HOUSE BILL No. 1368

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 3-10-9-3; IC 6-1.1-20; IC 20-26-7-18; IC 20-46.

Synopsis: School levy referenda. Provides that: (1) a referendum authorizing a school corporation to impose property taxes to pay debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a specified controlled project; (2) a school corporation operating referendum tax levy; or (3) a school corporation school safety referendum tax levy; may be placed on the ballot only at a general election.

Effective: July 1, 2025.

Behning, McGuire

January 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections and Apportionment.



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. 1368

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 3-10-9-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.225-2011,
2	SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), if a
4	local public question must be certified to an election board by law, that
5	certification must occur no later than noon:
6	(1) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if the public
7	question is to be placed on the primary or municipal primary
8	election ballot; or
9	(2) August 1 if the public question is to be placed on the general
10	or municipal election ballot.
11	(b) A referendum or local public question:
12	(1) described in IC 6-1.1-20-3.6(f);
13	(2) under IC 20-46-1; or
14	(3) under IC 20-46-9;
15	may be placed on the ballot only at a general election. Certification
16	of a local public question under this subsection must occur not
17	later than noon August 1.



l	SECTION 2. IC 6-1.1-20-3.6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.136-2024,
2	SECTION 25, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2024, SECTION 17,
3	AND AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL
4	OF THE 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS CORRECTED AND
5	AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]:
6	Sec. 3.6. (a) Except as provided in sections 3.7 and 3.8 of this chapter,
7	this section applies only to a controlled project described in section
8	3.5(a) of this chapter.
9	(b) In the case of a controlled project:
10	(1) described in section 3.5(a)(1)(A) through 3.5(a)(1)(C) of this
11	chapter, if a sufficient petition requesting the application of the
12	local public question process has been filed as set forth in section
13	3.5 of this chapter; or
14	(2) described in section $\frac{3.5(a)(1)(D)}{3.5(a)(1)(E)}$ of this chapter
15	(before its expiration);
16	a political subdivision may not impose property taxes to pay debt
17	service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project
18	unless the political subdivision's proposed debt service or lease rental
19	is approved in an election on a local public question held under this
20	section.
21	(c) Except as provided in subsection (k), (l), the following question
22	shall be submitted to the eligible voters at the election conducted under
23	this section:
24	"Shall (insert the name of the political subdivision)
25	increase property taxes paid to the (insert the type of
26	taxing unit) by homeowners and businesses? If this public
27	question is approved by the voters, the average property tax paid
28	to the (insert the type of taxing unit) per year on a
29	residence would increase by% (insert the estimated
30	average percentage of property tax increase paid to the political
31	subdivision on a residence within the political subdivision as
32	determined under subsection (n)) (o)) and the average property
33	tax paid to the (insert the type of taxing unit) per year on
34	a business property would increase by% (insert the
35	estimated average percentage of property tax increase paid to the
36	political subdivision on a business property within the political
37	subdivision as determined under subsection (o)). (p)). The
38	political subdivision may issue bonds or enter into a lease to
39	(insert a brief description of the controlled project),
40	which is estimated to cost (insert the total cost of the
41	project) over (insert number of years to bond maturity or
42	termination of lease) years. The most recent property tax



referendum within the boundaries of the political subdivision for which this public question is being considered was proposed by _____ (insert name of political subdivision) in _____ (insert year of most recent property tax referendum) and ____ (insert whether the measure passed or failed)."

The public question must appear on the ballot in the form approved by the county election board. If the political subdivision proposing to issue bonds or enter into a lease is located in more than one (1) county, the county election board of each county shall jointly approve the form of the public question that will appear on the ballot in each county. The form approved by the county election board may differ from the language certified to the county election board by the county auditor. If the county election board approves the language of a public question under this subsection, the county election board shall submit the language and the certification of the county auditor described in subsection (p) (q) to the department of local government finance for review.

(d) The department of local government finance shall review the language of the public question to evaluate whether the description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased against either a vote in favor of the controlled project or a vote against the controlled project. The department of local government finance shall post the estimated average percentage of property tax increases to be paid to a political subdivision on a residence and business property that are certified by the county auditor under subsection (p) (q) on the department's Internet web site. Website. The department of local government finance may either approve the ballot language as submitted or recommend that the ballot language be modified as necessary to ensure that the description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased. The department of local government finance shall certify its approval or recommendations to the county auditor and the county election board not more than ten (10) days after both the certification of the county auditor described in subsection (p) (q) and the language of the public question is are submitted to the department for review. If the department of local government finance recommends a modification to the ballot language, the county election board shall, after reviewing the recommendations of the department of local government finance, submit modified ballot language to the department for the department's approval or recommendation of any additional modifications. The public question may not be certified by the county auditor under subsection (e) or (f) unless the department of local government finance has first certified the department's final approval



of the ballot language for the public question.

- (e) This subsection does not apply to a local public question described in subsection (f). The county auditor shall certify the finally approved public question under IC 3-10-9-3 IC 3-10-9-3(a) to the county election board of each county in which the political subdivision is located. The certification must occur not later than noon:
 - (1) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if the public question is to be placed on the primary or municipal primary election ballot; or
 - (2) August 1 if the public question is to be placed on the general or municipal election ballot.

