



Indiana Behavioral Health Legislative Update

January 31, 2025

This week, Mental Health America of Indiana (MHA) provided testimony on **House Bill 1432 (Manning)**, a significant step toward addressing problem gambling in Indiana. Stephanie Anderson, MHA's Chief Operating Officer, emphasized the urgent need for a **comprehensive prevention, treatment, and recovery program** for Hoosiers affected by gambling addiction.

What HB 1432 Does:

- Expands **public awareness campaigns** to educate on problem gambling.
- Establishes a **continuum of care**, including prevention initiatives, clinical treatment, and peer support services.
- Enhances access to **financial counseling** and treatment for co-occurring disorders.
- Increases state funding for problem gambling services.
- Supports training and certification for gambling disorder counselors.

MHA strongly supports this bill to help the **156,000 Hoosiers currently struggling with gambling addiction** and urges policymakers to prioritize this growing crisis.

Bills Heard in the House

[HB 1432 – Problem Gambling Treatment \(Manning\)](#)

Synopsis: Expands access to treatment and resources for Hoosiers affected by problem gambling. Establishes a public awareness campaign, enhances treatment programs, and allows Recovery Works funding to cover gambling disorders. Supports workforce development for gambling addiction professionals through credentialing and training.

[HB 1595 – Long Term Care Insurance Partnership Program \(Carbaugh\)](#)

Synopsis: Requires the office of the secretary of family and social services to reapply before September 1, 2025, for a Medicaid state plan amendment that provides for the establishment of the long-term care partnership program and the discontinuance of the current long-term care program.

Bills Heard in the Senate

[SB 182 – Adult Protective Services \(Crider, Johnson T.\)](#)

Synopsis: Specifies that the adult protective services reporting applies to reports received through a statewide toll-free telephone call or online reporting. Requires an APS unit to investigate reports and determine referrals. Updates procedures for information sharing, records access, and service coordination.

[SB 218 – Electronic Monitoring \(Clark, Freeman, Pol Jr.\)](#)

Synopsis: Amends the information that must be provided by a supervising agency in quarterly reports to the local justice reinvestment advisory council. Requires the statewide justice reinvestment advisory council to compile the quarterly reports and electronically transmit an annual report to the legislative council and to the judicial conference of Indiana not later than May 1 (instead of March 15) of each year.

[SB 312 – Exception to Paraphernalia Statutes \(Clark, Baldwin, Pol Jr., Yoder, Jackson L.\)](#)

Synopsis: Provides that the controlled substance paraphernalia statutes do not apply to items marketed to detect the presence of a drug or controlled substance.

[SB 324 – Criminal Penalties \(Freeman\)](#)

Synopsis: Increases the penalty levels of crimes related to fentanyl and methamphetamine. Increases the penalty levels of battery against a public safety official, battery resulting in moderate bodily injury, battery resulting in serious bodily injury, battery against a child, and aggravated battery. Requires a bail hearing for a violent arrestee within 48 hours and sets minimum bail requirements for repeat violent arrestees.

[SB 473 – Various Health Care Matters \(Brown L, Charbonneau, Johnson T, Becker\)](#)

Synopsis: Establishes an appeals process for providers disputing managed care claim denials. Implements new opioid treatment program regulations, including random monthly drug tests. Allows prescribing of full agonist opioids via telehealth. Expands regulatory oversight of health facilities, home health aides, and nursing education.

[SB 486 – Family and Social Services Reform \(Charbonneau, Crider\)](#)

Synopsis: Requires a sheriff to assist an individual who has been incarcerated for at least 30 days and is eligible for Medicaid in applying before release. Expands Medicaid coverage for children in juvenile detention. Amends insurer response time requirements for Medicaid claims and creates the Medicaid beneficiary advisory commission.

[SB 505 – Emergency Transport to Mental Health Facilities \(Deery\)](#)

Synopsis: Allows emergency medical responders, EMTs, advanced EMTs, and paramedics to transport individuals to a health care facility, mental health facility, or urgent care facility that can provide necessary treatment. Authorizes reimbursement for these transports.

[SB 118 – 340B Drug Program Report \(Charbonneau\)](#)

Synopsis: Requires entities participating in the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program to annually report specified data to the Indiana Department of Health. Mandates the department to submit an aggregated report to the legislative council and post it publicly.

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

