



SENATOR
CONNIE SIPES
DEMOCRAT CAUCUS CHAIR ★ SENATE DISTRICT 46

NEWS RELEASE

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Sipes reappointed to Commission on Medicaid Oversight

Senator appointed to serve on six 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 Connie Sipes (D-New Albany) as a member of the [Select Joint Commission on Medicaid Oversight](#) and as a member of several other interim committees and commissions. The Joint Commission on Medicaid Oversight will review the state's ongoing changes to the eligibility determination process for Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and food stamps.

Southeastern Indiana, including Clark and Floyd counties, is the next region anticipated to move into what Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration refers to as a "hybrid system" for eligibility determination. Under the hybrid system, created after the state cancelled a contract with IBM to perform the determination services, requests will continue be routed through phone banks, but face-to-face contact between case workers and clients is reinstated. Two regions in southwest and west central Indiana have already moved to the hybrid system.

Sipes has also been reappointed to the [Committee on Child Care](#), [Indiana Commission on Autism](#), [Commission on Developmental Disabilities](#), Tourism Council, and [Lewis & Clark Bicentennial 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.

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 Sipes, her legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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