

HOUSE BILL No. 1207

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-20-50.1.

Synopsis: Space science and technology grant program. Establishes the space science and technology grant program to provide grants to eligible entities to develop and implement high quality, innovative educational opportunities in schools, with a focus in atmospheric and outer space exploration. Provides a procedure for eligible entities to apply to the department of education (department) to receive a grant. Establishes the space science and technology fund. Provides that the department shall develop criteria to award grants to eligible entities.

Effective: July 1, 2025.

Goss-Reaves

January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1207

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-50.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2025]:
4 **Chapter 50.1. Space Science and Technology Grant Program**
5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "eligible entity" means an**
6 **organization that partners with a school to provide students with**
7 **opportunities to improve science and technology skills.**
8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the space science**
9 **and technology fund established by section 6 of this chapter.**
10 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the space**
11 **science and technology grant program established by section 5 of**
12 **this chapter.**
13 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "school" means a:**
14 **(1) school maintained by a school corporation;**
15 **(2) charter school; or**
16 **(3) state accredited nonpublic school.**
17 **Sec. 5. The space science and technology grant program is**



1 established to provide grants to eligible entities to develop and
2 implement high quality, innovative educational opportunities in
3 schools, with a focus in atmospheric and outer space exploration.

4 **Sec. 6. (a)** The space science and technology fund is established
5 for the purposes set forth in section 5 of this chapter.

6 **(b)** The fund consists of the following:

7 **(1)** Appropriations from the general assembly.

8 **(2)** Gifts to the fund.

9 **(3)** Grants, including grants from private entities.

10 **(4)** Other state funds that are transferred to the fund.

11 **(c)** The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
12 money in the fund.

13 **(d)** The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
14 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
15 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that
16 accrues from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.

17 **(e)** Money in the fund at the end of the state fiscal year does not
18 revert to the state general fund.

19 **Sec. 7.** The department shall develop criteria to award grants to
20 eligible entities. The criteria developed by the department must
21 include the following:

22 **(1)** The ability of the eligible entity to develop and implement
23 innovative learning experiences in schools, with a focus in
24 atmospheric and outer space exploration, such as high
25 altitude balloon launches.

26 **(2)** The ability of an eligible entity to provide tailored,
27 standards aligned curriculum to accompany the innovative
28 learning experiences described under subdivision (1).

29 **(3)** Any other criteria the department considers relevant.

30 **Sec. 8.** The department shall administer the program and fund.

31 **Sec. 9.** An eligible entity may apply to the department to receive
32 a grant from the fund in a manner and on a form provided by the
33 department.

34 **Sec. 10.** The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
35 implement this chapter.