Subject to the certification requirements and deadlines under this subsection and except as provided in subsection (i), (k), the public question shall be placed on the ballot at the next primary election, general election, or municipal election in which all voters of the political subdivision are entitled to vote. However, if a primary election, general election, or municipal election will not be held during the first year in which the public question is eligible to be placed on the ballot under this section and if the political subdivision requests the public question to be placed on the ballot at a special election, the public question shall be placed on the ballot at a special election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May or November of the year. The certification must occur not later than noon seventy-four (74) days before a special election to be held in May (if the special election is to be held in May) or noon on August 1 (if the special election is to be held in November). The fiscal body of the political subdivision that requests the special election shall pay the costs of holding the special election. The county election board shall give notice under IC 5-3-1 of a special election conducted under this subsection. A special election conducted under this subsection is under the direction of the county election board. The county election board shall take all steps necessary to carry out the special election.

(f) This subsection applies to a local public question authorizing a school corporation to impose property taxes to pay debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project described in section 3.5(a) of this chapter. The county auditor shall certify the finally approved public question under IC 3-10-9-3(b) to the county election board of each county in which the political subdivision is located. The certification must occur not later than noon August 1. Subject to the certification requirements and deadlines under this subsection and except as provided in subsection (k), the public question shall be placed on the ballot at



the next election permitted under IC 3-10-9-3(b). (f) (g) The circuit court clerk shall certify the res

- (f) (g) The circuit court clerk shall certify the results of the public question to the following:
 - (1) The county auditor of each county in which the political subdivision is located.
 - (2) The department of local government finance.
- (g) (h) Subject to the requirements of IC 6-1.1-18.5-8, the political subdivision may issue the proposed bonds or enter into the proposed lease rental if a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public question vote in favor of the public question.
- (h) (i) If a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public question vote in opposition to the public question, both of the following apply:
 - (1) The political subdivision may not issue the proposed bonds or enter into the proposed lease rental.
 - (2) Another public question under this section on the same or a substantially similar project may not be submitted to the voters earlier than:
 - (A) except as provided in clause (B), seven hundred (700) days after the date of the public question; or
 - (B) three hundred fifty (350) days after the date of the election, if a petition that meets the requirements of subsection (m) (n) is submitted to the county auditor.
- (i) (j) IC 3, to the extent not inconsistent with this section, applies to an election held under this section.
- (i) (k) A political subdivision may not divide a controlled project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. A person that owns property within a political subdivision or a person that is a registered voter residing within a political subdivision may file a petition with the department of local government finance objecting that the political subdivision has divided a controlled project into two (2) or more capital projects in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. The petition must be filed not more than ten (10) days after the political subdivision gives notice of the political subdivision's decision under section 3.5 of this chapter or a determination under section 5 of this chapter to issue bonds or enter into leases for a capital project that the person believes is the result of a division of a controlled project that is prohibited by this subsection. If the department of local government finance receives a petition under this subsection, the department shall not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the petition make a final determination on the issue of whether the political subdivision divided a controlled project



in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter. If the department of local government finance determines that a political subdivision divided a controlled project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter and the political subdivision continues to desire to proceed with the project, the political subdivision may appeal the determination of the department of local government finance to the Indiana board of tax review. A political subdivision shall be considered to have divided a capital project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.5 of this chapter if the result of one (1) or more of the subprojects cannot reasonably be considered an independently desirable end in itself without reference to another capital project. This subsection does not prohibit a political subdivision from undertaking a series of capital projects in which the result of each capital project can reasonably be considered an independently desirable end in itself without reference to another capital project.

(k) (l) This subsection applies to a political subdivision for which a petition requesting a public question has been submitted under section 3.5 of this chapter. The legislative body (as defined in IC 36-1-2-9) of the political subdivision may adopt a resolution to withdraw a controlled project from consideration in a public question. If the legislative body provides a certified copy of the resolution to the county auditor and the county election board not later than sixty-three (63) days before the election at which the public question would be on the ballot, the public question on the controlled project shall not be placed on the ballot and the public question on the controlled project shall not be held, regardless of whether the county auditor has certified the public question to the county election board. If the withdrawal of a public question under this subsection requires the county election board to reprint ballots, the political subdivision withdrawing the public question shall pay the costs of reprinting the ballots. If a political subdivision withdraws a public question under this subsection that would have been held at a special election and the county election board has printed the ballots before the legislative body of the political subdivision provides a certified copy of the withdrawal resolution to the county auditor and the county election board, the political subdivision withdrawing the public question shall pay the costs incurred by the county in printing the ballots. If a public question on a controlled project is withdrawn under this subsection, a public question under this section on the same controlled project or a substantially similar controlled project may not be submitted to the voters earlier than three hundred fifty (350) days after the date the resolution



