

- HB1015 UNLAWFUL INDEMNITY AGREEMENTS (TORR J) Provides that the law concerning indemnity agreements in construction or design contracts applies to certain design-build contracts. Specifies that "sole negligence" for purposes of liability under a construction or design contract does not include: (1) vicarious liability; (2) imputed negligence; or (3) assumption of a nondelegable duty. Urges the legislative council to assign to the appropriate study committee the issue of whether a provision in a professional services contract that requires indemnification or defense of a promisee for certain liability is against public policy.  
*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - added as coauthor Representative Steuerwald  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1015](#)
- HB1019 GASOLINE TAX (BAUER B) Provides for a monthly determination of the gasoline tax rate per gallon that will be used in the following month. Provides that the gasoline tax rate is to be reduced if the statewide average retail price per gallon is greater than \$3 using the same price that is used to convert the 7% tax on gasoline to a per gallon rate under the gasoline use tax. Specifies that the gasoline tax rate is to be reduced by \$0.01 for each \$0.01 the statewide average retail price per gallon exceeds \$3.  
*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1019](#)
- HB1050 SMALL CELL WIRELESS STRUCTURES (OBER D) Specifies that the statute concerning permits for wireless facilities and wireless support structures applies to permits issued by a permit authority to a communications service provider. Provides that a resolution, ordinance, or other regulation: (1) adopted by a permit authority after April 14, 2017, and before May 2, 2017; and (2) that designates an area within the jurisdiction of the permit authority as strictly for underground or buried utilities; applies only to communications service providers and those geographic areas that are zoned residential and where all existing utility infrastructure is already buried. Provides that, with respect to the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities and associated supporting structures, a permit authority may prohibit the placement of a utility pole or a new wireless structure in a right-of-way within an area that is designated strictly for underground or buried utilities if, among other requirements, the area was zoned for residential use before May 1, 2017.  
*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1050](#)
- HB1054 COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER'S SALARY (AYLESWORTH M) Increases the state subsidy for a county highway engineer's annual salary. Requires the county to certify to the auditor of state the amount of the county's contribution to the county highway engineer's annual salary. Provides that a county may not receive such a subsidy unless the county's contribution to the engineer's annual salary is at least equal to the county's contribution to the engineer's annual salary from the preceding year. Makes an appropriation.  
*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1054](#)
- HB1080 CENTRAL INDIANA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS (MOED J) Repeals the prohibition that prevents certain counties from: (1) purchasing; (2) leasing; (3) acquiring; (4) constructing; or (5) operating a light rail project.  
*Current Status:* 3/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline for House bills (Rule 79(b))  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1080](#)
- HB1115 LANDOWNER IMMUNITY FOR TRAIL ACCESS (HAMILTON C) Specifies that with respect to the statute that restricts a landowner's liability for an injury to a person or property caused by an act or failure to act of another person using the landowner's premises for certain recreational purposes, those purposes include another person going on or through the premises for the purpose of accessing a trail, a greenway, a park, or another similar area used for recreational purposes. Makes a technical change to include in the statute that lists Indiana Code provisions that: (1) are outside the Indiana Code title concerning civil law and procedure; and (2) confer immunity; the statute that provides immunity to owners of land used by persons for hunting, fishing, or trapping.  
*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1115](#)
- HB1132 GOLF CART, OFF-ROAD VEHICLE, AND RECOVERY VEHICLE REGULATION (DAVISSON S) Provides that local ordinances concerning the operation of golf carts and off-road vehicles may require the operator to have a driver's license or be at least 16 years and 180 days of age and hold an identification card. (Current law requires local

ordinances to impose these requirements.) Defines "recovery vehicle" as a truck that is specifically designed for towing a disabled vehicle or a combination of vehicles. Requires a person who is in the business of operating a recovery vehicle to: (1) employ a certified safety officer; and (2) develop safety procedures to promote safe recovery vehicle operations and public safety. Requires the state police department to approve training programs to certify individuals as safety officers to teach safe recovery vehicle operations and public safety.

*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1132](#)

HB1246 AUTOMATED TRAFFIC CONTROL IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES (MOSELEY C) Authorizes the state police department to establish an automated traffic control system to enforce highway work zone speed limits.

