

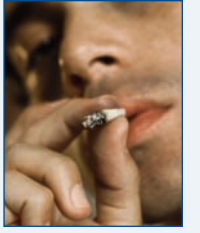
# KEY BILLS I SUPPORTED DURING THE 2011 SESSION

✓ **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO HUNT, FISH & FARM:** SJR 9 would protect the right for Hoosiers to hunt, fish and farm. Supporters believe such Indiana pastimes and traditions should be guarded against animal rights groups who threaten these practices that bring thousands of jobs and billions of dollars to our state. Because proponents want the permanence of a constitutional amendment, SJR 9 must gain the support of two separately elected Indiana General Assemblies as well as that of Hoosiers in a statewide vote.



✓ **ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION:** Indiana legislators sent a clear message on illegal immigration with SEA 590, which requires all state agencies and local governmental units to confirm citizenship of new hires through the federal E-Verify system. The law denies certain tax deductions to business owners who knowingly hire illegal immigrants and tasks the Indiana Office of Management and Budget to calculate the cost of illegal immigration to Indiana taxpayers.

✓ **“SPICE” BAN:** Synthetic marijuana products – herbs sprayed with hallucinogenic chemicals – are now controlled substances across Indiana. When smoked, these products dangerously distort perceptions and impair coordination. Local ordinances passed by communities lack enforcement across jurisdictions and are limited to lesser penalties and fines. Police and prosecutors asked lawmakers for a statewide ban while federal Drug Enforcement Administration officials consider a nationwide prohibition.



✓ **PROTECTING THE UNBORN:** Legislators passed a measure to reduce the number of abortions and prohibit Hoosier tax dollars from funding abortion providers. This law also calls for physicians to inform pregnant women considering abortions that fetuses might feel pain and requires patients to view fetal ultrasound imaging, unless they decline in writing.

✓ **SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS:** A new law ensures all children with special needs, including non-public school students, benefit from state dollars earmarked for special education services. Public school corporations will be required to provide services for students with disabilities – even if parents place them in non-government schools.



✓ **FIGHTING METH:** Statewide retail sales of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine products will now be tracked electronically to help prevent meth dealers from buying ingredients used to make the dangerous drug. To further curtail meth production and abuse, legislators lowered the amount of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine products that can be purchased within 30 days.



## STATE SENATOR CARLIN YODER

SERVING SENATE DISTRICT 12

**SEN. CARLIN YODER**  
200 W. WASHINGTON ST.  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204  
1-800-382-9467  
SENATOR.YODER@IGA.IN.GOV

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN  
PERMIT NO. 7767



[WWW.IN.GOV/SENATOR.YODER](http://WWW.IN.GOV/SENATOR.YODER)

### STATE SENATOR CARLIN YODER

Dear Friends,

Indiana's Constitution specifically charges the Indiana General Assembly with drawing new legislative and congressional districts after each national census, so representation is apportioned fairly.

Republican senators for years have advocated objective redistricting guidelines that would – whenever practical – preserve traditional neighborhoods and local communities of interest; protect minority voting rights; create simply shaped, compact districts; and respect county, township and precinct lines. We stood by these principles during this session's important redistricting process.

Nine public field hearings were hosted across the state to seek input from local leaders, community groups and private citizens. Ours was the most open Indiana redistricting process in memory. In the end, the new legislative and

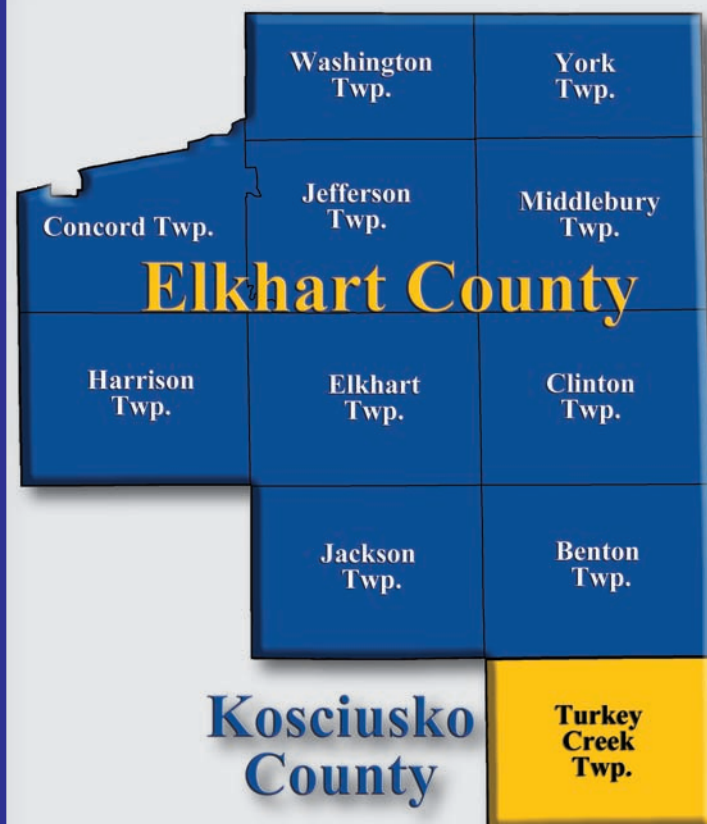
congressional maps were accepted with bipartisan Senate votes.

Shifting populations and applying fair guidelines resulted in many district boundaries changing – for the benefit of constituents, not politicians. For some of us lawmakers, it will mean reaching out to new neighborhoods and learning how to effectively represent the wants and needs of those areas at the Statehouse.

