



## Government Relations Update

March 31, 2017

This week marked the final full week of standing committee hearings for the 2017 legislative session. Legislators worked at a feverish pace in order to move bills out of committee before the April 3 deadline.

A proposal to change the Superintendent of Public Instruction from an elected position to an appointed position gained traction this week in the Senate Rules and Legislative Procedure Committee. Both the House and Senate drafted bills to make the Superintendent of Public Instruction an appointed position. The House passed its version of the bill [HB 1005](#), but the Senate, in a surprise move the first half of session, defeated [SB 179](#). A Senate rule has been at the forefront which prevents a similar bill from being considered in the same session if it has been voted down already. However, the Senate Rules and Legislative Procedure Committee introduced an amendment to provide for various changes which supporters argue make the bill significantly different than SB 179, thereby satisfying the Senate rule.

The amended HB 1005 provides for the governor to appoint the state superintendent in 2025 and requires the candidate be an Indiana resident for at least two years and earned an advanced degree. It also requires the office holder have experience in education, such as being licensed or otherwise employed as a teacher, principal, or superintendent at the time of the appointment. The original bill sought a 2021 start date and made no residency or experience requirements.

The Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee amended the road and infrastructure funding bill, [HB 1002](#). The committee approved the bill by a vote of 10-2 sending the legislation to the Senate floor for further discussion. Key amendments include: increasing the gas tax 10 cents over two years a nickel at a time; addition of a new \$100 annual fee on commercial vehicle plates; creation of a new \$5 fee on the sale of new tires; elimination of shifting all revenue collected in sales tax on gasoline to roads. HB 1002 has permissive language allowing the Indiana Department of Transportation to seek a federal waiver to toll any and all interstates. No further legislative approval would be needed. Leaders have indicated when it comes to tolling,

what is being discussed includes a maximum of 5 cents per mile for passenger vehicles and that no tolls would be charged inside the Indianapolis beltway on I-65 and I-70.

The Senate advanced their version of the [state budget](#) with many differences from the House on road funding and education. The House budget raises the cigarette tax by \$1 per pack and shifts the gasoline sales tax to pay for roads. The Senate proposal does neither of these. Senate fiscal leader Sen. Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville) said he wants to keep the cigarette tax increase off the table for now due to uncertainty at the federal level when it comes to healthcare and also the ability to utilize the tax in the future for any additional spending needs. The House also proposed spending about half of the \$500 million Next Generation Trust Fund, generated from the proceeds of the lease of the Indiana Toll Road, to invest in Indiana companies. However, the Senate proposal leaves the fund alone.

On the education front, the House budget doubles the state's preschool pilot program from \$10 million to \$20 million per year but calls for a modest K-12 education spending increase of \$273 million over the biennium. Alternatively, the Senate plan increases K-12 education by \$358 million over two years and provides preschool funding at \$16 million per year.

Next week is deadline week for the second half of session. Committee reports must be adopted by April 3. The House and Senate second reading deadline is April 5 and the third reading deadline is April 6. Following these deadlines, the conference committee process will be ongoing until the legislature adjourns *sine die* on or before April 21.

**HB1008**     **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** (HUSTON T) Requires the state board of education to use data from the department of workforce development (DWD) in developing and implementing certain plans, recommendations, and other matters relating to career and technical education. Requires the department of education (department) to implement a pilot program for instruction in and the use of the Indiana career explorer program and curriculum by all students in grade 8 attending schools in 15 school corporations. Provides that the pilot program expires July 1, 2018, unless the department determines the pilot program shall be extended until July 1, 2019.

*Current Status:* 3/30/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 324: yeas 49, nays 0

*Recent Status:* 3/30/2017 - House Bills on Third Reading  
3/28/2017 - Senator Randolph added as cosponsor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1008](#)

**HB1018**     **VEHICLE OPERATION** (AYLESWORTH M) Provides that a vehicle may not be driven or moved on a highway unless the vehicle is: (1) constructed; (2) covered; or (3) loaded; in a manner that prevents any of the vehicle's refuse or load, other than water, from dripping, sifting, leaking, dropping, blowing, spilling, or otherwise escaping from the vehicle. Requires areas of a vehicle containing aggregate material to be free from holes, cracks, or openings through which any of the vehicle's refuse or load may escape. Specifies that restrictions regarding a vehicle's aggregate material or load apply regardless of the degree to which the vehicle is loaded. Excepts a vehicle containing agricultural commodities from the restrictions concerning a vehicle's refuse or load.

