



SENATOR
EARLINE S. ROGERS
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 3

NEWS RELEASE

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Rogers reappointed to School Funding Formula Study Committee
Senator reappointed to serve on nine 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 Earline Rogers (D-Gary) as a member of the School Funding Formula Study Committee and as a member of several other interim committees and commissions.

The committee was established in 2009 to review the existing formula by which state funds are distributed to Indiana schools and make determinations on how the system could be adapted to better accommodate the needs of Indiana's schools. Lawmakers will write a new two-year state budget in 2011, of which education funding will be the most significant distribution.

Rogers has also been reappointed to the Interim Study Committee on Education, Joint Study Committee on Mass Transit and Transportation Alternatives, ISTEP Program Citizens' Review Committee, Illiana Expressway Proposal Review Committee, County Redistricting Commission, Commission for a Drug Free Indiana, Health Finance Commission, and the Shoreline Development Commission.

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

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.

Gaming: A number of issues relating to the horse racing industry in Indiana will be studied by the Interim Study Committee on Gaming.

Teen suicide: The Commission on Mental Health will study the issues surrounding youth suicides, including root causes and prevention methods.

"Sexting": The Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee will study concerns about "sexting," or the sending of sexually suggestive or explicit cell phone and internet messages by minors. The study committee will review how school corporations' policies could address this topic.

Health care: A report on the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will 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 Rogers, her legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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