

Legislative Update February 5, 2024

With legislators looking forward to the scheduled "half time" break next week, deadlines for bills to pass each chamber, Monday in the House and Tuesday in the Senate, will keep them busy until then. Bills on our tracker now in red are considered dead for now as they failed to receive a hearing in committee. The process will begin again Monday, February 12 with committee hearings of survivor bills in the opposite chamber.

You can watch sessions online. You can find links below to follow schedules.

2024 Session Deadlines:

- -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 an impact on us. Below are bills of importance to IASWCD. Please contact me at (317.753.9627) or <u>chizer@inag.biz</u> with any concerns or needs. Thank you, Cress

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:

* <u>SB 105: Updated Indiana Drainage Handbook</u> <<**SWCDs will have a seat on this**

advisory board (more info)

- * <u>SB 131: Carbon sequestration</u> << Hot topic
- * <u>SB 140: Logjam removal</u>. **<<Drainage continues to be a hot topic**
- * <u>SB 149: Tobacco sales</u>. <<Very small portion of this revenue goes to CWI
- * <u>SB 184: Removal of debris from streams</u>. **<<Drainage continues to be a hot topic**
- * SB 206: IDEM agency bill.

* <u>SB 246: Assessment of wetlands classified as wildlands</u>. <<**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.