*Current Status:* 2/20/2017 - Referred to Senate Homeland Security and Transportation

*Recent Status:* 2/20/2017 - First Reading  
1/24/2017 - Representative Pierce added as coauthor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1018](#)

*State Bill Page:* [HB1031](#)

**HB1039**     **RIGHT-OF-WAY IN A ROUNDABOUT** (TORR J) Requires a driver to yield the right-of-way to a driver of a vehicle having a total length of at least 40 feet or a total width of at least 10 feet when driving through a roundabout. Requires that, when two truck drivers approach or drive through a roundabout at the same time, the driver on the right yields the right-of-way to the driver on the left.

*Current Status:* 3/21/2017 - Signed by the Speaker

*Recent Status:* 3/14/2017 - Returned to the House without amendments  
3/13/2017 - Senator Niezgodski added as cosponsor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1039](#)

**HB1116**     **COUNTY, CITY, AND TOWN OFFICER SALARY WAIVERS** (LEHMAN M) Allows an elected officer of a county, city, or town to waive all or part of the officer's compensation. (Current law allows a town officer to waive all of the officer's compensation.)

*Current Status:* 2/20/2017 - Referred to Senate Rules and Legislative Procedure

*Recent Status:* 2/20/2017 - First Reading  
2/1/2017 - Senate sponsor: Senator Buck

*State Bill Page:* [HB1116](#)

**HB1117**     **PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIREMENTS** (MILLER D) Provides that a local governmental unit and a land developer may agree to the partial release of a performance bond or other surety required of the land developer to ensure the completion of certain unfinished improvements and installations in a subdivision on a more frequent basis than an annual basis. (Under current law, a performance bond or other surety may be partially released on an annual basis, which would continue to be permitted.) Provides that a contractor is not required to submit a payment bond for a public works contract of a state educational institution if the amount to be paid under the contract is less than \$500,000 and the state educational institution agrees to waive the requirement. Provides that a contractor is not required to submit a performance bond for a public works contract of a state educational institution if the amount to be paid under the contract is less than \$500,000 and the state educational institution agrees to waive the requirement. Makes a technical change to make language in the statute uniform.

*Current Status:* 3/14/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 257: yeas 46, nays 2

*Recent Status:* 3/14/2017 - House Bills on Third Reading  
3/13/2017 - Senator Randolph added as cosponsor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1117](#)

**HB1122**     **CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT SERVICES** (WESCO T) Provides confidentiality protection to communications that emergency responders make to critical incident stress management personnel or records that are generated by critical incident stress management personnel after providing critical incident stress management services to emergency responders following a critical incident. Provides that critical incident stress management personnel are immune from liability for any acts, errors, or omissions committed in providing critical incident stress management services to emergency

responders, unless the act, error, or omission constitutes wanton, willful, or intentional misconduct.

*Current Status:* 3/28/2017 - Returned to the House with amendments

*Recent Status:* 3/27/2017 - Senator Randolph added as cosponsor

3/27/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 286: yeas 44, nays 5

*State Bill Page:* [HB1122](#)

**HB1272 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS (NEGELE S)** Provides that if a newspaper or locality newspaper does not refuse to publish a timely notice, but subsequently fails to publish it, notice is nonetheless sufficient if the notice is timely posted: (1) in printed form, in three prominent places in the political subdivision; or (2) on the political subdivision's Internet web site. Increases the amount of debt that a municipal sewage works or sanitation department can write off as uncollectable.

*Current Status:* 3/21/2017 - Signed by the Speaker

*Recent Status:* 3/16/2017 - Returned to the House without amendments

3/14/2017 - Senator Breaux added as cosponsor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1272](#)

**HB1286 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (STEMLER S)** Provides that the exercise of the power of eminent domain by a regional development authority (other than the northwest Indiana regional development authority) is subject to the approval of the legislative body of the municipality in which the property is located or, if the property is not located within a municipality, the legislative body of the county in which the property is located.