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1	withdrawing the public question is adopted.
2	(1) (m) If a public question regarding a controlled project is placed
3	on the ballot to be voted on at an election under this section, the
4	political subdivision shall submit to the department of local
5	government finance, at least thirty (30) days before the election, the
6	following information regarding the proposed controlled project for
7	posting on the department's <i>Internet web site:</i> website:
8	(1) The cost per square foot of any buildings being constructed as
9	part of the controlled project.
10	(2) The effect that approval of the controlled project would have
11	on the political subdivision's property tax rate.
12	(3) The maximum term of the bonds or lease.
13	(4) The maximum principal amount of the bonds or the maximum
14	lease rental for the lease.
15	(5) The estimated interest rates that will be paid and the total
16	interest costs associated with the bonds or lease.
17	(6) The purpose of the bonds or lease.
18	(7) In the case of a controlled project proposed by a school
19	corporation:
20	(A) the current and proposed square footage of school building
21	space per student;
22	(B) enrollment patterns within the school corporation; and
23	(C) the age and condition of the current school facilities.
24	(m) (n) If a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public
25	question vote in opposition to the public question, a petition may be
26	submitted to the county auditor to request that the limit under
27	subsection (h)(2)(B) (i)(2)(B) apply to the holding of a subsequent
28	public question by the political subdivision. If such a petition is
29	submitted to the county auditor and is signed by the lesser of:
30	(1) five hundred (500) persons who are either owners of property
31	within the political subdivision or registered voters residing
32	within the political subdivision; or
33	(2) five percent (5%) of the registered voters residing within the
34	political subdivision;
35	the limit under subsection $\frac{(h)(2)(B)}{(i)(2)(B)}$ (i)(2)(B) applies to the holding of
36	a second public question by the political subdivision and the limit
37	under subsection $(h)(2)(A)$ (i)(2)(A) does not apply to the holding of
38	a second public question by the political subdivision.
39	(n) (o) At the request of a political subdivision that proposes to
40	impose property taxes to pay debt service on bonds or lease rentals on
41	a lease for a controlled project, the county auditor of a county in which

the political subdivision is located shall determine the estimated



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1	average percentage of property tax increase on a homestead to be paid
2 3	to the political subdivision that must be included in the public question under subsection (c) as follows:
4	STEP ONE: Determine the average assessed value of a homestead
5	located within the political subdivision.
6	STEP TWO: For purposes of determining the net assessed value
7	of the average homestead located within the political subdivision,
8	subtract:
9	(A) an amount for the homestead standard deduction under
10	IC 6-1.1-12-37 as if the homestead described in STEP ONE
11	was eligible for the deduction; and
12	(B) an amount for the supplemental homestead deduction
13	under IC 6-1.1-12-37.5 as if the homestead described in STEP
14	ONE was eligible for the deduction;
15	from the result of STEP ONE.
16	STEP THREE: Divide the result of STEP TWO by one hundred
17	(100).
18	STEP FOUR: Determine the overall average tax rate per one
19	hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation for the current year
20	imposed on property located within the political subdivision.
21	STEP FIVE: For purposes of determining net property tax liability
22	of the average homestead located within the political subdivision:
23	(A) multiply the result of STEP THREE by the result of STEP
24	FOUR; and
25	(B) as appropriate, apply any currently applicable county
26	property tax credit rates and the credit for excessive property
27	taxes under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5(a)(1).
28	STEP SIX: Determine the amount of the political subdivision's
29	part of the result determined in STEP FIVE.
30	STEP SEVEN: Determine the estimated tax rate that will be
31	imposed if the public question is approved by the voters.
32	STEP EIGHT: Multiply the result of STEP SEVEN by the result
33	of STEP THREE.
34	STEP NINE: Divide the result of STEP EIGHT by the result of
35	STEP SIX, expressed as a percentage.
36	(o) (p) At the request of a political subdivision that proposes to
37	impose property taxes to pay debt service on bonds or lease rentals on
38	a lease for a controlled project, the county auditor of a county in which
39	the political subdivision is located shall determine the estimated
40	average percentage of property tax increase on a business property to
41	be paid to the political subdivision that must be included in the public

question under subsection (c) as follows:



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1	STEP ONE: Determine the average assessed value of business
2	property located within the political subdivision.
3	STEP TWO: Divide the result of STEP ONE by one hundred
4	(100).
5	STEP THREE: Determine the overall average tax rate per one
6	hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation for the current year
7	imposed on property located within the political subdivision.
8	STEP FOUR: For purposes of determining net property tax
9	liability of the average business property located within the
10	political subdivision:
11	(A) multiply the result of STEP TWO by the result of STEP
12	THREE; and
13	(B) as appropriate, apply any currently applicable county
14	property tax credit rates and the credit for excessive property
15	taxes under IC 6-1.1-20.6-7.5 as if the applicable percentage
16	was three percent (3%).
17	STEP FIVE: Determine the amount of the political subdivision's
18	part of the result determined in STEP FOUR.
19	STEP SIX: Determine the estimated tax rate that will be imposed
20	if the public question is approved by the voters.
21	STEP SEVEN: Multiply the result of STEP TWO by the result of
22	STEP SIX.
23	STEP EIGHT: Divide the result of STEP SEVEN by the result of
24	STEP FIVE, expressed as a percentage.
25	(p) (q) The county auditor shall certify the estimated average
26	percentage of property tax increase on a homestead to be paid to the
27	political subdivision determined under subsection (n), (o), and the
28	estimated average percentage of property tax increase on a business
29	property to be paid to the political subdivision determined under
30	subsection (o), (p), in a manner prescribed by the department of local
31	government finance, and provide the certification to the political
32	subdivision that proposes to impose property taxes. The political
33	subdivision shall provide the certification to the county election board
34	and include the estimated average percentages in the language of the
35	public question at the time the language of the public question is
36	submitted to the county election board for approval as described in
37	subsection (c).
38	SECTION 3. IC 6-1.1-20-4.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.136-2024,
39	SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 4.3. (a) This section applies only if, with respect

