



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
July 12, 2010

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

Skinner reappointed to state commission on tax and finance policy

Senator appointed to seven interim groups, including school funding study

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 Tim Skinner (D-Terre Haute) as a member of the [Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy](#) and as a member of several other interim committees and commissions. The Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy will meet during the legislative interim and has been assigned with the review of various issues concerning the state's allocation of tax revenues, state and local road projects, tax credits for contributions to K-12 foundations, and the funding services and cost of the fire protection district and territories.

Skinner was also reappointed to the [Interim Study Committee on the School Funding Formula](#). 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.

Skinner was also reappointed to [Education Technology Council](#), [Interim Study Committee on Driver Education](#). He has been appointed to [the Interim Study Committee on Education](#), the [Commission on Mental Health](#) and to the Law Enforcement, School Policing and Youth Work Group, a new study group established this year.

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

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