HB 1004 – Pension Matters Signed: March 13, 2024

HB 1004 DROP is an optional pension benefit that allows fund members who are eligible for an unreduced retirement benefit to continue to work and earn a salary and then retire with a pension benefit calculated as of the date the individual entered the DROP, plus receive an additional amount equal to the total of the pension benefits that the member would have been paid during the same period had the member retired at the time they entered the DROP. The DROP benefit is payable either in a lump sum or three equal annual payments. The bill would allow members currently in the DROP to extend their DROP period to 60 months total and allow new entrants into the DROP after June 30, 2024, to enter the DROP for up to 60 months.

HB 1027 – Fire Department Work Schedule

Signed: March 11, 2024

HB 1027 This bill provides that a fire department may deviate from the required maximum work hours for members of the fire department only if authorized by a collective bargaining agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other similar written mutual agreement with an exclusive recognized representative of employees of the fire department.

HB 1021 – Green Alert for Missing Veterans

Signed: March 11, 2024

HB 1021 This bill defines "veteran at risk". It creates the Green Alert Program to provide for public notification regarding missing veterans at risk. It changes the name of the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults to the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children, Missing Veterans at Risk, and Missing Endangered Adults (Clearinghouse). It makes conforming changes to the duties of the clearinghouse. It creates certain duties and reporting requirements for law enforcement agencies concerning missing veterans at risk. It provides immunity for a broadcaster who broadcasts, or an electronic billboard operator who displays, a Green Alert notification and a person who establishes or maintains a Green Alert website under an agreement with the State Police Department. It also makes technical corrections

HB 1142 – Hoosier First Responder Medal of Honor

Signed: March 11, 2024

HB 1142 This bill establishes the Hoosier First Responder Medal of Honor (medal). It provides that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) may determine an Indiana first responder is eligible for the Hoosier First Responder Medal of Honor if the Indiana first responder distinguishes themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of the Indiana first responder's life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an act of public service. It provides that, upon approval of a nomination by DHS, the department shall notify the entity employing the Indiana first responder or for which the Indiana first responder volunteers of the nomination. The bill also provides that the entity shall notify a member of the General Assembly who represents the district in which the entity is located of the Indiana First Responder's nomination. It provides that the member of the General Assembly shall recommend the Indiana First Responder for the medal to the Governor.

HB 1302 – Emergency Medical Services

Signed: March 11, 2024

HB 1302 This bill provides that not later than July 15, 2024, the county executive shall provide the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) certain information relating to each EMS provider in the county. It provides that not later than August 15, 2024, DHS shall prepare and submit a report to the General Assembly relating to the provision of EMS. The bill also urges the Legislative Council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of improving the provision of EMS throughout Indiana HB 1120 This bill provides that, if a township transitions from a single township firefighting and emergency services fund to two separate funds as authorized under current law, the township legislative body must approve a transfer of the remaining cash balance from the single fund to the two new separate funds and determine the amounts attributable to each fund.

HB 1121 – Local Income Tax Signed: March 13, 2024

HB 1121 This bill provides that the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) shall make certain adjustments pertaining to the distribution of LIT for Floyd County in 2025, which provide that the Highlander Fire Protection District (district) shall receive an amount equal to the combined distribution that would have been distributed to the Greenville Fire Protection District (FPD) and the Lafayette Fire Protection District (FPD) in 2024, but for their elimination resulting from the merger to establish the district. The bill requires corresponding adjustments in 2025 to reduce the distribution for each applicable civil taxing unit and school corporation in Floyd County, excluding the district, by an amount that equals the proportionate share of the amount of LIT received in 2024 of the combined distribution that would have been distributed to the Greenville FPD and the Lafayette FPD in 2024, but for their elimination.

HB 1385 _ Community Cares Initiative Grant Pilot Program

Signed: March 13, 2024

HB 1385 Community Cares Initiative Grant Pilot Program and Fund: The bill establishes the Community Cares Initiative Grant Pilot Program for the purpose of assisting in the costs of starting or expanding mobile integrated health care programs and mobile crisis teams in Indiana. It establishes the Community Cares Initiative Fund. Ambulance Services: The bill requires a health plan operator to provide payment to a nonparticipating ambulance service provider for ambulance service provided to a covered individual: (1) at a rate not to exceed the rates set or approved, by contract or ordinance, by the county or municipality in which the ambulance service originated; (2) at the rate of 400% of the published rate for ambulance services established under the Medicare law for the same ambulance service provided in the same geographic area; or (3) according to the nonparticipating ambulance provider's billed charges; whichever is less.

SB 33 – Distribution of Public Safety Income

Signed: March 13, 2024

SB 33 This bill provides that a township fire department, volunteer fire department, fire protection territory, or fire protection district may apply to the county adopting body for a distribution of local income tax revenue that is allocated to public safety purposes. It requires the county adopting body to review certain submitted applications at a public hearing

SB 256 – Fiscal Matters Signed: March 13, 2024

SB 256 DROP is an optional pension benefit that allows fund members who are eligible for an unreduced retirement benefit to continue to work and earn a salary and then retire with a pension benefit calculated as of the date the individual entered the DROP, plus receive an additional amount equal to the total of the pension benefits that the member would have been paid during the same period had the member retired at the time they entered the DROP. The DROP benefit is payable either in a lump sum or three equal annual payments. The bill would allow members currently in the DROP to extend their DROP period to 60 months total and allow new entrants into the DROP after June 30, 2024, to enter the DROP for up to 60 months.