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Indiana General Assembly 2024 Edition

February 6, 2024

Good Afternoon

Today marks the end of the first half of the 2024 legislative session. The House finished their work yesterday and will gavel in for procedural reasons and immediately adjourn. The Senate has 29 bills on the third reading calendar and (for reasons no one understands) one House bill on 3rd reading, so they've got a little bit of a day ahead of them. The legislature will not meet the rest of the week.

In the statehouse, the biggest issues are whatever is in front of you at the moment. Despite the fact that Republican leaders released narrow agendas that lacked pizzazz there is still a lot of legislation that moved. But they won't be making any movies about this one. Early expectations are session could end by March 8th, a Friday, but must end by law on March 14th, which is one month, eight days from now. Leadership on both sides have aggressively set expectations that they want to be done the first week of March.

Notably, the biggest issues grabbing the interest of lawmakers and lobbyists are around beverages. HB 1025 permits beer wholesalers to distribute spirit-based products that are in many cases sold by beer producers. Notwithstanding opposition from spirits wholesalers the bill passed the House by a wide margin and is gaining support in the Senate. HB 1019 is getting attention for liberating children's lemonade stands. What a country.

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Senate

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