



FROM: Bose Public Affairs Group

DATE: June 5, 2020

RE: Weekly State Government COVID-19 Update

BIG PICTURE IN INDIANA

As of Friday, June 5, the Indiana State Department of Health ("ISDH") reported 36,578 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Indiana, which is an increase from the 33,558 cases reported last week. ISDH also reported 2,078 deaths in Indiana, up from 1,946 last week. Track the latest reporting numbers from ISDH [here](#), which includes statistics on demographics, testing, and hospital capacity that are currently helping Indiana navigate through the pandemic.

Governor Holcomb noted Indiana continues to be on the right track regarding reopening with ICU bed and ventilator capacity remaining steady. This week saw Indiana hit a new high in daily tests with 7,419 administered on Wednesday. It was also announced children under the age of 12 can now be tested at one of the 208 testing sites around the state. ISDH Commissioner Dr. Box continues to encourage Hoosiers to get tested, as most testing sites still have capacity.

Governor Holcomb and other state officials continue to hold a press conference every Wednesday and Friday. To see a summary of each press conference, click [here](#).

HOLCOMB ISSUES NEW ORDERS

Governor Holcomb issued three new executive orders ("EOs") this week as the state continues to adjust to the coronavirus pandemic.

[EO 20-29](#) amends the two previous "reopening Indiana" orders to allow local units of government to restrict travel within their jurisdiction. The order states current Indiana law already addresses the designation of a local travel advisory, thus being unnecessary to include in executive orders.



[EO 20-30](#) extends the public health emergency declaration for an additional 30 days to July 4, the same day Indiana is scheduled to enter the [final stage of reopening](#).

[EO 20-31](#) includes several provisions in response to the extension of the public health emergency, including:

- Continuation of collaborative care services for older youth in foster care, which allows children over the age of 18 to remain in foster care during the public health emergency;
- The extension of any state-issued license or permit to June 30, including occupational, professional, and firearms licenses;
- The extension of certain tax deadlines, including the deadline for the calculation of local taxes;
- Changes to permits issued by the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission in response to restrictions on in-person dining, including reducing the amount of food sales a restaurant must report to maintain its alcoholic beverage permit and extending the time in which an alcoholic beverage permittee must activate a permit; and
- Extending the deadline for the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("IURC") to submit a highly anticipated study of fuel source transitions and emerging technologies to the Governor and the 21st Century Energy Task Force. The IURC is now required to submit the study by Aug. 14.

To see all of the Governor's Executive Orders, click [here](#).

SENATE ADVANCES PPP ENHANCEMENT BILL

A bill to loosen the reigns on how business owners can utilize funds from the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") advanced out of the U.S. Senate on Wednesday was signed into law on Friday. The bill will decrease the amount of money that must be used on payroll costs to 60%, down from 75%. It will also extend the amount of time in which PPP money must be used from two to six months and extends the program through the end of the year. BME professionals created a comprehensive summary of all of the changes to the PPP program, which can be found [here](#).

DOE RELEASES GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOL REOPENINGS

The Indiana Department of Education released [38-page document](#) detailing recommendations for schools as plans to reopen buildings get underway. The document provides several recommendations to consider, including social distancing guidelines, cleaning protocols, transportation and PPE equipment. The guidance does not mandate any policy changes, instead it opts to give schools full control on decisions surrounding reopening.



Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Jennifer McCormick will hold an informative webinar discussing the recommendations on Tuesday, June 9 at 10:00 AM.

STATE TO TEST ALL LONG-TERM CARE EMPLOYEES

Indiana hopes to [test all employees at long-term care facilities for COVID-19](#) by the end of June or early July, according to the Family and Social Services Administration ("FSSA"). This follows guidance issued by the White House last month encouraging states to test all nursing home staff members and residents. FSSA noted that testing each resident is not feasible due to limited testing capabilities at this time. Also announced was outdoor visitation will now be allowed at long-term care facilities under certain circumstances.

PRIMARY SETS STAGE FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Although a majority of Indiana Statehouse primary races were uncontested, this year's primary election went a long way in determining what the makeup of the 2021 General Assembly could look like. Results are continuing to trickle in as the last of the over 500,000 mail-in ballots are being counted. Highlights of election night included the 10 primary races in districts that have vacated seats and in House District 93, Rep. Dollyne Sherman (R-Indianapolis) is the sole incumbent that may lose a bid for re-election, as Republican John Jacob holds a slim margin as final votes are being tallied.

USEFUL LINKS

[BME PPP Use of Funds and Forgiveness](#) (Updated June 5, 2020)

[SBA Coronavirus Relief Options](#)

[Indiana SBDC COVID-19 Resources](#)

[BPAG COVID-19 Resources](#)

[BME COVID-19 Resources](#)

