



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, JAN. 31

Happy Friday and welcome to week four of the 2025 legislative session.

It was another busy week for the legislature, with committees attempting to hear bills as the deadline to move bills to the House and Senate floor draws closer. The House and Senate Education Committees had 17 bills under consideration this week.

There are only a few weeks left of committee meetings for the first half of the session. For the more than 1,200 bills filed this session to remain alive, they must be passed out of committee, heard twice on the floor and be voted out by Feb. 20. ISTA continues to track nearly 200 bills that impact K-12 schools and educators. You can follow along on our [bill watch page](#).

House Committee Action

The House Education Committee passed [HB 1498](#) on Wednesday by a vote of 11-0. The bill would require the Indiana Department of Education to develop a new A-F school grading system. The proposed accountability system would be based on:

- Third-grade reading proficiency (IREAD scores).
- Performance on state summative assessments (ILEARN).
- High school graduation rates and diploma attainment.
- Other relevant factors are determined by the state board of education.

ISTA and others testified in favor of using labels other than A-F. The bill now moves on to the House floor for consideration.

Follow ISTA's live coverage of [committee action on X](#).

State of the State

In his first State of the State address, Gov. Braun highlighted Indiana's strong reading performance from the recently released Nation's Report Card, called for universal private school vouchers and voiced support for raising the minimum teacher salary. ISTA welcomes discussions on improving teacher pay. Read ISTA's full response [here](#).

Join us for a Day of Action: Feb. 11 | [Register](#)

Virtual Legislative Briefing: Feb. 3 | [Register](#)



SB 366 (Sen. Linda Rogers – Granger)

EDUCATION MATTERS

Overview

SB 366 was due to be heard in the Senate Education Committee this week, but lawmakers skipped it for further work on amendments. . The bill includes provisions that could weaken teacher voice and professional respect. Among ISTA's primary concerns is the removal of language granting the exclusive representative pro-rata authority to appoint teachers to local committees. The bill would also eliminate the requirement for superintendents to discuss evaluation plans with teachers or their representatives before these plans go to the school board. The Indiana School Boards Association is advocating for both measures. Additionally, there is a concerning possible amendment in committee that would effectively repeal collective bargaining by empowering school boards to choose to recognize the local union. We understand this amendment isn't moving, but we must remain vigilant.

Why you should care

These changes would reduce teachers' voices in decision-making and transparency in evaluations, potentially leading to unilateral decisions that don't reflect educators' needs. The potential bargaining amendment would create legal, financial and political chaos for schools.

What you can do

ISTA is actively working to address concerns. More to come.

Read the ISTA [blog](#) and follow us on social media for more legislative updates and ways you can take action.



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