*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1246](#)

HB1254 ANNEXATION OF NONCONTIGUOUS TERRITORY (SMITH M) Allows a municipality that meets certain requirements to annex noncontiguous property and annex a public highway that connects the municipality and the territory.

*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1254](#)

HB1271 PIPING MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS (MILLER D) Defines "acceptable piping material" as piping material that: (1) meets certain recognized standards; and (2) meets the performance specifications for the public works contract. Provides, for purposes of the law on public works projects of state agencies and political subdivisions, including design-build public works projects, that the specifications or design criteria package must allow bidding in open competition for acquisition of acceptable piping materials for use in the public works project. Provides, however, that a public works project's engineer is not limited in selecting any acceptable piping materials that meet the requirements of the public works project.

*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1271](#)

HB1290 TRANSPORTATION FINANCE (SOLIDAY E) Repeals the motor carrier surcharge tax and increases the special fuel tax by \$0.21 per gallon. Distributes part of the special fuel tax revenue to the motor carrier regulation fund. Specifies how netted International Fuel Tax Agreement Clearinghouse refunds and receipts are deposited or credited. Specifies that the commercial vehicle excise tax rate calculation that must be done on or before October 1 of each year is effective on January 1 of the following year. Excludes the transportation infrastructure improvement fee and the supplemental fees for registering electric and hybrid vehicles from the calculation of the commercial vehicle excise tax. Changes various distribution percentages of revenue distributed from the motor vehicle highway account and highway, road and street fund. Specifies that heating oil is not included in the sales tax exemption for special fuel. Provides that for funds distributed to counties, cities, and towns from the motor vehicle highway account, each county, city, or town must use at least 50% of the money for the construction, reconstruction, and preservation of the unit's highways. (Under current law, at least 50% must be used for construction, reconstruction, and maintenance.) Makes various changes to the accounting system for local roads and streets. Establishes the New Harmony and Wabash River bridge authority (bridge authority). Specifies the composition and terms of bridge authority membership. Describes the purpose and duties of the bridge authority. Authorizes the bridge authority to charge and collect a toll for transit across the White County bridge (bridge). Requires the bridge authority to equip, improve, maintain, operate, reconstruct, rehabilitate, and restore the bridge for use by motor vehicles, pedestrians, and other forms of transportation. Allows the bridge authority to issue bonds and notes for certain purposes. Provides that all registration fees collected under the International Registration Plan (IRP) or through an Indiana based IRP account (rather than only certain specified fees collected under the IRP or an Indiana based IRP account under current law) are covered by the statute providing for the first \$125,000 of such revenue each state fiscal year to be distributed to the state police building account and any remaining amounts to be distributed to the motor vehicle highway account. Specifies that the transportation infrastructure improvement fee shall be apportioned under the IRP. Specifies conditions under which a vehicle platoon may be operated in Indiana. Defines certain terms. Makes conforming changes.

*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - House concurred in Senate amendments; Roll Call 358: yeas 78, nays 0

*State Bill Page:* [HB1290](#)

HB1334 FLASHING LIGHTS FOR LANE PAINTING VEHICLES (WRIGHT M) Provides that a vehicle being used to apply road or lane markings may display flashing lights.

*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1334](#)

HB1341 AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES (SOLIDAY E) Provides that a political subdivision may not enact a measure, ordinance,