to a particular controlled project that fulfilled the referendum process

under sections 3.5 and 3.6 of this chapter, the political subdivision



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subsequently changes the scope of the controlled project beyond that initially presented.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, if at least ten (10) persons who are either owners of property within the political subdivision or registered voters residing within the political subdivision file a petition with the proper officers of the political subdivision contending that the scope of a controlled project has changed from how it was initially presented, the proper officers of the political subdivision shall hold a public hearing to determine whether any change in scope is significant enough to warrant a new referendum process. A petition under this subsection must be filed not later than one (1) year after the controlled project received final approval.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, if it is determined at the hearing described in subsection (b) that the political subdivision has subsequently changed the scope of a controlled project beyond that initially presented as described in subsection (a), the following procedures apply:
 - (1) A petition requesting the application of the local public question process under this section may be filed using, and in compliance with, the provisions that initially applied to the particular controlled project under section 3.5 of this chapter. For purposes of this subdivision, the relevant provisions in section 3.5 of this chapter shall be construed in a manner consistent with this section.
 - (2) If a sufficient petition requesting the application of the local public question process for purposes of this section has been filed under subdivision (1), the following question shall be submitted to the eligible voters at the election conducted under this section: (insert date) the voters approved a public question to increase property taxes paid to the (insert the type of taxing unit) by homeowners and businesses. The political subdivision has determined that the scope of the project for which the pubic question was placed on the ballot has changed beyond that initially presented. To fund the increase in the scope of the project, the average property tax paid to the type of taxing unit) per year on a residence is estimated to % (insert the estimated average percentage of property tax increase paid to the political subdivision on a residence within the political subdivision) and the average property tax paid to the (insert the type of taxing unit) per year on a business property would increase by % (insert the estimated average percentage of property tax increase paid to



1	the political subdivision on a business property within the
2 3	political subdivision). Shall (insert the name of the
3	political subdivision) increase property taxes paid to the
4	(insert the type of taxing unit) by homeowners and businesses to
5	fund the increase in the scope of the project previously approved?
6	If this public question is approved by the voters, the average
7	property tax paid to the (insert the type of taxing unit)
8	per year on a residence would increase by % (insert the
9	estimated average percentage of property tax increase paid to the
10	political subdivision on a residence within the political
11	subdivision) and the average property tax paid to the
12	(insert the type of taxing unit) per year on a business property
13	would increase by% (insert the estimated average
14	percentage of property tax increase paid to the political
15	subdivision on a business property within the political
16	subdivision).".
17	(3) The public question must appear on the ballot in the form
18	approved by the county election board. If the political subdivision
19	in which the particular controlled project is located in more than
20	one (1) county, the county election board of each county shall
21	jointly approve the form of the public question that will appear on
22	the ballot in each county. The form approved by the county
23	election board may differ from the language certified to the
24	county election board by the county auditor. If the county election
25	board approves the language of a public question under this
26	subsection, the county election board shall submit the language to
27	the department of local government finance for review.
28	(4) The department of local government finance shall review the
29	language of the public question to evaluate whether the
30	description of the controlled project is accurate and is not biased
31	against either a vote in favor of the controlled project or a vote
32	against the controlled project. The department of local
33	government finance may either approve the ballot language as
34	submitted or recommend that the ballot language be modified as
35	necessary to ensure that the description of the controlled project
36	is accurate and is not biased. The department of local government
37	finance shall certify its approval or recommendations to the
38	county auditor and the county election board not more than ten
39	(10) days after the language of the public question is submitted to
40	the department for review. If the department of local government
41	finance recommends a modification to the ballot language, the
42	county election board shall, after reviewing the recommendations
74	country election board shall, after teviewing the recommendations



