



SENATOR
JIM ARNOLD
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 8

NEWS RELEASE

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Arnold reappointed to Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee
Senator appointed to serve on eight interim legislative committees, commissions

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Senate President Pro Tem David Long (R-Fort Wayne), upon recommendation by Senate Democrat Leader Vi Simpson (D-Ellettsville), has reappointed State Senator Jim Arnold (D-LaPorte) as a member of the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee and as a member of several other interim committees and commissions. The committee will meet during the legislative interim and has been assigned to review various issues concerning criminal law, including the state's alternative sentencing programs, community corrections and parole and probation matters.

Arnold said he is looking forward to the committee's recommendations on improving efforts to fight methamphetamine production and use in Indiana, as well as recommendations for addressing concerns about "sexting," or the sending of sexually suggestive or explicit cell phone and internet messages by minors.

Arnold has also been assigned to the Interim Study Committee on Driver Education and was reappointed to the Rail Corridor Safety Committee, Indiana Homeland Security Foundation, Indiana Lakes Management Work Group, Joint Study Committee on Mass Transit and Transportation Alternatives, Child Custody and Support Advisory Committee and the Code Revision Commission.

Other topics assigned for review this year by the General Assembly include the following:

Legislative redistricting: The Census Data Advisory Committee will study the 2011 redistricting process. The federal census data obtained in 2010 will be used to make a variety of decisions at the state and local levels, including where state legislative and congressional district lines are drawn for the next 10 years.

Economic development: The newly formed Committee on Economic Development will study available economic development tools and how Indiana's tax laws can encourage business development and job growth.

Statewide smoking ban: A statewide smoking ban and its economic impact on the state and local businesses will be studied by the Health Finance Commission.

Health care: A report on the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is expected to be presented to the Health Finance Commission by the non-partisan state Legislative Services Agency. The impact of federal health care reform on the Healthy Indiana Plan and other state programs will also be reviewed by the Health Finance Commission.

The General Assembly annually convenes interim study committees and permanent commissions to conduct in-depth research and analysis of issues affecting the state. Recommendations from these committees are often the basis for future legislation. More information about committee topics, schedules and agendas is available online at www.in.gov/legislative/interim.

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

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