



## Post-Session, New Laws Are Coming

Since the conclusion of the 2024 "short" legislative session of the Indiana General Assembly on March 8, **Gov. Eric Holcomb** has been busy [signing](#) a slew of new bills into law.

Happy hours, the duration of declared state emergencies, the jurisdiction and powers of the state's public access counselor, school absenteeism, reading proficiency testing, teenage labor and childcare regulations, and the carrying of firearms at the Indiana Statehouse were some of the many topics addressed by lawmakers this session.

A total of 756 bills and resolutions were introduced with just 172 being approved and sent to the governor (a 22.75% pass rate).

Gov. Holcomb issued just one legislative [veto](#) - HEA 1002 - due to concerns over the definition of anti-semitism in the bill. Instead, the governor issued a [proclamation](#) with which legislative leaders seem to have agreed.

A full list of new legislation can be found [here](#).

## In Memoriam

It is with sadness and the deepest sympathy for her family, friends and colleagues that we share the passing of Sen. **Jean Breaux** on Wednesday, March 20, after a [long battle](#) with illness.



Sen. Breaux served on the Agriculture (Ranking Minority Member), Commerce & Technology, Health & Provider Services (RMM), Homeland Security & Transportation, Natural Resources (RMM), Public Policy, Utilities, and Veteran Affairs & the Military committees.

She had served the citizens of District 34 since first being elected in 2006.

## Odds & Ends

Gov. **Eric Holcomb** has [named Joseph Habig](#) as acting state budget director. Habig is the deputy director of the State Budget Agency.

Legislation to increase oversight of the **Indiana Economic Development Corporation** (IEDC) is likely to be [reintroduced](#) in 2025.

The total **solar eclipse** occurring on April 8 has many Indiana communities preparing for an influx of [tourists](#), traffic and economic opportunities.

Indiana's **unemployment rate** is 3.5% in [latest report](#), holding steady for the past six months.

Q&A: GOP **gubernatorial candidates** weigh-in on [economic issues](#).