



SENATOR
FRANK MRVAN
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 1

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
February 9, 2010

Media Contact:
Peg McLeish, 317-232-9507
Elise Shrock, 317-232-9496

Senate approves Mrvan initiative to increase oversight of public funds

Mrvan bills on reading instruction and economic development study advance to House

INDIANAPOLIS – State Senator Frank Mrvan (D-Hammond) said he was pleased with the passage last week of a measure that would increase public oversight for organizations that receive public funding, including revenue from riverboat casinos.

“I am very pleased that Senate Bill 405 has passed the Senate and that my language to increase oversight of public funds was included in the bill,” said Mrvan.

Mrvan also co-authored SB 258 which would require state education officials to develop a plan to put increased emphasis on reading instruction and assessment for students in Kindergarten through grade 3.

“Learning to read is the most important foundation for the development of our children,” said Mrvan. “I realize that financial constraints in our schools could delay implementation, but I hope that the measure allows the State Superintendent to begin planning and lay the groundwork for school programs to move forward quickly when funding becomes available.”

Additionally, Mrvan co-authored SB 237, a measure calling for a legislative committee to make an in-depth study of topics related to economic development in Indiana. In particular, the committee would be assigned to study best practices in state and local economic development policies and activities, the use and effectiveness of tax credits and deductions, whether there are any specific sectors of the economy for which Indiana might have comparative advantages over other states, any improvements that might be made to Indiana’s tax laws, and the extent to which Indiana’s education systems support economic development.

The committee would be required to conclude the study by November 1 and expected to make recommendations to the next General Assembly for potential legislation to support the state’s economic growth.

All three bills gained Senate approve and have advanced to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

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

###