*Current Status:* 3/28/2017 - Senator Randolph added as cosponsor

*Recent Status:* 3/28/2017 - Senator Houchin added as second sponsor

3/28/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 309: yeas 44, nays 6

*State Bill Page:* [HB1286](#)

**HB1450 PROPERTY TAX MATTERS (LEONARD D)** Provides that a political subdivision must upload a copy of a contract that the political subdivision enters into after June 30, 2016, to the Indiana transparency Internet web site if the total cost of the contract exceeds \$50,000. Specifies the definition of "low income rental property" for purposes of property tax assessment. Specifies the true tax value of low income rental property that is used to provide Medicaid assisted living services.

*Current Status:* 4/3/2017 - House Bills on Second Reading

*Recent Status:* 3/30/2017 - Committee Report amend do pass, adopted

3/28/2017 - Senator Randolph added as cosponsor

*State Bill Page:* [HB1450](#)

**HB1471 IN211 PROGRAM (SIEGRIST S)** Transfers from the utility regulatory commission (IURC) to the housing and community development authority (authority) the responsibility for administering the statute concerning the administration of the 211 dialing code used to provide access to human services information and referrals. For purposes of the statute, expands the definition of "human services" to include assistance concerning: (1) emotional and physical abuse (including sexual assault); (2) specified public health issues; (3) food programs and nutrition education; (4) safe and affordable housing; (5) occupational and vocational training; and (6) reentry programs for persons leaving certain facilities. Caps the amount that the authority may budget, allocate, and disburse from the 211 services account (account) each state fiscal year to carry out the authority's purposes under the statute at \$50,000. Removes the requirement that the expenses of administering the

account be paid from money in the account. Provides that money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund. (Current law provides that money appropriated to the account by the general assembly and remaining in the account at the end of a state fiscal year reverts to the state general fund.) Makes conforming amendments.

*Current Status:* 4/3/2017 - House Bills on Second Reading

*Recent Status:* 3/30/2017 - Committee Report amend do pass, adopted  
3/30/2017 - DO PASS AMEND Yeas: 12; Nays: 0

*State Bill Page:* [HB1471](#)

**SB2**

**JOINT AGENCY MATTERS (MERRITT J)** Makes the following changes to the statute concerning joint agencies formed by municipalities for the purpose of undertaking the planning, financing, ownership, and operation of certain projects to supply electric power for present or future energy needs: (1) Eliminates the requirements that for purposes of the statute, a municipality must be located in Indiana. (2) Specifies that a joint agency is considered a governmental entity for purposes of the statute governing tort claims against governmental entities and public employees. (3) Provides that a person may not serve as a commissioner on the board of commissioners of a joint agency on behalf of more than one municipality at the same time. (4) Provides that a contract for the sale or purchase of power and other services from a joint agency may extend for an initial period not exceeding 50 years from the date service is estimated to be first rendered, with additional periods as may be agreed upon by the parties. (Current law provides for a 50 year time limit for any such contract.) (5) Allows a joint agency to contract for, advance, or contribute funds to a joint agency or any member of a joint agency. (Current law provides that only a member of a joint agency may contract for, advance, or contribute funds to a joint agency.) (6) Specifies that a municipality or joint agency may contract for certain projects with respect to distribution facilities (as well as generation and transmission facilities, as provided under current law).

*Current Status:* 3/21/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 276: yeas 96, nays 0

*Recent Status:* 3/21/2017 - Senate Bills on Third Reading  
3/20/2017 - Second reading ordered engrossed

*State Bill Page:* [SB2](#)