policy, regulation, rule, or other restriction that prohibits the authorized use of: (1) an automated driving system; (2) an automated vehicle; or (3) an on demand automated vehicle network. Provides that a person in possession of a valid driver's license may operate an automated vehicle at a Level 1, 2 or 3 on a public highway. Requires any person or entity who operates an automated vehicle to maintain proof of financial responsibility with the bureau of motor vehicles (bureau). Requires automated vehicles to comply with all applicable federal and state laws pertaining to the type of motor vehicle being operated. Prohibits the use of an automated driving system or an automated vehicle that does not comply with federal and state laws concerning the functions operated by the automated driving system unless the operating entity or individual possesses a permit that has been approved by the automated vehicle oversight taskgroup (taskgroup). Provides that it is a Class C infraction to operate an automated driving system or automated vehicle that does not comply with applicable federal and state laws. Provides that it is a Class C misdemeanor to recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally operate an automated driving system or automated vehicle that does not comply with applicable federal and state laws. Allows a law enforcement officer to impound an automated vehicle in certain instances. Requires all automated vehicles to be registered with the bureau. Specifies required equipment for automated vehicles. Requires a person or entity wishing to test an automated vehicle or platooning automated vehicles to have at least \$5,000,000 worth of financial responsibility per entity prior to commercial deployment. Provides that a person or entity wishing to operate an on demand automated network must maintain proof of coverage as required for a transportation network company. Establishes the taskgroup. Specifies that taskgroup membership consists of: (1) the bureau commissioner or bureau chief of staff; (2) the department of insurance commissioner or department of insurance chief of staff; (3) the INDOT commissioner or INDOT chief of staff; (4) the Indiana State Police (ISP) superintendent, ISP assistant superintendent, or ISP chief of staff; (5) the appropriate county commissioner or county executive in certain instances; and (6) the appropriate mayor or town executive in certain instances. Requires a person or entity making application to the taskgroup to: (1) register the vehicle with the bureau; (2) maintain proof of financial responsibility with the bureau; (3) submit an application to the taskgroup; (4) submit an operational protocol to the taskgroup; and (5) await receipt of written taskgroup approval before operating or platooning automated vehicles on a public highway. Allows the taskgroup to immediately prohibit: (1) the continued operation of a previously approved automated vehicle or platoon; or (2) previously approved testing; if the continued operation, platooning, or testing of an automated vehicle presents a risk to public safety or fails to comply with certain requirements. Provides the taskgroup with emergency rulemaking authority. Provides that use of: (1) an automated driving system; or (2) an automated vehicle; does not exempt a responsible occupant or remote operator from certain obligations following an accident involving an automated vehicle. Provides civil immunity to the original manufacturer of a motor vehicle that is subsequently converted into an automated vehicle in certain instances. Provides civil immunity to a motor vehicle mechanic or motor vehicle repair facility that performs repairs on an automated vehicle in certain instances. Defines certain terms. Makes conforming amendments.

*Current Status:* 3/12/2018 - , (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1341](#)

- HB1342 OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES (SMALTZ B) Exempts individuals from the requirement of wearing a helmet while operating or riding on an off-road vehicle if the off-road vehicle is: (1) equipped with a roll cage, or closed roof and windshield; (2) operated on private property or on a highway in a county, city, or town with an off-road vehicle ordinance; and (3) operated according to manufacturer's instructions. Defines "roll cage".  
*Current Status:* 2/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline (Rule 147.2)  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1342](#)
- HB1358 INTERSECTION SAFETY STUDY (CHERRY R) Urges the legislative council to assign to a study committee the task of studying safety at certain intersections not controlled by a traffic signal and drainage along rural roads.  
*Current Status:* 3/6/2018 - Returned to the House without amendments  
*State Bill Page:* [HB1358](#)
- SB45 VEHICLE BILL (LONG D) None  
*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))  
*State Bill Page:* [SB45](#)
- SB49 VEHICLE BILL (LONG D) None  
*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))  
*State Bill Page:* [SB49](#)
- SB76 VEHICLE BILL (LANANE T) None  
*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))

SB125 REGISTRATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITY EXCAVATION CONTRACTORS (MERRITT J) Provides that a contractor that will perform one or more excavations or demolitions in Indiana under a contract with: (1) a communications service provider; or (2) a utility; must include in an entity filing filed with the secretary of state a statement that the contractor and its employees will comply with Indiana's 811 statute. Provides that a contractor that is a filing entity under the Uniform Business Organizations Code (Code) shall provide documentation of the contractor's compliance with the registration requirement to a communications service provider or a utility before entering into a contract with the communications service provider or the utility to perform excavations or demolitions in Indiana. Authorizes the utility regulatory commission (IURC) or its pipeline safety division to refer to the attorney general contractors that: (1) violate Indiana's 811 statute; and (2) are foreign entities not registered to do business in Indiana. Authorizes the attorney general to collect penalties of not more than \$10,000 for the registration violation, as provided for in the Code. Provides that at the request of the IURC or its pipeline safety division, and not more than once per year, unless for purposes of an investigation under Indiana's 811 statute, a communications service provider or utility shall provide a list of its contractors operating in Indiana. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the interim study committee on energy, utilities, and telecommunications.)