1	of the department of local government finance, submit modified
2	ballot language to the department for the department's approval
3	or recommendation of any additional modifications. The public
4	question may not be certified by the county auditor under
5	subdivision (5) unless the department of local government finance
6	has first certified the department's final approval of the ballot
7	language for the public question.
8	(5) The county auditor shall certify the finally approved public
9	question according to the following:
10	(A) In the case of a political subdivision other than a school
11	corporation, under IC 3-10-9-3 IC 3-10-9-3(a) to the county
12	election board of each county in which the political
13	subdivision is located. The certification must occur not later
14	than noon:
15	(A) (i) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if
16	the public question is to be placed on the primary or
17	municipal primary election ballot; or
18	(B) (ii) August 1 if the public question is to be placed on the
19	general or municipal election ballot.
20	(B) In the case of a school corporation, under
21	IC 3-10-9-3(b) to the county election board of each county
22	in which the political subdivision is located. The
23	certification must occur not later than noon August 1.
24	Subject to the certification requirements and deadlines
25	under this subsection, the public question shall be placed
26	on the ballot at the next election permitted under
27	IC 3-10-9-3(b).
28	(6) The public question shall be placed on the ballot according to
29	the following:
30	(A) In the case of a political subdivision other than a school
31	corporation, at the next primary election, general election or
32	municipal election in which all voters of the political
33	subdivision are entitled to vote. However, if a primary
34	election, general election, or municipal election will not be
35	held during the first year in which the public question is
36	eligible to be placed on the ballot under this section and if the
37	political subdivision requests the public question to be placed
38	on the ballot at a special election, the public question shall be
39	placed on the ballot at a special election to be held on the first
40	Tuesday after the first Monday in May or November of the



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year. The certification must occur not later than noon

seventy-four (74) days before a special election to be held in

1	May (if the special election is to be held in May) or noon on
	August 1 (if the special election is to be held in November).
3	The fiscal body of the political subdivision that requests the
2 3 4 5	special election shall pay the costs of holding the special
5	election. The county election board shall give notice under
6	IC 5-3-1 of a special election conducted under this subsection.
7	A special election conducted under this subsection is under the
8	direction of the county election board. The county election
9	board shall take all steps necessary to carry out the special
10	election.
11	(B) In the case of a school corporation, at the next general
12	election in which all voters of the political subdivision are
13	entitled to vote.
14	(7) The circuit court clerk shall certify the results of the public
15	question to the following:
16	(A) The county auditor of each county in which the political
17	subdivision is located.
18	(B) The department of local government finance.
19	(8) IC 3, to the extent not inconsistent with this section, applies to
20	an election held under this section.
21	(9) If a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public
22	question vote in opposition to the public question, or if a petition
23	is not filed under subdivision (1), the political subdivision may
24	not proceed with the changed scope of the controlled project. In
25	that case, the political subdivision may either:
26	(A) proceed with the controlled project as it was initially
27	presented; or
28	(B) terminate the controlled project as it was initially
29	presented and initiate procedures for the controlled project that
30	reflects the change in scope.
31	(10) If a majority of the eligible voters voting on the public
32	question vote in favor of the public question, the political
33	subdivision may impose property taxes to fund the increase in the
34	scope of the controlled project previously approved.
35	SECTION 4. IC 20-26-7-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.250-2023,
36	SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
37	JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 18. Subject to IC 5-1-11.5, a school corporation
38	may issue and sell bonds under the general statutes governing the
39	issuance of bonds to purchase and improve buildings or lands, or both.
40	All laws relating to approval (if required) in a local public question
41	under IC 6-1.1-20, including the requirement that a local public

question may be placed on the ballot only at a general election, the



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filing of petitions, remonstrances, and objecting petitions, giving notices of the filing of petitions, the determination to issue bonds, and the appropriation of the proceeds of the bonds are applicable to the issuance of bonds under section 17 of this chapter.

SECTION 5. IC 20-46-1-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2024, SECTION 25, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.36-2024, SECTION 10, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.104-2024, SECTION 51, AND AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 8. (a) Subject to subsections (e), (f), and (g) and this chapter, the governing body of a school corporation may adopt a resolution to place a referendum under this chapter on the ballot for any of the following purposes:

- (1) The governing body of the school corporation determines that it cannot, in a calendar year, carry out its public educational duty unless it imposes a referendum tax levy under this chapter.
- (2) The governing body of the school corporation determines that a referendum tax levy under this chapter should be imposed to replace property tax revenue that the school corporation will not receive because of the application of the credit under IC 6-1.1-20.6.
- (3) Except for resolutions described in subsection (b), the governing body makes the determination required under subdivision (1) or (2) and determines to share a portion of the referendum proceeds with a charter school, excluding a virtual charter school, in the manner prescribed in subsection (e).
- (b) A resolution for a referendum for a county described in section 21 of this chapter that is adopted after May 10, 2023, shall specify that a portion of the proceeds collected from the proposed levy will be distributed to applicable charter schools in the manner described under section 21 of this chapter.
- (c) The governing body of the school corporation shall certify a copy of the resolution to place a referendum on the ballot to the following:
 - (1) The department of local government finance, including:
 (A) the language for the question required by section 10 of this chapter, or in the case of a resolution to extend a referendum levy certified to the department of local government finance after March 15, 2016, section 10.1 of this chapter; and
 - (B) a copy of the revenue spending plan adopted under subsection (g).