**SB126**

**GOVERNMENT ETHICS AND PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN SERVICES (BROWN L)** Requires a political subdivision to comply with certain procedures when acquiring the services of architects, engineers, and land surveyors. (Under current law, the procedures are not mandatory.) Requires a public agency awarding a contract for the services of architects, engineers, and land surveyors to publicly post, for each firm that submits a statement of qualifications for a project, the public agency's evaluation of the firm for the project. Provides that a firm may not make a contribution to an individual who holds an elected office of the political subdivision awarding a contract for the services of architects, engineers, and land surveyors during the period after the notice or solicitation is issued and before a contract is awarded if: (1) the individual is also a member of the legislative or executive branch of that political subdivision that has final approval of the contract; and (2) the legislative or executive branch of that political subdivision has supervisory authority over the public agency issuing the notice for the contract. Provides that a violation is cured if the prohibited contribution is returned to the firm making the contribution, or the contract officer makes a written determination that awarding the contract to the firm is in the best interests of the public agency. Provides that, if a firm makes a prohibited contribution and the violation is not cured, the firm is considered nonresponsible by the public agency for a period of one year beginning with the date of the award of the contract. Provides that only contributions that are reportable under Indiana campaign finance law are restricted. Urges the legislative council to assign to an appropriate interim study committee the topic of

political contributions made to an individual holding a state elected office by offerors and contractors awarded, or submitting offers or bids for possible award of, contracts for supplies or services, including professional services, or a public works project in response to solicitations issued by the state.

**Current Status:** 3/13/2017 - Referred to House Government and Regulatory Reform

**Recent Status:** 3/13/2017 - First Reading  
2/28/2017 - Referred to House

**State Bill Page:** [SB126](#)

**SB128 REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (MESSMER M)** Provides that the Indiana finance authority (IFA), rather than the budget agency, administers the local infrastructure revolving loan funds (loan funds). Expands the types of entities that may participate in the loan funds. Authorizes the IFA to issue its bonds to carry out the loan funds. Expands the types of infrastructure that are eligible for the loan funds to include bridges or other public ways.

**Current Status:** 4/3/2017 - Senate Bills on Second Reading

**Recent Status:** 3/30/2017 - Committee Report do pass, adopted  
3/29/2017 - DO PASS Yeas: 20; Nays: 0

**State Bill Page:** [SB128](#)

**SB152 LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT (MERRITT J)** Provides that a redevelopment commission may purchase property that is for sale at an auction or that has a purchase price of not more than \$25,000 without first obtaining two independent appraisals. Provides that a redevelopment commission may purchase property that is blighted, unsafe, abandoned, foreclosed, or structurally damaged. Repeals the tax sale blight registry, and makes conforming amendments. Amends the homeowner protection unit account statute to recognize that certain court fees are deposited under current law in that account.

**Current Status:** 3/21/2017 - Returned to the Senate without amendments

**Recent Status:** 3/20/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 263: yeas 94, nays 0  
3/20/2017 - Senate Bills on Third Reading

**State Bill Page:** [SB152](#)

**SB213 SUPPORT STRUCTURES FOR WIRELESS FACILITIES (HERSHMAN B)** Makes the following changes to the statute concerning the local permitting of wireless support structures: (1) Amends the definition of "permit authority" to specify that with respect to decisions concerning wireless facilities or wireless support structures in an area designated as: (A) a historic preservation district, the term means the historic preservation commission that has jurisdiction over the historic preservation district; or (B) a historic preservation area in a county having a consolidated city, the term means the historic preservation commission that has jurisdiction over the historic preservation area. (2) Amends the definition of "small cell facility" to: (A) increase the maximum specified antenna volume from three cubic feet to six cubic feet per antenna; (B) eliminate the maximum specified total volume for all antennas; and (C) increase the maximum specified primary equipment enclosure volume from 17 cubic feet to 28 cubic feet. (3) Amends the definition of "utility pole" to: (A) mean a structure that is designed or used for certain specified purposes (versus existing Indiana Code language defining the term to mean a structure that is designed and used for those specified purposes); and (B) include structures designed or used to provide traffic control or signage. (4) Amends the definition of "wireless support structure" to include structures that are capable of supporting (in addition to those designed to support) wireless facilities. (5) Defines the following terms: (A) "Communications service provider". (B) "Micro wireless