*Current Status:* 3/6/2018 - Returned to the Senate without amendments

*State Bill Page:* [SB125](#)

SB141 COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EXCISE AND WHEEL TAXES (NIEMEYER R) Provides that the county vehicle excise tax does not apply to a vehicle registered in a municipality in which the municipal vehicle excise tax is in effect. Provides that a municipality in which the municipal vehicle excise tax is in effect does not receive a distribution of county vehicle excise tax revenue. Provides that the county wheel tax does not apply to a vehicle registered in a municipality in which the municipal wheel tax is in effect. Provides that a municipality in which the municipal wheel tax is in effect does not receive a distribution of county wheel tax revenue.

*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))

*State Bill Page:* [SB141](#)

SB197 VARIOUS PROPERTY ISSUES (DORIOT B) Amends the statute concerning the Indiana coordinate system for describing real property to provide that coordinates based on specified coordinate systems and used to define the position of a point on a land boundary may not be presented to be recorded unless the recording document also contains: (1) the method used to relate the coordinates to the National Spatial Reference System; and (2) the name and zone of the coordinate system. Eliminates other reporting and certification requirements with respect to such recordings. Provides that if any coordinates (not specifically coordinates based on the Indiana coordinate system, as provided in current law) are used to describe a tract of land that is also described by a reference to the United States public land surveys: (1) the description by coordinates shall be construed as supplemental; and (2) in the event of a conflict, the description by reference to the United States public land surveys prevails over the description by coordinates. Provides that the statute does not require a purchaser or mortgagee of real estate to rely on a description, any part of which depends exclusively upon the Indiana coordinate system, unless the same description was previously used in a document conveying title to the real estate. Amends the statute concerning the statute of limitations for actions for the recovery of the possession of real estate to provide that such an action that: (1) involves a line located and established by a professional surveyor; and (2) accrues before the lines are located and established by the surveyor; must be commenced before the expiration of the appeal period set forth in the statute governing county surveyors. Amends the Indiana Code provision concerning the establishment of property lines by means of a legal survey to: (1) eliminate the exception to the required notice when all adjoining landowners consent in writing; and (2) specify that the lines established are binding on all affected landowners. Defines "original survey". Defines "retracement survey". Provides that, other than for descriptions of lots in new subdivisions, any new or modified real property description prepared by a professional surveyor as a product of an original survey or a retracement survey must include a caption that identifies: (1) the name and registration number of the professional surveyor preparing the description; and (2) the plat of survey produced as part of the original survey or retracement survey, including certain specified information. Repeals the section in the statute concerning the Indiana coordinate system that provides that the statute does not require a purchaser or mortgagee of real estate to rely on a description, any part of which depends exclusively upon the Indiana coordinate system. Makes conforming changes.

*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - Motion to concur filed

*State Bill Page:* [SB197](#)

SB212 VEHICLE WEIGHT LIMITS (BROWN L) Excludes bulk milk from the definition of "overweight divisible load". Provides that the department of transportation (department) may issue an overweight permit for the transportation of bulk milk up to 100,000 pounds. Requires the department to issue an annual permit with a fee of \$20 to an applicant for a bulk milk permit whose total equivalent single axle load calculation is equal to or less than 2.40 equivalent single axle load credit. Requires the department to issue a nondivisible overweight permit to an applicant for a bulk milk permit

whose total equivalent single axle load calculation is greater than 2.40 equivalent single axle load credit.

*Current Status:* 2/27/2018 - Senate concurred in House amendments; Roll Call 266: yeas 48, nays 2

*State Bill Page:* [SB212](#)

