

# Week 4 Report

Week four is in the books and we are nearing the halfway point of the 2018 session. Committee work picked up as deadlines loom and bills must move out of committee by the middle part of next week or they are dead for the session.

A number of high-profile issues were considered and moved to the floor this week including legislation addressing gun permits, Sunday alcohol sales, hate crimes, and education funding.

Separate Sunday sales bills were voted on and passed in each chamber for the first time. SBI and HB1051 would allow alcohol sales at grocery, convenience, drug and liquor stores from noon to 8pm on Sundays. The House voted 87-10 to pass HB1051. The Senate voted 39-10 to pass SBI, which is identical to the House bill. Both bills have crossed over to the other chamber for consideration.

Tuesday, legislators proposed a bias crimes law that would allow judges to impose harsher penalties for people convicted of a crime that was committed with intent against a certain class of person as described in the bill. Both House Speaker Brian Bosma and Senate President Pro Tempore David Long have expressed their support for this law. Changes are expected to come next week to move this bill out of committee.

Wednesday, the House Public Policy Committee considered changes to Indiana's gun laws. HB 1424 proposed repeal of Indiana's permit requirement to carry a handgun. The bill was amended in committee to remove the fee for lifetime permit holders and would move the short-term permits from four years to five years and still require a fee. The bill, if passed, would not go into effect until 2019 as a result of the fiscal impact of repealing those fees. In 2017, gun permits generated \$7.1 million in revenue for the state. Regardless, the amendment passed 12-1 and is moving to the floor of the House for further debate.

In the coming week both chambers will complete committee work. The House wraps up committee hearings on Tuesday while the Senate has until Thursday. So we'll see one last push of legislation through committee before our first major purge of bills that will fail to move and be dead for the session. That day is the most wonderful time of the session.



## Important Dates

### February 5, 2018

Third Reading Deadline of House Bills in the House

### February 6, 2018

Third Reading Deadline of Senate Bills in the Senate

### March 5, 2018

Third Reading Deadline of Senate Bills in the House

### March 6, 2018

Third Reading Deadline of House Bills in the Senate

### March 14, 2018

Sine Die

## ISPLS Report

State Senator Blake Doriot (R-Elkhart) passed Senate Bill 197, entitled “Various Property Issues,” off the floor of the Senate this week. The bill was developed in consultation with the ISPLS Legislative Committee, of which Sen. Doriot, a surveyor, is a member.

The bill addresses multiple issues. First it closes a perceived loophole related to adverse possession claims and legal surveys. The bill also adds the name of a surveyor who prepared a legal description by amending the Recorder’s statute. It updates technical language to the state plan coordinates statute so it now considers GPS. Finally, it requires that INDOT mark the lines and corners of any right of way acquisition in limited circumstances.

The bill is sponsored in the House by Rep. David Ober (R-Albian). The House will not take up Senate bills for a few weeks so there won’t be much activity on SB 197 before mid-February.

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