facility". (C) "Wireless communications service". (6) Prohibits a permit authority from requiring an application or a permit for, or charging fees for: (A) the routine maintenance of wireless facilities; (B) the replacement of wireless facilities with others that are: (i) substantially similar to; or (ii) the same size or smaller than; those being replaced; or (C) the installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of micro wireless facilities that are suspended on messenger cables strung between existing utility poles in compliance with applicable codes. (7) Sets forth certain requirements and restrictions with respect to an application for a permit or approval for the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities. (8) Exempts from these requirements and restrictions an application concerning the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities in or within 500 feet of the boundaries of: (A) a historic preservation district; or (B) a historic preservation area. (9) Provides that the placement of a small cell facility and an associated supporting structure in the public right-of-way is considered a permitted use and is exempt from local zoning review if the height of supporting structure does not exceed 50 feet. (10) Sets forth limits for application fees for a permit for the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities. (11) Allows a permit authority to propose, as an alternative location for a proposed small cell facility, that the small cell facility be collocated on an existing utility pole or wireless support structure if the existing utility pole or wireless support structure is located within 50 feet of the location proposed in the application. (12) Provides that for an application for the construction, placement, or use of a small cell facility and the associated supporting structure, a permit authority has 60 days to approve or deny the application but shall otherwise follow the application procedures that apply to collocation permit applications under the statute. (13) Prohibits a permit authority from taking certain specified actions with respect to the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities and the associated supporting structures. (14) Specifies that a permit authority is not prohibited from applying a reasonable and generally applicable safety regulation to the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities and associated supporting structures in the public right-of-way. (15) With respect to the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities on a utility pole owned or controlled by a governmental unit, sets forth certain requirements with which the unit must comply and certain actions that the unit is prohibited from taking, including a prohibition against the unit or a utility owned by the unit imposing a rental or other recurring fee for small cell facilities that are strung or located between utility poles if one or more of the utility poles has an associated attachment for which a rental rate is charged. (16) Provides that a unit may impose additional general terms and conditions for the construction, placement, or use of small cell facilities on utility poles owned or controlled by the unit if the additional general terms and conditions are reasonable and consistent with the bill's requirements.

**Current Status:** 4/3/2017 - Senate Bills on Second Reading

**Recent Status:** 3/30/2017 - Committee Report amend do pass, adopted  
3/29/2017 - DO PASS AMEND Yeas: 11; Nays: 2

**State Bill Page:** [SB213](#)

## **SB309**

**DISTRIBUTED GENERATION (HERSHMAN B)** Requires: (1) the utility regulatory commission (IURC) to post a summary of the results of the IURC's most recent periodic review of the basic rates and charges of an electricity supplier on the IURC's Internet web site; and (2) the electricity supplier subject to the review to provide a link on the electricity supplier's Internet web site to the IURC's posted summary.

**Current Status:** 4/3/2017 - Senate Bills on Second Reading

**Recent Status:** 3/30/2017 - Committee Report amend do pass, adopted  
3/29/2017 - DO PASS AMEND Yeas: 8; Nays: 5

**State Bill Page:** [SB309](#)

**SB312**      **USE OF CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION IN HIRING** (BOOTS P) Provides that a political subdivision may not prohibit an employer from obtaining or using criminal history information during the hiring process to the extent allowed by federal or state law, rules, or regulations. Provides that a political subdivision may not prohibit an employer, at the time an individual makes an initial application for employment, from making an inquiry regarding the individual's criminal history information or requiring the individual to disclose criminal history information. Provides that criminal history information concerning an employee or former employee may not be introduced against an employer, an employer's agents, or an employer's employees in a civil action based on the employee's or the former employee's conduct if: (1) the criminal history information does not bear a direct relationship to the facts underlying the civil action; (2) the records of the criminal case have been sealed; (3) the criminal conviction has been reversed, vacated, or expunged; (4) the employee or former employer has received a pardon for the criminal conviction; or (5) the arrest or charge did not result in a criminal conviction. Provides that this provision does not supersede any federal or state law requirement to conduct a criminal history information background investigation or consider criminal history information in hiring for particular types of employment.

*Current Status:* 3/30/2017 - Signed by the President Pro Tempore

*Recent Status:* 3/28/2017 - Third reading Passed (80-11)  
3/28/2017 - Senate Bills on Third Reading

*State Bill Page:* [SB312](#)

**SB416**      **INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE FUND** (CHARBONNEAU E) Requires the Indiana finance authority to study the ability of utilities to provide clean and safe drinking water in Indiana for the foreseeable future. Requires the utility regulatory commission (IURC), in its deliberations in a general rate case of a water or wastewater utility, to consider governmental requirements arising from environmental law and their effect upon the utility's operational expenses. Authorizes the IURC, upon request by a water or wastewater utility in a general rate case, to permit the utility to voluntarily establish a customer assistance program. Provides that an IURC-approved customer assistance program may not be deemed a discriminatory utility regulation.