SB258 WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT STRUCTURES (MESSMER M) Provides that, for purposes of the statute concerning the local permitting of support structures for wireless communications services, with respect to the construction, placement, or use of a small cell facility and the associated supporting structure, a permit authority may prohibit the placement of a new utility pole or new wireless support structure in a right-of-way within an area that is designated strictly for underground or buried utilities, if the designation is made before April 15, 2017, and if certain other conditions are met. (Current law provides that the designation concerning underground or buried utilities must be made before May 1, 2017.) Provides that with respect to the construction, placement, or use of a small cell facility and the associated supporting structure in a right-of-way within an area that is: (1) zoned exclusively for residential land use; and (2) designated strictly for underground or buried utilities after April 14, 2017, and before May 1, 2017; a permit authority may not prohibit the placement of a new utility pole or new wireless support structure in a right-of-way within the area. Provides that if a permit authority receives an application for the placement of a new utility pole or a new wireless support structure in a right-of-way within such an area, a group of residents residing within the area and satisfying the statutory standing requirements for filing a complaint with the utility regulatory commission (IURC) may, not later than 30 days after the permit authority's receipt of the application, submit objections to the IURC for an informal determination of whether the placement is in the public interest. Requires the IURC to make its determination not later than 45 days after receipt of the submission. Provides that if the IURC does not make a determination within the prescribed 45 day period, the placement is considered to be in the public interest. Provides that the time for the permit authority to approve or deny the application is tolled until the IURC makes its determination or for 45 days, whichever occurs earlier. Provides that if a permit authority maintains an Internet web site, the permit authority shall post on its Internet web site notice of any applications the permit authority receives after March 27, 2018, for the construction, placement, or use of a small cell facility on one or more new utility poles or new wireless support structures. Provides that a regulation that: (1) is adopted by a permit authority after April 14, 2017, and before May 1, 2017; and (2) designates an area within the jurisdiction of the permit authority as strictly for underground or buried utilities; is void.

*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))

*State Bill Page:* [SB258](#)

SB263 SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES CONTRACTS (CRIDER M) Provides that any provision in certain contracts for snow removal services that purports to release: (1) a person that performs snow removal services; or (2) a person that contracts for snow removal services; from liability for negligence, recklessness, or intentional acts is void as against public policy.

*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))

*State Bill Page:* [SB263](#)

SB265 STUDY OF INTERSECTION SAFETY (CRIDER M) Urges the legislative council to assign to a study committee the task of studying safety at certain intersections not controlled by a traffic signal and drainage along rural roads.

*Current Status:* 2/20/2018 - added as cosponsor Representative Goodin

*State Bill Page:* [SB265](#)

SB269 ROAD AND UTILITY REPAIR (KOCH E) Requires the department of transportation (department) to schedule an appeal of a local unit's denial of a petition to close a railroad crossing within 60 days after the denial of the petition. Establishes the New Harmony and Wabash River bridge authority (bridge authority). Specifies the composition and terms of bridge authority membership. Describes the purpose and duties of the bridge authority. Authorizes the bridge authority to charge and collect a toll for transit across the White County bridge (bridge). Requires the bridge authority to equip, improve, maintain, operate, reconstruct, rehabilitate, and restore the bridge for use by motor vehicles, pedestrians, and other forms of transportation. Allows the bridge authority to issue bonds and notes in certain instances and for certain purposes. Defines "department action" as one or more of the following: (1) Detour creation or implementation. (2) Planned bridge repair. (3) Planned road repair. Requires the department to consider the following when determining when to let a contract involving certain construction, maintenance, and repair projects: (1) Impact on local commerce. (2) Impact on local residents. (3) Impact on local tourism. Requires the department to make a good faith effort to use: (1) the least disruptive timing when determining when to let a contract involving certain construction, maintenance, and repair projects; and (2) the least restrictive means when implementing or performing certain construction, maintenance, and repair projects. Requires the department to release a contract let list: (1) every 180 days; and (2) to at least 1 news media entity. Provides that the hearing officer appointed to conduct a hearing concerning a petition to establish a regional water, sewage, or solid waste

district is required to provide notice of the hearing to the executive of a city or town that has a municipal sewage works or public sanitation department having extraterritorial jurisdiction within the boundaries of the area to be included in the proposed district. Requires the board of trustees of a regional sewage district, when seeking to add territory to the district, to file a copy of its motion for the addition of territory in the office of: (1) the executive of each governmental entity having territory within the territory proposed to be added to the regional sewage district; and (2) the executive of a city or town that has a municipal sewage works or public sanitation department if the territory proposed to be added to the regional sewage district includes territory within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the municipal sewage works or public sanitation department. Defines "governmental entity", for purpose of the law concerning regional water, sewage, and solid waste districts, as a municipal corporation or a special taxing district. Defines certain terms.

*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - , (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* [SB269](#)

SB288 VEHICLE WEIGHT (FORD J) Adds coal to the list of commodities hauled within the definition of "overweight divisible load". Specifies that a tractor-semitrailer hauling coal must have a gross vehicle weight of more than 80,000 pounds but not more than 120,000 pounds to meet the requirements of the definition.

