



Introduced Version

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 60

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the task of analyzing changes to local governments and the criminal justice system resulting from HEA 1006-2013 and HEA 1006-2014.

Merritt

March 2, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law.

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SR 60—SR 2504/DI 135



SENATE RESOLUTION No. 60

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council
2 to assign to an appropriate study committee the task of
3 analyzing changes to local governments and the criminal justice
4 system resulting from HEA 1006-2013 and HEA 1006-2014.

5 *Whereas, The Indiana General Assembly enacted HEA 1006*
6 *in 2013 and 2014 in an effort to overhaul Indiana's criminal*
7 *code;*

8 *Whereas, These efforts were the culmination of a five year*
9 *study to make Indiana's criminal code consistent, proportional,*
10 *and effective;*

11 *Whereas, Change to the Indiana criminal code may have a*
12 *deep and lasting impact on Indiana's criminal justice system*
13 *and local governments, thereby affecting the lives of Hoosiers*
14 *for years to come;*

15 *Whereas, The number of Level 6 felons confined in county*
16 *jails across the state increased from an average of 310 per year*
17 *in 2015 to an average of 2,550 in 2019;*

18 *Whereas, The department of correction has closed two*
19 *facilities since 2015; and*

20 *Whereas, Many questions have been raised concerning the*
21 *effect that HEA 1006 has had on state and local communities:*



1 *Therefore,*

2 *Be it resolved by the Senate*
3 *of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

4 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign to
5 an appropriate study committee the task of analyzing changes
6 to local governments and the criminal justice system resulting
7 from HEA 1006-2013 and HEA 1006-2014.

8 SECTION 2. That, if the legislative council assigns the topic
9 described in SECTION 1 to an appropriate interim study
10 committee, the study committee shall consider the following
11 issues concerning county jails:

12 (1) Whether county sheriffs have had to add deputies and
13 jail employees because of increased jail populations.

14 (2) Whether current revenue from property taxes and
15 reimbursements from county jail maintenance contingency
16 funds adequately cover the costs of confining both the Level 6
17 felons who were diverted to county jails and the other
18 population in county jails.

19 SECTION 3. That, if the legislative council assigns the topic
20 described in SECTION 1 to an appropriate interim study
21 committee, the study committee shall consider the following
22 issues concerning the department of correction:

23 (1) Whether the department of correction has adequate
24 capacity for its offender population.

25 (2) Whether the number of persons sentenced for Class C
26 and Class D felonies before the enactment of HEA 1006-2013
27 and HEA 1006-2014 changed after these crimes were
28 reclassified as Level 5 and Level 6 felonies by HEA 1006-2013
29 and HEA 1006-2014.

30 (3) How recidivism is measured and whether recidivism
31 rates have changed since enactment of HEA 1006-2013 and
32 HEA 1006-2014.

33 (4) Whether addiction services, behavioral modification
34 classes, and educational opportunities for Level 6 felons are
35 best provided by county jails or by the department of correction.

36 SECTION 4. That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby
37 directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the office of
38 State Senator James W. Merritt Jr.

