



SENATOR
LONNIE RANDOLPH
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 2

NEWS RELEASE

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**Randolph announces legislation for the
2010 Indiana General Assembly**

INDIANAPOLIS—The 2010 Indiana General Assembly has convened and senators have been busy preparing legislation to be heard in committees. **State Senator Lonnie M. Randolph (D-East Chicago)** has authored and co-authored several bills this year.

Property Tax Provisions

Senate Bill (SB) 121 would require the treasurer in a county with a population between 400,000 and 700,000 people to use provisional property tax statements for taxes based on the assessment date in 2009, or an earlier year, if the county auditor fails to deliver the abstract for that assessment date to the county treasurer before March 16 of the tax payment year. Currently, a county may elect to send out provisional tax statements to its taxpayers if the country abstract is not complete by March 16. If passed, the bill would retroactively take effect on January 1, 2009.

SB 333 would eliminate the law that freezes the maximum property tax levies for civil taxing units in Lake County, unless a local option income tax for property tax relief is in effect in the county. Under current law, civil taxing units in Lake County cannot increase property tax levies for funds that are subject to the maximum levy limitation because the county has not adopted a local option income tax. Under this bill, beginning with taxes payable in 2011, civil unit levy limits would grow by the statewide levy growth factor.

Qualifications for judges of city and town courts

Randolph authored SB 122, which would require the judge of a city or town court to be an attorney in good standing admitted to the practice of law in Indiana. Under the bill, judges serving on or after June 30 who are not an attorney in good standing would be allowed to continue to serve only for the remainder of their term. Of the 75 city and town courts in 2008, 44 courts had judges who were not attorneys.

Texting While Driving

SB 18 would make it illegal to transmit a text message or electronic mail message while operating a motor vehicle. The bill also expands the definition of "telecommunications device" to include a wireless telephone, personal digital assistant, pager and/or text messaging device.

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

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