

About IPRA

Indiana Park and Recreation Association is a non-profit organization comprised of park and recreation professionals, individuals, and groups dedicated to the promotion of quality leisure time, adding value to the quality of life, and the preservation of our environment through research, education and service to an ever expanding variety of users. Through its network of nearly 900 park and recreation professionals, public officials, and citizens, IPRA strives to be a leading and innovative partner in promoting parks, recreation, and environmental values.



Support IPRA and the Advocacy for Parks and Recreation

For more information on IPRA legislative initiatives, policy priorities, and updates on legislation affecting the field of parks and recreation, go to www.inpra.org or call (317) 984-4500.

Legislative Initiatives

Indiana Park and Recreation Association



2011



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Administration Policy

1. *Provide a definition of to the word “qualified” in 36-10-3, Indiana Parks and Recreation Law.*

Currently the Indiana Parks and Recreation Law in sec.13 states;

The superintendent must:

- (1) be qualified by training or experience in the field of parks and recreation; or
- (2) have a certification or an advanced degree in the field of parks and recreation ; or
- (3) have an advanced degree in business with 10 or more years of executive level experience as either a CEO, COO or CFO
- (e) An incumbent performing park and recreation functions in a supervisory capacity at the time a unit adopts a creating ordinance under this chapter is eligible for appointment as superintendent or as an assistant, but he must have the required training, experience, or certification.

Amend (1) to read “be qualified by having at least five (5) years of full time employment in the field of Parks and Recreation or a related field.

2. *Changes in PERF Distribution*

Reduce from 20 to 12 the number of calendar quarters used by the public employees’ retirement fund (PERF) in the computation of the “average of the annual compensation”. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the pension management oversight commission.)

3. *Prohibiting municipal employees from serving on the council for which they work.*

This initiative would change IC 36-4-4-2 and IC 36-1-8-10.5 so that a municipal employee cannot run or serve as a member of the council (city or town) during their employment by the municipality.

4. *Support legislation that would prohibit public schools from starting before Labor Day.*

For many years the Tourism Industry has claimed that starting school in August is harmful to their business. Now some Parks and rec. Departments claim it is harmful to their bottom line also.

Municipal Finance

5. *Interlocal levy sharing*

In order to save money and resources, local governments should be given the tools for creating more interlocal agreements. If two or more communities decide to work together to provide a certain service, the receiver community should be allowed to reduce their levy that was previously needed to provide the service and transfer it to the provider community that will be providing the service.

6. *Municipal Adoption of LOITs*

Legislation passed in 2009 will require a question to be asked on the Indiana personal income tax form stating whether the taxpayer lives inside municipal boundaries or not. With this new information, starting in 2010, it is now possible to have a municipal local option income tax. Legislation should be passed providing for a municipal LOIT option starting in 2012.

State Funding

7. *Indiana Heritage Trust Appropriation and Allocation*

Encourage the General Assembly to appropriate and allocate \$1 million/year in the next biennial budget for Indiana Heritage Trust. With this level of funding, the Indiana Heritage Trust can fund projects that will protect Indiana’s rich natural heritage. The funds help to acquire land that have natural resources and habitats; historical or archaeological significance; or provide areas for conservation, recreation, protection or restoration of native biological diversity within the state.

8. *Clean Water Indiana Appropriation and Allocation*

Encourage the General Assembly to appropriate and allocate \$500,000/year in the next biennial budget for Clean Water Indiana. With this level of funding, the State Soil Conservation Board’s (SSCB’s) Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Grants Program can provide Indiana’s Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) with great opportunities of funding for soil and water conservation initiatives throughout the state.