The language of the public question must include the estimated average percentage increases certified by the county auditor under section 10(e) or 10.1(f) of this chapter, as applicable. The governing body of the school corporation shall also provide the county auditor's certification described in section 10(e) or 10.1(f) of this chapter, as applicable. The department of local government finance shall post the values certified by the county auditor to the department's website. The department shall review the language for compliance with section 10 or 10.1 of this chapter, whichever is applicable, and either approve or reject the language. The department shall send its decision to the governing body of the school corporation not more than ten (10) days after both the certification of the county auditor described in section 10(e) or 10.1(f) of this chapter, as applicable, and the resolution is are submitted to the department. If the language is approved, the governing body of the school corporation shall certify a copy of the resolution, including the language for the question and the department's approval.

- (2) The county fiscal body of each county in which the school corporation is located (for informational purposes only).
- (3) The circuit court clerk of each county in which the school corporation is located.
- (d) If a school safety referendum tax levy under IC 20-46-9 has been approved by the voters in a school corporation at any time in the previous three (3) years, the school corporation may not:
 - (1) adopt a resolution to place a referendum under this chapter on the ballot: or
 - (2) otherwise place a referendum under this chapter on the ballot.
- (e) Except as provided in section 21 of this chapter, the resolution described in subsection (a) must indicate whether proceeds in the school corporation's education fund collected from a tax levy under this chapter will be used to provide a distribution to a charter school or charter schools, excluding a virtual charter school, under IC 20-40-3-5 as well as the amount that will be distributed to the particular charter school or charter schools. A school corporation may request from the designated charter school or charter schools any financial documentation necessary to demonstrate the financial need of the charter school or charter schools. Distribution to a charter school of proceeds from a referendum held before May 10, 2023, does not provide exemption from this chapter.
- (f) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) for a county described in section 21(a) of this chapter that is



adopted after May 10, 2023. The resolution described in subsection (a) shall include a projection of the amount that the school corporation expects to be distributed to a particular charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, under section 21 of this chapter if the charter school voluntarily elects to participate in the referendum in the manner described in subsection (i). At least sixty (60) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) is voted on by the governing body, the school corporation shall contact the department to determine the number of students in kindergarten through grade 12 who have legal settlement in the school corporation but attend a charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, and who receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction. The department shall provide the school corporation with the number of students with legal settlement in the school corporation who attend a charter school and who receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction, which shall be disaggregated for each particular charter school, excluding a virtual charter school or adult high school. The projection may include an expected increase in charter schools during the term the levy is imposed under this chapter. The department of local government finance shall prescribe the manner in which the projection shall be calculated. The governing body shall take into consideration the projection when adopting the revenue spending plan under subsection (g).

- (g) As part of the resolution described in subsection (a), the governing body of the school corporation shall adopt a revenue spending plan for the proposed referendum tax levy that includes:
 - (1) an estimate of the amount of annual revenue expected to be collected if a levy is imposed under this chapter;
 - (2) the specific purposes for which the revenue collected from a levy imposed under this chapter will be used;
 - (3) an estimate of the annual dollar amounts that will be expended for each purpose described in subdivision (2); and
 - (4) for a resolution for a referendum that is adopted after May 10, 2023, for a county described in section 21(a) of this chapter, the projected revenue that shall be distributed to charter schools as provided in subsections (f) and (i). The revenue spending plan shall also take into consideration deviations in the proposed revenue spending plan if the actual charter school distributions exceed or are lower than the projected charter school distributions described in subsection (f). The resolution shall include for each charter school that elects to participate under subsection (i) information described in subdivisions (1) through (3).



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- (h) A school corporation shall specify in its proposed budget the school corporation's revenue spending plan adopted under subsection (g) and annually present the revenue spending plan at its public hearing on the proposed budget under IC 6-1.1-17-3.
- (i) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) for a county described in section 21(a) of this chapter that is adopted after May 10, 2023. At least forty-five (45) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) is voted on by the governing body, the school corporation shall contact each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, disclosed by the department to the school corporation under subsection (f) to determine whether the charter school will participate in the referendum. The notice must include the total amount of the school corporation's expected need, the corresponding estimate for that amount divided by the number of students enrolled in the school corporation, and the date on which the governing body of the school corporation will vote on the resolution. The charter school must respond in writing to the school corporation, which may be by electronic mail addressed to the superintendent of the school corporation, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date that the resolution described in subsection (a) is to be voted on by the governing body. If the charter school elects to not participate in the referendum, the school corporation may exclude distributions to the charter school under section 21 of this chapter and from the projection described in subsection (f). If the charter school elects to participate in the referendum, the charter school may receive distributions under section 21 of this chapter and must be included in the projection described in subsection (f). In addition, a charter school that elects to participate in the referendum under this subsection shall contribute a proportionate share of the cost to conduct the referendum based on the total combined ADM of the school corporation and any participating charter schools.
- (j) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) for a county described in section 21(a) of this chapter that is adopted after May 10, 2023. At least thirty (30) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) referendum submitted to the voters under this chapter is voted on by the governing body, public in a primary or general election, the school corporation that is pursuing the resolution referendum and any charter school that has elected to participate under subsection (i) shall post a referendum disclosure statement on each school's respective website that contains the following information:
 - (1) The salaries of all employees employed by position within the



