

HOUSE BILL No. 1233

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-20-45.5.

Synopsis: Robotics competition program. Amends the robotics competition program (program) definition of "allowable expenses" to allow a robotics competition team to use grant funds on expenses associated with a robotics competition. (Current law allows expenditures for expenses associated with attendance at a robotics competition.) Amends the program definition of "eligible school" to include a nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board of education. Amends the program definition of "eligible team" to include a community based robotics competition team. Requires the department of education (department) to consider the number of participants when developing a guideline to award grants. Requires the department to award grants each state fiscal year not later than August 1 for the forthcoming academic year. Specifies that the program and any participation by a team mentor and team coach in the program is not subject to collective bargaining.

Effective: July 1, 2024.

Goodrich, Behning, Karickhoff

January 9, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

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 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1233

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 20-20-45.5-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.231-2023,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "allowable expenses"
4 means:

- 5 (1) payment of a stipend for a robotics team mentor;
6 (2) fees, kits, and supplies required to:
7 (A) establish or maintain a robotics team; or
8 (B) participate in a robotics competition; and
9 (3) event registrations, materials, transportation costs, travel costs,
10 and other expenses associated with ~~attendance~~ at a robotics
11 competition.

12 SECTION 2. IC 20-20-45.5-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.231-2023,
13 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means
15 a:

- 16 (1) public school, including a charter school (as defined in
17 IC 20-24-1-4); ~~or~~



1 (2) state accredited nonpublic school; or

2 **(3) nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional**
 3 **accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board.**

4 SECTION 3. IC 20-20-45.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.231-2023,
 5 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "eligible team" means
 7 a robotics competition team consisting of:

8 (1) students in kindergarten through grade 12 who are:

9 **(A) enrolled in an eligible school; and or**

10 **(B) on a community based robotics competition team; and**

11 (2) at least one (1) adult who is a team mentor and team coach.

12 SECTION 4. IC 20-20-45.5-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.231-2023,
 13 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 12. (a) The department shall develop guidelines
 15 to award grants, after June 30, 2023, to eligible teams for allowable
 16 expenses. The guidelines developed by the department must include a
 17 maximum grant award allotment for each eligible team based on the:

18 (1) level of programming; ~~and~~

19 (2) level of competition; **and**

20 **(3) number of participants;**

21 of various robotics competitions as determined by the department.

22 (b) The department shall award grants in a manner that maximizes
 23 the number of eligible teams that will be able to receive funds, with an
 24 emphasis on increasing the number of high school teams, and that
 25 expands the geographical distribution of eligible teams.

26 **(c) The department shall award grants each state fiscal year not**
 27 **later than August 1 for the forthcoming academic year.**

28 SECTION 5. IC 20-20-45.5-14.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 29 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]: **Sec. 14.3. The program and any**
 31 **participation by a team mentor and team coach in the program is**
 32 **not subject to collective bargaining.**

