

SENATE BILL No. 174

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-20-11.

Synopsis: Access to food program. Establishes the access to nutritious food program (program) under the administration of the Indiana housing and community development authority (IHCDA). Provides that the purpose of the program is to focus on: (1) distribution of fresh and nutritious food; and (2) education in food preparation and nutrition; in food deserts. Defines "food desert". Requires the IHCDA to convene an annual meeting to share best practices and information concerning effective programs and submit an annual report to the lieutenant governor and legislative council.

Effective: July 1, 2024.

Yoder

January 9, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.



Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 174



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning human services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-20-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2024]:

4 **Chapter 11. Access to Nutritious Food Program**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "authority" refers to the Indiana**
6 **housing and community development authority created by**
7 **IC 5-20-1-3.**

8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "food desert" means an**
9 **underserved geographic area where fresh and nutritious foods are**
10 **difficult to obtain, as determined by the authority. The term**
11 **includes:**

- 12 **(1) a rural town or urban neighborhood in which:**
 - 13 **(A) at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the households**
 - 14 **have incomes that are below the federal income poverty**
 - 15 **level (as defined in IC 12-15-2-1); or**
 - 16 **(B) the median family income of residents is not more than**
 - 17 **eighty percent (80%) of the median family income of**



- 1 **Indiana;**
 2 **(2) a rural town, urban neighborhood, or metropolitan census**
 3 **tract in which at least five hundred (500) residents or at least**
 4 **thirty-three percent (33%) of the population resides more**
 5 **than one (1) mile from a supermarket or large grocery store;**
 6 **and**
 7 **(3) a nonmetropolitan census tract in which at least five**
 8 **hundred (500) residents or at least thirty-three percent (33%)**
 9 **of the population resides more than ten (10) miles from a**
 10 **supermarket or large grocery store.**
- 11 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the access**
 12 **to nutritious food program conducted under section 4 of this**
 13 **chapter.**
- 14 **Sec. 4. (a) The authority shall conduct an access to nutritious**
 15 **food program to establish and operate projects and strategies that**
 16 **focus on:**
- 17 **(1) distribution of fresh and nutritious food; and**
 18 **(2) education in food preparation and nutrition;**
 19 **in food deserts.**
- 20 **(b) The authority shall promote the sharing of information**
 21 **concerning best practices and programs, including projects under**
 22 **this chapter, that have proven to be effective in improving**
 23 **distribution of fresh and nutritious food and education in food**
 24 **preparation and nutrition in food deserts.**
- 25 **Sec. 5. (a) Not later than November 1, 2024, and each November**
 26 **1 thereafter, the authority shall convene an annual meeting of**
 27 **nonprofit organizations and other interested parties to share best**
 28 **practices and information on programs, including projects under**
 29 **this chapter, that have proven to be effective in improving**
 30 **distribution of fresh and nutritious food and education in food**
 31 **preparation and nutrition in food deserts.**
- 32 **(b) Not later than December 1, 2024, and each December 1**
 33 **thereafter, the authority shall submit to the lieutenant governor**
 34 **and legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 a**
 35 **report concerning the annual meeting described in subsection (a),**
 36 **including the information shared on best practices and programs**
 37 **that have proven to be effective in improving distribution of fresh**
 38 **and nutritious food and education in food preparation and**
 39 **nutrition in food deserts.**