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1	school corporation or charter school listed from highest salary to
2	lowest salary and a link to Gateway Indiana for access to
3	individual salaries.
4	(2) An acknowledgment that the school corporation or charter
5	school is not committing any crime described in IC 35-44.1-1.
6	(3) A link to the school corporation's or charter school's most
7	recent state board of accounts audit on the state board of accounts'
8	website.
9	(4) The current enrollment of the school corporation or charter
10	school disaggregated by student group and race.
11	(5) The school corporation's or charter school's high school
12	graduation rate.
13	(6) The school corporation's or charter school's annual retention
14	rate for teachers for the previous five (5) years.
15	SECTION 6. IC 20-46-1-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
16	SECTION 135, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 14. (a) The referendum shall be
18	held in the next primary election, general election, or municipal
19	election as provided under IC 3-10-9-3(b), in which all the registered
20	voters who are residents of the appellant school corporation are entitled
21	to vote after certification of the question. under IC 3-10-9-3. The
22	certification of the question must occur not later than noon
23	(1) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if the
24	question is to be placed on the primary or municipal primary
25	election ballot; or
26	(2) August 1. if the question is to be placed on the general or
27	municipal election ballot.
28	(b) However, if a primary election, general election, or municipal
29	election will not be held during the first year in which the public
30	question is eligible to be placed on the ballot under this chapter and if
31	the appellant school corporation requests the public question to be
32	placed on the ballot at a special election, the public question shall be
33	placed on the ballot at a special election to be held on the first Tuesday
34	after the first Monday in May or November of the year. The
35	certification must occur not later than noon:
36	(1) seventy-four (74) days before a special election to be held in
37	May (if the special election is to be held in May); or
38	(2) on August 1 (if the special election is to be held in
39	November).
40	(c) If the referendum is not conducted at a primary election, general
41	election, or municipal election, the appellant school corporation in

which the referendum is to be held shall pay all the costs of holding the



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referendum.

SECTION 7. IC 20-46-9-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2024, SECTION 26, AND AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2024, SECTION 30, AND AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS CORRECTED AND AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 6. (a) Subject to this chapter, the governing body of a school corporation may adopt a resolution to place a referendum under this chapter on the ballot if the governing body of the school corporation determines that a referendum levy should be imposed for measures to improve school safety as described in IC 20-40-20-6(a) or IC 20-40-20-6(b).

- (b) Except as provided in section 22 of this chapter, a school corporation may, with the approval of the majority of members of the governing body, distribute a portion of the proceeds of a tax levy collected under this chapter that is deposited in the fund to a charter school, excluding a virtual charter school, that is located within the attendance area of the school corporation, to be used by the charter school for the purposes described in IC 20-40-20-6(a).
- (c) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) that is adopted after May 10, 2023, in a county described in section 22(a) of this chapter. A resolution shall specify that a portion of the proceeds of the proposed levy will be distributed to applicable charter schools in the manner described under section 22 of this chapter if the charter school voluntarily elects to participate in the referendum in the manner described in subsection (i).
- (d) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) that is adopted after May 10, 2023, in a county described in section 22(a) of this chapter. The resolution described in subsection (a) shall include a projection of the amount that the school corporation expects to be distributed to a particular charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, under section 22 of this chapter that elects to participate in the referendum under subsection (i). At least sixty (60) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) is voted on by the governing body, the school corporation shall contact the department to determine the number of students in kindergarten through grade 12 who have legal settlement in the school corporation but attend a charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, and who receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction. The department shall provide the school corporation with the number of students with legal settlement in the school corporation who attend a charter school, which shall be disaggregated for each



particular charter school, excluding a virtual charter school or adult high school. The projection may include an expected increase in charter schools during the term the levy is imposed. The department of local government finance shall prescribe the manner in which the projection shall be calculated. The governing body shall take into consideration the projection when adopting the revenue spending plan under subsection (g).

- (e) The governing body of the school corporation shall certify a copy of the resolution to the following:
 - (1) The department of local government finance, including:
 - (A) the language for the question required by section 9 of this chapter, or in the case of a resolution to extend a referendum levy certified to the department of local government finance, section 10 of this chapter; and
 - (B) a copy of the revenue spending plan adopted under subsection (g).

The language of the public question must include the estimated average percentage increases certified by the county auditor under section 9(d) or 10(f) of this chapter, as applicable. The governing body of the school corporation shall also provide the county auditor's certification described in section 9(d) or 10(f) of this chapter, as applicable. The department of local government finance shall post the values certified by the county auditor to the department's website. The department shall review the language for compliance with section 9 or 10 of this chapter, whichever is applicable, and either approve or reject the language. The department shall send its decision to the governing body of the school corporation not more than ten (10) days after both the certification of the county auditor described in section 9(d) or 10(f) of this chapter, as applicable, and the resolution is are submitted to the department. If the language is approved, the governing body of the school corporation shall certify a copy of the resolution, including the language for the question and the department's approval.

