



ICAN Update

Indiana | Catholic | Action | Network

February 3, 2023

The Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) is the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana regarding state and national matters. To act on these bills via action alert or by directly contacting your legislator, visit indianacc.org and click "Take Action" in the top right corner of the page. Listed below are the bills the ICC is monitoring most closely. The list is not exhaustive yet highlights the issues of greatest priority and relevance within the legislative process.

Solidarity

SBI Behavioral Health Matters (Sen. Crider)

This bipartisan effort appropriates significant funding for community behavioral health services, including a mental health crisis hotline number (988). The ICC supports these efforts to expand mental health services in Indiana.

ICC supports this bill.

HB1290 Earned Income Tax Credit (Rep. Goodrich)

This bill expands the state earned income tax credit from 10 percent to 15 percent of the federal earned income tax credit. This tax credit delivers targeted assistance to the lowest income Hoosiers.

ICC supports this bill.

SB248/HB1644 Driving Cards (Sen. Doriot/Rep. King)

Allows undocumented Indiana residents to drive legally after obtaining insurance and passing a driver's test. The driving card can not be used for any purpose other than driving (for example, it can't be used to vote). The ICC supports this policy because it would bring economic benefits to the state, increase road safety, and keep families together.

ICC supports this bill.

SB265/HB1160 Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (Sen. Ford, Sen. Walker/Rep. Clere)

While the House and Senate versions of these bills have some differences, the ICC continues to support an expansion to the TANF program in Indiana. This program uses federally appropriated funds to temporarily assist families in great need, but the assistance amount has not been updated in the state since 1988.

ICC supports this bill.

SB364/HB1243 Paid Family and Medical Leave (Sen. Pol/Rep. Cambell)

Although these bills are unlikely to receive a hearing this year, the ICC supports pro-family policies such as paid family leave. Ensuring mothers and fathers have adequate time to spend with newborn children has significant, well-researched, positive impacts for family life.

ICC supports this bill.

Care for Creation

SB335 Climate Solutions Task Force (Sen. Yoder) This bipartisan bill establishes a task force that would study a variety of climate-related topics and submit recommendations to the legislature.

ICC supports this bill.

Stay tuned as more bills are added to this list each week.