*Current Status:* 2/6/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by Senate 3rd reading deadline (Rule 79 (a))

*State Bill Page:* [SB288](#)

SB299 STATE PARKS (RAATZ J) Requires that two (2) of the four (4) legislative members of the White River state park development commission must represent the legislative district that includes the White River State Park. Urges the legislative council to assign to a study committee the task of studying whether counties should be authorized to: (1) adopt an ordinance to impose a surcharge on fees collected within a state park; and (2) use the revenue from the surcharge to assist a unit of local government that provides police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to the state park.

*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - Senate concurred in House amendments; Roll Call 368: yeas 35, nays 0

*State Bill Page:* [SB299](#)

SB356 BROADBAND GRANTS FOR UNSERVED AREAS (HOUCHIN E) Authorizes the office of community and rural affairs (office) to award grants to qualified broadband providers in connection with qualified broadband projects involving the deployment of infrastructure to provide qualified broadband service in unserved areas in Indiana. Defines "qualified broadband service" as a connection to the Internet at an average speed of at least ten 10 megabits per second downstream and at least one megabit per second upstream, regardless of the technology used. Defines an "unserved area" as a geographic area in Indiana in which there is not at least one provider of terrestrial broadband service at the designated speeds. Provides that grants shall be made from the rural economic development fund. Provides that in awarding grants, the office shall give priority to qualified broadband projects proposed for unserved areas in which at least 85% of the total population is without access to qualified broadband service: (1) as of the date of the grant application; and (2) as determined by the Federal Communications Commission in its annual Broadband Progress Report. Requires the office to: (1) publish on its Internet web site all grant applications received; and (2) for each application received, establish a period of at least thirty 30 days from the date of publication, during which time the office will accept comments or objections concerning the application. Sets forth factors that the office must consider in determining whether to award a grant. Sets forth conditions that apply to the awarding of grants. Requires the office to adopt guidelines to implement these provisions and authorizes the office to collaborate with state agencies and political subdivisions in adopting the guidelines and administering grants. Requires the office to annually submit to the general assembly a report that includes specified information on grants awarded and progress made in the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved areas. Requires the state board of accounts to conduct, every three years, an audit on the awarding of grants. Prohibits the office from disclosing information designated as confidential or proprietary business information by a grant applicant or recipient.

*Current Status:* 3/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline for Senate bills (Rule 148.2)

*State Bill Page:* [SB356](#)

SB380 IMPROVEMENTS IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS (MESSMER M) Provides that certain requirements for an alteration to a historic site or a historic structure do not apply to a construction project that is funded by the state that involves the substantial alteration, demolition, or removal of a road or a sidewalk within the boundaries of the property of a historic site or a historic structure. Requires a person who intends to perform a construction project on a road or a sidewalk within the boundaries of the property of a historic site or a historic structure to submit an application for a certificate of approval with the division of historic preservation and archeology (division) before the person may begin work on the proposed construction project. Requires the division to determine not later than 30 days after the date the person submits an application for a certificate of approval whether the proposed construction project will have an adverse impact on the historic site or the historic structure. Provides that if the division fails to issue a determination

regarding the proposed construction project's impact on the historic site or the historic structure within 30 days after the date the person submits an application for a certificate of approval, a person may begin work on a construction project regardless of the proposed construction project's impact on the historic site or the historic structure. Provides that certain requirements for an alteration to a historic site or a historic structure do not apply to a construction project that is funded by the federal government.

*Current Status:* 3/8/2018 - , (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

*State Bill Page:* [SB380](#)

SB383

SPECIFICATIONS FOR LOCAL PUBLIC WORK CONTRACTS (MESSMER M) Provides that specifications for a local public work contract must be written to encourage competition for each product or system furnished under the contract. Provides that for a local public work project for a school corporation that has an estimated cost greater than \$1,000,000, the designer must specify at least three products or systems that are acceptable as substantially equal in terms of quality, durability, appearance, and functionality. Establishes a procedure for the specification of a single approved source for a product or system when it is considered to be in the best interest of the public to do so.

*Current Status:* 3/5/2018 - DEAD BILL; Fails to advance by House 3rd reading deadline for Senate bills (Rule 148.2)

*State Bill Page:* [SB383](#)