



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 27, 2026

State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla Issues Statement on Budget-Neutral Hoosier START Employer Match Update

Note to the Press – Indiana State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla issued the following statement after the governor ceremoniously signed [SEA 14](#) into law, authorizing an increase to the employer match for Indiana’s Deferred Compensation Retirement Plan, Hoosier START.

STATEHOUSE (April 27, 2026) – “SEA 14 received unanimous, bipartisan support in both chambers of the Indiana General Assembly, underscoring the legislature’s shared commitment to providing updated, fiscally responsible benefits for state employees. When we identified that the match amount was still at \$15, the original amount when the benefit started 26 years ago, we got to work finding a budget-neutral way to bring it in line with present-day value, which helps the State maintain a competitive retirement package for employees.”

SEA 14 modernizes key components of the State’s retirement benefits at no extra cost to taxpayers by offering employees the option to redirect an existing and often forfeited benefit option to support an increased State match. Pending State Budget Committee approval, the maximum employer contribution for eligible employees will rise from up to \$15 per paycheck (original amount) to up to \$28 per paycheck (present-day value) beginning after Dec. 31, 2026.

As with the current match, it will continue to be applied automatically for eligible Hoosier START participants and will remain subject to review every two years through the State’s biennial budget process.

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About Indiana State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla

Elise M. Nieshalla is the [Indiana State Comptroller](#), fulfilling the duties of the Constitutional Office of State Auditor. Comptroller Nieshalla is committed to serving our state and local governments by upholding the highest standards of fiscal responsibility in the provision of accurate accounting and reporting of state funds, disbursement of tax revenues to state agencies and local units of government, payment of Indiana’s employees and vendors, administration of the state’s deferred compensation plan and delivering financial information through the [Indiana](#)

[Transparency Portal](#). She also serves in leadership roles across several key state financial boards, including INPRS, the State Board for Depositories, the Deferred Compensation Committee, and the State Board of Finance.

State Comptroller Media Contact: Jess Nejad jenejad@comptroller.in.gov