- (2) The county fiscal body of each county in which the school corporation is located (for informational purposes only).
- (3) The circuit court clerk of each county in which the school corporation is located.
- (f) Except as provided in section 22 of this chapter, the resolution described in subsection (a) must indicate whether proceeds in the school corporation's fund collected from a tax levy under this chapter will be used to provide a distribution to a charter school or charter



- schools, excluding a virtual charter school, under IC 20-40-20-6(b) as well as the amount that will be distributed to the particular charter school or charter schools. A school corporation may request from the designated charter school or charter schools any financial documentation necessary to demonstrate the financial need of the charter school or charter schools.
- (g) As part of the resolution described in subsection (a), the governing body of the school corporation shall adopt a revenue spending plan for the proposed referendum tax levy that includes:
 - (1) an estimate of the amount of annual revenue expected to be collected if a levy is imposed under this chapter;
 - (2) the specific purposes described in IC 20-40-20-6 for which the revenue collected from a levy imposed under this chapter will be used;
 - (3) an estimate of the annual dollar amounts that will be expended for each purpose described in subdivision (2); and
 - (4) for a resolution for a referendum that is adopted after May 10, 2023, for a county described in section 22(a) of this chapter, the projected revenue that shall be distributed to charter schools as provided in subsection (d). The revenue spending plan shall also take into consideration deviations in the proposed revenue spending plan if the actual charter school distributions exceed or are lower than the projected charter school distributions described in subsection (d). The resolution shall include for each charter school that elects to participate under subsection (i) information described in subdivisions (1) through (3).
- (h) A school corporation shall specify in its proposed budget the school corporation's revenue spending plan adopted under subsection (g) and annually present the revenue spending plan at its public hearing on the proposed budget under IC 6-1.1-17-3.
- (i) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) for a county described in section 22(a) of this chapter that is adopted after May 10, 2023. At least forty-five (45) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) is voted on by the governing body, the school corporation shall contact each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, disclosed by the department to the school corporation under subsection (f) to determine whether the charter school will participate in the referendum. The notice must include the total amount of the school corporation's expected need, the corresponding estimate of that amount divided by the number of students enrolled in the school corporation, and the date on which the governing body of the school corporation will vote on the



resolution. The charter school must respond in writing to the school corporation, which may be by electronic mail addressed to the superintendent of the school corporation, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date that the resolution described in subsection (a) is to be voted on by the governing body. If the charter school elects to not participate in the referendum, the school corporation may exclude distributions to the charter school under section 22 of this chapter and from the projection described in subsection (d). If the charter school elects to participate in the referendum, the charter school may receive distributions under section 22 of this chapter and must be included in the projection described in subsection (d). In addition, a charter school that elects to participate in the referendum under this subsection shall contribute a proportionate share of the cost to conduct the referendum based on the total combined ADM of the school corporation and any participating charter schools.

- (j) This subsection applies to a resolution described in subsection (a) for a county described in section 22(a) of this chapter that is adopted after May 10, 2023. At least thirty (30) days before the resolution described in subsection (a) referendum submitted to the voters under this chapter is voted on by the governing body, public in a primary or general election, the school corporation that is pursuing the resolution referendum and any charter school that has elected to participate under subsection (i) shall post a referendum disclosure statement on each school's respective website that contains the following information:
 - (1) The salaries of all employees employed by position within the school corporation or charter school listed from highest salary to lowest salary and a link to Gateway Indiana for access to individual salaries.
 - (2) An acknowledgment that the school corporation or charter school is not committing any crime described in IC 35-44.1-1.
 - (3) A link to the school corporation's or charter school's most recent state board of accounts audit on the state board of accounts' website.
 - (4) The current enrollment of the school corporation or charter school disaggregated by student group and race.
 - (5) The school corporation's or charter school's high school graduation rate.
 - (6) The school corporation's or charter school's annual retention rate for teachers for the previous five (5) years.
- SECTION 8. IC 20-46-9-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023, SECTION 136, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS



1	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 14. (a) The referendum shall be
2	held in the next primary election, general election, or municipal
3	election as provided under IC 3-10-9-3(b), in which all the registered
4	voters who are residents of the school corporation are entitled to vote
5	after certification of the question. under IC 3-10-9-3. The certification
6	of the question must occur not later than noon
7	(1) seventy-four (74) days before a primary election if the
8	question is to be placed on the primary or municipal primary
9	election ballot; or
10	(2) August 1. if the question is to be placed on the general or
11	municipal election ballot.
12	(b) However, if a primary election, general election, or municipa
13	election will not be held during the first year in which the public
14	question is eligible to be placed on the ballot under this chapter and is
15	the school corporation requests the public question to be placed on the
16	ballot at a special election, the public question shall be placed on the
17	ballot at a special election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first
18	Monday in May or November of the year. The certification must occur
19	not later than noon:
20	(1) seventy-four (74) days before a special election to be held in
21	May (if the special election is to be held in May); or
22	(2) August 1 (if the special election is to be held in November).
23	(c) If the referendum is not conducted at a primary election, general
24	election, or municipal election, the school corporation in which the
25	referendum is to be held shall pay all the costs of holding the



referendum.