*Current Status:* 3/30/2017 - DO PASS AMEND Yeas: 22; Nays: 0

*Recent Status:* 3/30/2017 - House Ways and Means, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)  
3/23/2017 - Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means  
pursuant to House Rule 127

*State Bill Page:* [SB416](#)

**SB421**      **ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANKS** (BASSLER E) Repeals the law requiring owners of certain above ground storage tanks to register their tanks with the department of environmental management.

*Current Status:* 3/28/2017 - Third reading passed; Roll Call 326: yeas 95, nays 0

*Recent Status:* 3/28/2017 - Senate Bills on Third Reading  
3/27/2017 - Second reading ordered engrossed

*State Bill Page:* [SB421](#)

**SB429**      **CULTURAL DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT** (FORD J) Provides that an arts and cultural district (district) certified by the Indiana arts commission (commission) is subject to annual review by the commission and must be recertified every four years. Specifies certain requirements for certification (or recertification) of a district. Permits a city, town, or county that has a certified district to establish a tax area within the district to capture incremental



income tax to be transferred to the Indiana arts commission trust fund and used only for the benefit of the tax area. Provides that a city, town, or county that wishes to establish a tax area must adopt an ordinance to do so. Provides that the state income taxes captured in all districts in a state fiscal year in the aggregate may not exceed \$500,000. Reduces the local income tax supplemental distribution of a unit that establishes a tax area in a district by the amount of local income tax captured by the district. Authorizes the commission to revoke the city's, town's, or county's right to distributions of incremental tax revenue from a tax area under certain circumstances.

**Current Status:** 3/7/2017 - Referred to House Ways and Means

**Recent Status:** 3/7/2017 - First Reading  
3/1/2017 - Referred to House

**State Bill Page:** [SB429](#)

**SB472 REQUESTS TO LOCATE UNDERGROUND UTILITY FACILITIES (CRIDER M)** Amends the statute concerning the locating and marking of underground utility facilities (Indiana's 811 law) to allow a person responsible for: (1) a construction project; or (2) any other project or operation; that will involve an excavation or demolition operation to provide a voluntary design information notice to the association known as the Indiana Underground Plant Protection Service (association) before commencing preliminary engineering studies or construction planning activities in the project area that will be affected by the excavation or demolition. Provides that a design information notice must be received by the association at least 10 full working days but not more than 20 calendar days before the commencement of the preliminary engineering studies or construction planning activities. Specifies the information that must be included in a design information notice.

**Current Status:** 4/3/2017 - Senate Bills on Second Reading

**Recent Status:** 3/30/2017 - Committee Report do pass, adopted  
3/29/2017 - DO PASS Yeas: 12; Nays: 0

**State Bill Page:** [SB472](#)

**SB478 UTILITY EASEMENTS (KOCH E)** Establishes a framework for resolving disputes between electricity suppliers and property owners regarding the attachment or installation of communications infrastructure within an electric easement. Provides that the procedures apply only to the following: (1) An electricity supplier that is a rural electric membership corporation. (2) A communications service provider, exclusively with respect to a telecommunications easement held by the communications service provider.

**Current Status:** 4/3/2017 - House Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

**Recent Status:** 3/29/2017 - House Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)  
3/28/2017 - Representative Ober added as cosponsor

**State Bill Page:** [SB478](#)

**SB500 HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATIONS AND SOLAR POWER (FREEMAN A)** Prohibits a homeowners association from adopting or enforcing certain rules, covenants, declarations of restrictions, and other governing documents, after June 30, 2017, concerning solar energy systems.

**Current Status:** 2/28/2017 - Referred to House Judiciary

**Recent Status:** 2/28/2017 - First Reading  
2/16/2017 - Senator Taylor G added as coauthor

**State Bill Page:** [SB500](#)