

Legislative Update January 29, 2024

The General Assembly is nearing an important point of this "short" session as next week is the deadline for bills to pass out of committee in the first half. The House Ag Committee will conduct its last hearing on Monday morning with Senate Environmental Affairs wrapping up Wednesday morning. And due to its fiscal note, SB 246 Assessment of wetlands has been recommitted to the Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee scheduled for Tuesday morning. 1401 DNR passed out of Ways and Means along with 105,140,184 are ready for 2nd reading full floor votes. These bills are all related via the recent Drainage Task Force effort which we had a seat and there is some talk about combining into one bill along with concerns about how to fund the work. The House passed 1383 Wetlands and 1399 PFAS on 3rd reading making those bills ready for further consideration in the Senate.

As mentioned, Committee work deadlines are near. You can watch online. You can find links below to follow schedules.

2024 Session Deadlines

- -1/30 last day for House Committee Reports
- -2/1 last day for Senate Committee Reports
- -2/5 last day for 3rd readings of House Bills
- -2/6 last day for 3rd readings of Senate Bills
- -2/7 Half time of Session
- -3/4 last day for 3rd readings of Senate Bills in House
- -3/5 last day for 3rd readings of House Bills in Senate
- -3/14 last day for adjournment of both houses

I will continue to review House and Senate bills that may have impact on us. Below are bills of importance to IASWCD. Please contact me at (317.753.9627) or chizer@inag.biz with any concerns or needs. Thank you, Cress

TRACKING LIST

House:

- * HB 1013: Conservancy district road funding.
- * HB 1305: Major ground water withdrawal facilities. << Think LEAP Lebanon
- * HB 1383: Wetlands << Hot topic
- * HB 1394: DNR best available flood hazard data. << Hot topic
- * HB 1401: Various natural resources matters.
- * HB 1403: Determining existence and class of wetlands. << Hot topic
- * HB 1417: Agricultural matters.

Senate:

- * SB 105: Updated Indiana Drainage Handbook. << Management of this got transferred from DNR to ISDA
 - * SB 131: Carbon sequestration << Hot topic
- * SB 140: Logiam removal. << Drainage continues to be a hot topic
- * SB 149: Tobacco sales. << Very small portion of this revenue goes to CWI
- * SB 184: Removal of debris from streams. << Drainage continues to be a hot topic
- * SB 206: IDEM agency bill.
- * SB 246: Assessment of wetlands classified as wildlands. << IASWCD supports this bill as

it incentivizes voluntary conservation practices

* SB 247: Water and wastewater utility infrastructure.

Thank you for your help! INAg/Cress Hizer appreciates your willingness to contact legislators when called upon during the session. Without the assistance of the client/association, it would be difficult to pass proactive legislation or thwart detrimental language. Thanks for your support.