



Indiana Behavioral Health Legislative Update

January 17, 2025

As the 2025 legislative session unfolds, Indiana lawmakers are tackling critical issues in mental health and addiction through a series of impactful bills. Mental Health America of Indiana is at the statehouse each week advocating for Hoosiers mental health and wellness.

This week, several proposals aimed at improving healthcare practices, expanding access to essential services, and addressing workforce shortages were discussed in committees. From modernizing opioid prescription practices to enabling a streamlined licensure process for mental health professionals across state lines, these bills show the commitment to addressing the state's mental health challenges.

We invite you to stay informed during the 2025 legislative session and follow us for all things behavioral health. For news on your social feeds, follow us through the icons below.

Bills Heard in the House	Bills Heard in the Senate
HB 1200 – Opioid Prescription Supply Limits (Behning) This bill proposes that if a prescriber issues a prescription for an opioid to be administered through a subdermal delivery system, the prescription may not exceed a 180-day supply. The committee adopted amendments and passed the bill unanimously (13-0) HB 1167 – Test Strips (Meltzer) This bill would decriminalize test strips used to detect dangerous substances like fentanyl in illicit drugs. This bill aims to remove provisions related to testing the strength, effectiveness, or purity of a controlled substance in the criminal laws concerning possession of controlled substance paraphernalia. The bill passed unanimously (13-0)	SB 216 – Mental Health Professionals (Crider) This bill addresses the clinical experience and supervision requirements for obtaining a social work license. It allows for clinical hours and experience to be accrued while under a temporary permit, simplifying the review process and mitigating unlicensed practice. The bill passed committee unanimously (11-0) SB 163 – Social Work Licensure Compact (Crider) This compact would enable Indiana social workers to practice across state lines seamlessly, improving access to care and supporting military families. Advocates highlighted the compact's benefits in addressing workforce shortages and ensuring continuity of care. An amendment was adopted, and the bill passed committee unanimously (11-0). It has been recommitted to appropriations for further consideration SB 181 – Nurse Training in Trauma-Informed Care (Crider) This bill seeks to incorporate trauma-informed care training into nursing education. Advocates emphasized the widespread impact this training could have on healthcare providers and their ability to serve patients with trauma backgrounds. The bill passed committee unanimously (11-0)

For the full list of priority bills we are tracking, please visit this [link](#).

