



## **NEWS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release:*  
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### **General Assembly approves Lanane legislation**

INDIANAPOLIS – The 2010 legislative session of the 116th General Assembly ended on March 13, with 115 bills sent to the governor's desk for final action. State Senator Tim Lanane (D-Anderson) sponsored or authored a number of bills that gained approval by the legislature and are awaiting final action by the governor or set to become law. These include:

#### **Clarifying blood testing guidelines for DUI**

**Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 342**, authored by Sen. Lanane, will clarify procedures for determining blood alcohol content from blood samples drawn at local hospitals. The bill will further clarify that the intent of the law is to allow such hospital blood draws and restore the long accepted procedure for drawing blood for purposes of conducting blood alcohol content tests. The bill was approved by unanimous votes in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. SEA 342 was signed by the governor on March 12 and becomes effective immediately.

#### **Dating violence education and policies**

**SEA 316**, coauthored by Sen. Lanane, requires the Indiana Department of Education (DOE) to develop or identify model dating violence educational materials and a model for dating violence response policies in Indiana schools. The dating violence education applies only for grades 6 through 12. The bill is referred to as "Heather's Law," named after a young woman from Gary who was physically abused and ultimately murdered by her estranged boyfriend. The bill was approved 45 to 5 in the Senate and 82 to 14 in the House and is expected to be sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment. If enacted, SEA 316 will become effective July 1.

#### **Research and development vehicle license plates**

**House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1188**, sponsored by Sen. Lanane, requires the Secretary of State to adopt rules to establish research and development license plates for use by manufacturers of vehicle subcomponent systems, and sets a \$20 fee for a research and development license plate. The bill also requires the Secretary of State to adopt interim written guidelines regarding the classification of research and development license plates, and revises language concerning the responsibility of the Secretary of State related to vehicle dealer services. The bill makes it easier for hybrid vehicle companies like Bright Corporation in Anderson to legally test drive their manufactured vehicles on Indiana roads and highways. The bill was approved 49 to 1 in the Senate and 96 to 0 in the House and is expected to be sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment. If enacted, HEA 1188 will become effective July 1.

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## **PAGE 2 / GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES LANANE LEGISLATION**

### **No contact orders**

**HEA 1234**, sponsored by Sen. Lanane, would expedite the issuance of the no contact order after an arrest in the investigation of a violent crime. The change will prevent a defendant charged with a violent crime from any direct or indirect contact with the victim for up to 10 days following the defendant's release on bail. The bill also states that a court may require a person charged with domestic battery to wear a GPS tracking device as a condition of bail. Following a court hearing, the period may be extended. The bill also states that a court may require a person charged with domestic battery to wear a GPS tracking device as a condition of bail. HEA 1234 also provides that a person ordinarily approved by statute to make final arrangements for a decedent may not do so if, before death, a protective order existed between the decedent and the person. The bill was approved 48 to 2 in the Senate and 94 to 0 in the House and is expected to be sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment. If enacted, HEA 1234 will become effective July 1.

### **Five-star mortgages and securities fraud restitution**

**HEA 1332**, sponsored by Sen. Lanane, establishes the five-star mortgage program for Indiana banks to advertise for secure loans offering fixed interest rate, terms less than 30 years, and no prepayment penalty fee; and requiring a 10 percent down payment. The bill requires the Securities Division to pay a qualifying claim that is submitted by the Attorney General before July 1, 2010, including a court order awarding restitution to victims under the deceptive consumer sales act that involved the maintenance of accounts for the receipt of funds for the payment of real estate taxes and insurance periodically owed in connection with real estate. The bill was approved 47 to 2 in the Senate and 96 to 0 in the House and is expected to be sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment. If enacted, HEA 1332 will become effective July 1.

### **Earned income tax credit bankruptcy protection**

**HEA 1021**, cosponsored by Sen. Lanane, protects a debtor's Indiana Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from bankruptcy proceedings and allows the state EITC to be considered exempt property under the bankruptcy property exemption statute. In 2008, the General Assembly increased Indiana's EITC to nine percent of the federal EITC received by a taxpayer. More than 493,000 Hoosiers benefitted from the EITC that year, receiving an average credit of \$1,991. In total, the EITC put nearly \$981.6 million back into the pockets of working Hoosier families. An individual's federal EITC is already exempt under current federal law. The bill was approved 44 to 6 in the Senate and 96 to 0 in the House. HEA 1021 was signed by the governor on March 12 and becomes effective July 1.

### **Veterans' benefits**

**HEA 1165**, cosponsored by Sen. Lanane, will protect a veteran's service-connected benefits from being seized through legal action to collect a debt. The new law will place what is already federal law into state statute. HEA 1165 was approved by a unanimous vote in both the Senate and the House and was signed into law by the governor on March 12. It becomes effective July 1.

### **Regulation of appraisal industry**

**HEA 1235**, cosponsored by Sen. Lanane, requires appraisal management companies to register with the real estate appraiser licensure and certification board and requires an individual who conducts appraisal reviews for an appraisal management company to be a licensed or certified appraiser or a licensed real estate broker. The bill also requires an appraisal management company to maintain certain records and states that an appraisal management company is responsible for ensuring that an appraisal meets certain standards. HEA 1235 was approved 48 to 2 in the Senate and 93 to 0 in the House. The bill has been sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment. If enacted, HEA 1235 will become effective July 1.

For more information on Sen. Lanane, 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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