

Legislators wrapped up the first half of the 2016 Indiana General Assembly early on Wednesday afternoon well before the midnight 3rd Reading Deadline.

A bill to expand civil rights protections in Indiana died in the Senate on Tuesday without a floor debate. Senate Bill 344 (Civil Rights), authored by Senator Travis Holdman (R-Markle), would have provided housing, employment and public accommodation rights for the LBG Hoosiers. The issue of “T” or gender identity had been removed from the bill (previously in SB 100) as it became a controversial subject, especially in regard to public accommodations. With SB 344 and some of the noted compromises, Senate leadership was optimistic they had a balanced bill that could pass the Chamber. However, the Senate Republicans were unable to come up with enough votes to move the bill through, and it was decided by the bill author and Senate President Pro Tem (David Long, R-Fort Wayne) to not have the bill called down during its 2nd Reading. Before the bill was announced dead, twenty-seven 2nd Reading amendments had been filed by members of the Senate. In his closing remarks to the Senate about SB 344, Senator Long promised to revive the issue next session. While SB 344 is considered dead for the year, expect to hear about expanded civil rights throughout the summer and into the upcoming fall elections. Both Governor Mike Pence (R-Columbus), and Democrat challenger John Gregg (D-Sandborn), filed for election yesterday. In speaking with the media afterwards, challenger Gregg plans to make this one of his top campaign priorities, while Governor Pence stated he would continue to defer to the legislative process.

As was mentioned earlier, Wednesday was the 3rd Reading Deadline for both the House and Senate. All bills that failed to pass out of their Chamber of origin are now considered dead. This week’s Bill Track List should reflect those changes.

Below are the upcoming deadlines for the 2016 Session.

- Thursday, February 25th – Committee Report Deadline for House Bills in the Senate
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- Wednesday, March 2nd – Last day for 3rd Reading of Senate bills in the House
- Wednesday, March 3rd – Last day for 3rd Reading of House bills in the Senate
- Monday, March 14th – Last day for adjournment (Sine Die)

Below is a summary of actions taken this week on key bills included in your Bill Track list:

- **HB 1130 (Ignition Interlock Devices)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 95-2.
- **HB 1157 (Methamphetamine Matters)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 94-3.
- **HB 1164 (Law Enforcement Officers and Investigations)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 71-23.
- **HB 1211 (Methamphetamine and Criminal Mischief)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 93-0.
- **HB 1228 (Hemp)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 95-0.
- **HB 1249 (Driving Privileges Suspensions)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 95-1.
- **HB 1359 (Employment of Veterans as Public Safety Officers)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 94-0.

- **HB 1390 (Ephedrine and Pseudoephedrine)** – Passed the House on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 92-7.
- **SB 14 (Child Exploitation and Child Pornography)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 50-0.
- **SB 80 (Pharmacists and Ephedrine)** – Passed on the bills 3rd reading.
- **SB 147 (School Emergency Response Systems)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 50-0.
- **SB 161 (Methamphetamine Matters)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 50-0.
- **SB 186 (Release of Medical Tests of Pregnant Women)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 48-2.
- **SB 220 (Bias Crimes)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 34-16.
- **SB 271 (Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 50-0.
- **SB 290 (Criminal Law Matters)** – Passed the Senate on the bills 3rd reading by a vote of 46-4.
- **SB 357 (Registry of Convicted Child Abusers)** – Passed on the bills 3rd reading.

If you would like to see a full copy of any bill, please visit

<https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2016/bills/>

or let us know if you would like for us to furnish you with a hard copy of a particular bill. As you review the bills, please let us know of any questions or comments you have with the legislation that we may not be aware of.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. If we are out of the office, Frank's cell phone number is (317) 501-1131, and mine is (317) 519-2844.