

# **THE SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK GUIDE TO THE INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

*YOU Can Make a Difference!*

*March 4, 2022*

## **TODAY'S PRESENTATION**

- *Advocacy and Lobbying*
- *The Legislative Process*
- *Current Issues*
- *Contacting Legislators*
- *Meeting with Legislators*
- *Ways to Get Started*

**SCHOOLHOUSE  
ROCK HAD IT  
RIGHT!**



# YOU CAN ADVOCATE AND LOBBY AS INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS!

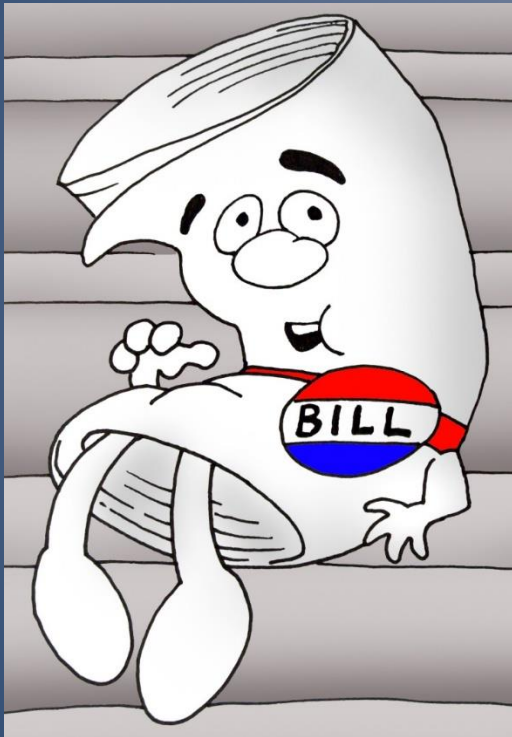
## Advocacy

- *Educating on issues*
- *Disseminating research*
- *Sharing best practices*
- *Technical assistance*
- *Relationship building*
- *Forming networks*
- *Leadership development*
- *Litigation*
- *Lobbying*

## Lobbying

- *Subset of advocacy*
- *Attempts to influence decision makers' positions on specific legislation*
- *Expenditures limits and reporting*
- *Use of public funds prohibited*
- *Registration and reporting required of paid lobbyists*
- *No requirements of volunteers*

# I'M JUST A BILL, YES I'M ONLY A BILL



## All Legislation Starts with an Idea

- *Individuals*
- *Study Committees*
- *Advocacy Coalitions*
- *Non-profits*
- *Businesses*
- *Trade Associations*
- *Lobbyists*
- *Legislative Caucuses*
- *Other states*

# WELL, IT'S A LONG, LONG JOURNEY TO THE CAPITAL CITY



- Drafting
- First Reading
- Committee Hearings
- Second Reading
- Third Reading
- Crossover
- **Conference Committees**
- Governor

*We are here*



## **CURRENT ISSUES**

- *HB 1303 – Tax Credit for Able Account Contributions*
  - *HB 1306 – Housing Task Force*
  - *SB 284 – Telehealth Matters*
  - *SB 353 – Home Health Aide Training Requirements*
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- *HB 1003 – Nursing Programs and Licensing Matters*
  - *SB 5 – Reciprocity*
  - *SB 251 – Indiana Interstate Medical Licensure Compact*
  - *SB365 – Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact*
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- *Senior housing tax credit*
  - *State affordable housing tax credit*
  - *Managed care*

# IT'S A LONG, LONG WAIT WHILE I'M SITTING IN COMMITTEE



## Legislative Contacts

- *By Phone (Staff)*
  - *Make appointments*
  - *Leave an advocacy message*
- *In Writing*
  - *Personalized snail mail*
  - *Personalized email*

Check out The Frameworks Institute  
[www.frameworksinstitute.org](http://www.frameworksinstitute.org)



**BUT I KNOW  
I'LL BE A LAW  
SOMEDAY  
AT LEAST I  
HOPE AND  
PRAY THAT I  
WILL BUT  
TODAY I AM  
STILL JUST A  
BILL**

## Meeting with Legislators

- *Private meeting in district*
  - *Offer a tour!*
  - *Offer a client visit!*
  - *Offer a constituent meeting!*
- *Public meeting in district*
  - *Third House Meetings (“cracker barrels”)*
- *At the statehouse*
  - *Least preferable*

*Leave Behinds*

Livestream Committee Hearings and Session

<http://iga.in.gov/>

# YOUR APPROACH



- *Be Courteous*
- *Be Prepared*
- *Be Succinct*
- *Be Reliable*
- *Be Human*
- *Know Your Workplace Policies*

# TRACKING YOUR BILL

- *Current Status*
- *Fiscal Notes*
- *Bill Actions*
- *Roll Call Votes*
- *Committee Reports*



<http://iga.in.gov/>

# **WAYS TO GET STARTED**

- *Research and write a white paper on an issue of interest*
- *Identify Indiana legislative and administrative code on an issue of interest*
- *Talk to legislators that work on your topic area*
- *Create a public policy agenda*
- *Identify partner organizations that work on similar issues*
- *Advocate on issues in alignment with an approved agenda*

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