental Health's study on the addiction and mental health services available to children in the Evansville area.

"There is a tremendous need for these facilities in the Evansville area," said Deig. "They provide vital services to a lot of people in the area, so I am interested to hear any recommendations from the commission on how facilities can be better utilized and how better care can be given to those who need it."

The General Assembly annually convenes interim study committees and permanent commissions to conduct in-depth research and analysis of issues affecting the state. Recommendations from these committees are often the basis for future legislation. More information about committee topics, schedules and agendas is available online at www.in.gov/legislative/interim.

For more information on Sen. Deig, his legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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