Legislative Recap

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Josh Garrison

Senior Associate Commissioner & Chief of Staff

Greg Harrell

Director of Legislation & Program Implementation

March 14, 2024

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- The legislative session adjourned Sine Die in the late evening of Friday, March 8.
- ▶ 174 bills were sent to Governor Holcomb for signature of the 739 bills filed.
- ▶ 10 bills impact the work of the Commission.



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- SEA 8: Higher Education Matters
- **SEA 48: State Educational Institution Information**
- SEA 148: Workforce Data Collection
- SEA 202: State Educational Institution Matters
- SEA 270: Various Education Matters
- ► HEA 1001: Education and Higher Education Matters
- HEA 1002: Enforcement of Equal Educational Opportunity
- ► HEA 1042: Transition to Teaching Scholarships
- ► HEA 1179: State Educational Institutions
- HEA 1243: Various Education Matters



SEA 8: HIGHER EDUCATION MATTERS

- ▶ Requires high schools to provide the **Indiana College Core** or submit an implementation plan or feasibility report.
- Requires the Commission to publish a list of Indiana College Core courses and their syllabus or outline of record.
- Ensures online access to the Indiana College Core will be available through the Course Access Program.



SEA 8: HIGHER EDUCATION MATTERS

- Launches a formal statewide process for reverse transfer.
- ▶ Requires 4-year institutions to **submit a study** on the **feasibility and advisability** of offering an associate degree to students in limited circumstances.
- Requires institutions to offer at least one 3-year degree program and review all programs to determine if a 3-year pathway is feasible.



SEA 48: STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION INFORMATION

- Requires institutions to:
 - Display on the home page of the institution's website a link to the institution's profile on the College Scorecard, and;
 - Display on the web page of each associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral program a link to the College Scorecard for the applicable program.



SEA 148: WORKFORCE DATA COLLECTION

- Creates a governance team of subject matter experts to align reporting on workforcerelated programs.
- Tasks the team to develop a common set of data elements to evaluate these programs.
- Requires a report on these programs to be submitted by July 1, 2025.



- Adds cultural and intellectual to institutions' statutorily required diversity committees.
- Requires the diversity committees to make recommendations on recruitment and retention of underrepresented students.
- Adds cultural and intellectual diversity to the mission of any diversity office.



- Requires institutions to develop a range of disciplinary actions for campus members engaging in a heckler's veto.
- Requires institutions to establish a policy barring tenure or promotions to faculty who are:
 - Unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity;
 - Unlikely to expose students to scholarly works from a variety of political-ideological frameworks; and
 - Likely to subject students to ideological views and opinions unrelated to the faculty member's academic discipline or course of instruction.



- Requires institutions to create a five-year tenure review process that verifies adequate performance of job duties.
- Requires institutions to establish a process for complaints against faculty or a contracted teacher who engages in prohibited activity.
- Creates a process for the Commission to review these complaints in certain circumstances.



- Provides each institution shall include programming on free speech in their new student orientation.
- Allows the Commission to conduct an annual survey on free expression.
- Requires institutions to submit reports on various topics including diversity, equity and inclusion funding, staff employment numbers, free speech activities, etc.



SEA 270: VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS

- Requires the Commission to study and make recommendations regarding:
 - Ivy Tech awarding bachelor's degrees; and
 - Vincennes University offering additional bachelor's degree programs.
- A report must be submitted by October 31, 2024



HEA 1001: EDUCATION/HIGHER EDUCATION MATTERS

- Extends the account creation deadline for a student who applies for a Career Scholarship Account (CSA) from 7 to 30 days.
- Provides clarification around how CSA funds may be used for transportation including setting a cap.



HEA 1002: ENFORCEMENT OF EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

- ▶ **Defines antisemitism** using the definition adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.
- Specifies the public policy of the state is to provide educational opportunities free of religious discrimination and antisemitism is discrimination on the basis of race, creed, religion, or national origin.



HEA 1042: TRANSITION TO TEACHING SCHOLARSHIPS

- ► Allows remaining Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship funds to create additional **Transition to Teaching Scholarships**.
- Provides an applicant for the Transition to Teaching Scholarship must have a household income of \$100,000 or less.
- Strengthens the definition of teacher for the service requirement.



HEA 1179: STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- Requires institution boards of trustees to adopt policies which prohibit:
 - the transfer or licensing of intellectual property to entities headquartered or owned by a foreign adversary;
 - the use of any state funds or resources to engage, contract with, or support the activities of a foreign terrorist organization or state sponsor of terror; and
 - employees or contractors from making public statements in their official capacity unless the statement relates to the business or operation of the institution or has been approved by the board of trustees.



HEA 1179: STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- Requires institutions to disclose any gift or contract of any value from or with a foreign source located in a foreign adversary after December 31, 2020.
- Requires the Commission to make these disclosures publicly available and provides the authority to audit.



HEA 1243: VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS

- Lays the groundwork required for the Department of Education to establish new diploma requirements.
- Requires students graduating in 2029 or later to have completed a computer science course.
- ► The Department of Education will be invited to the May Commission meeting to discuss the diploma requirement language.





INDIANA COMMISSION for HIGHER EDUCATION