Whether you are a new acquaintance or a familiar friend, I want you to know I am just a phone call, mouse click or mailbox away.

Sincerely yours,

Carlin Yoder  
State Senator



MAP OF NEW  
SENATE DISTRICT 12

Kosciusko  
County

Turkey  
Creek  
Twp.



# SEN. CARLIN YODER

SERVING SENATE DISTRICT 12 TAXPAYERS



## 2011 Focus: Low-Tax, Pro-Job Policies

Senate Republicans were on the job the entire 2011 legislative session, preserving and building on Indiana's low-tax, pro-growth state policies.

While government doesn't effectively create jobs, government policies can encourage private-sector investment. Lawmakers this year remained committed to helping Indiana recover faster and better by keeping our state policies employer-friendly.

Passing a balanced budget, avoiding job-killing tax hikes and maintaining prudent reserves remained top priorities for Senate lawmakers. With the national recession reducing state revenues to 2005 levels, legislators insisted on tight spending limits, just as Hoosier families, farmers and employers do every day. We prioritized education and essential services, while protecting Indiana taxpayers.

Hoosiers have historically been generous in funding needs of K-12 education, but today demand the best education possible for those taxpayer funds. About \$150 million in additional, statewide school funding was approved, including monies for full-day kindergarten and rewards for outstanding teachers. Beyond controlling government spending and providing for a well-educated workforce, Senate Republicans of-

fered several job-related proposals to positively impact Indiana's economy for generations to come:

**Attractive, Competitive Taxes:** A Senate-initiated 2010 bipartisan study concluded the state's relatively high corporate tax rate could be hurting efforts to keep and attract employers and jobs they provide Hoosiers. Indiana's current rate is among the highest

**"Buy Local":** Gov. Mitch Daniels implemented the "Buy Indiana" program in 2005 to help revive the state's economy by promoting state purchases from Hoosier companies. Senators introduced and passed a measure this year to help revitalize hometown economies by encouraging local governments to reinvest through area vendors. "Buy Local" helps Indiana employers compete with larger, often out-of-state companies.

**Young Entrepreneurs:** Small businesses create six in 10 new jobs – most resulting from new business start-ups. Clearly, small businesses are key to economic recovery. This year, GOP senators advocated a "Young Entrepreneurs Program" to complement universities' business curricula by matching first-time employers with Indiana communities, so business plans can be better tailored and more Hoosiers can be put to work.

**Foreign Markets:** Senators pushed for a proposal ensuring Hoosier grain producers are at the forefront of foreign exports. Without it, Indiana had no certification process guaranteeing to world markets that our commercial feed manufacturers follow industry standards. Purdue University and Indiana Farm Bureau advised us on this proposal intended to help our rural economies and urban logistical hubs.



nationwide, giving our state higher combined federal and state corporate taxes than Germany or Japan. An adopted Senate plan will reduce our state rate, making Indiana more attractive and fostering private-sector job growth.

## PUTTING STUDENTS FIRST



### REWARDING EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, REFOCUSING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Indiana is blessed with many dedicated educators who drive student success. But unfortunately until now, teacher pay raises and layoffs were determined largely by seniority, not classroom effectiveness or academic growth.

That's why lawmakers this year supported requiring robust, locally designed and administered performance evaluations of teachers and principals based in-part on student learning. Comprehensive evaluations will help identify and reward great educators and provide valuable feedback for those needing improvement. Current teachers will not lose pay as a result of the new plan, but future compensation increases will be based on a teacher's effectiveness, instructional leadership positions, ability to meet the academic needs of students and experience.

Another new measure will return collective bargaining for teachers to its original intent – salaries and wage-related benefits. This restored approach removes bureaucratic underbrush from labor contracts and gives local school leaders freedom to run schools more efficiently and effectively. Topics like textbook selections, student discipline and class sizes must be discussed and may be detailed in other written school policies.

### NEW HIGH-QUALITY OPTIONS FOR HOOSIER STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Indiana will for the first time allow qualifying families to use a portion of their child's state tuition support to help pay costs at participating non-governmental schools. "Choice Scholarships" will be available to families who meet prescribed income guidelines. Hoosiers below free- and reduced-lunch income levels will be eligible for 90 percent of state tuition support; Hoosiers with slightly higher incomes will be eligible for 50 percent tuition support. A maximum scholarship amount is set at \$4,500 for grades 1-8, with the only limit for upper grades being the school's tuition and fees. Lawmakers capped the number of "Choice Scholarships" at 7,500 for the 2011-12 school year and 15,000 for 2012-13.

A separate reform will help ensure students and parents have access to other high-quality options by expanding authorizers of charter public schools statewide. This law specifies that all charters are to be open to any students living in Indiana and requires random drawings be conducted at public meetings if applicants outnumber openings. The enrolled act also gives parents more power in determining whether struggling, traditional public schools should be converted into less-regulated public charter schools in hopes of making innovative improvements. To assure quality, charters will be held to rigorous accountability standards like other public schools. Indiana's virtual (online) charters will be granted more flexibility to function like bricks-and-mortar charters in terms of authorization, funding and accountability.

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER ED, TECHNICAL TRAINING

Hoosier students who study diligently to complete high school requirements one year early will be eligible for new \$4,000 state-funded scholarships to attend Indiana colleges or technical schools. Students would be required to be enrolled at approved postsecondary education institutions within five months of graduating early from high school to receive the scholarships.

Lawmakers worked to preserve 100 percent college-tuition reimbursement for currently enrolled sons and daughters of deceased and disabled Indiana veterans. To ensure funds are available in the future for deserving children of those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, lawmakers reformed a few eligibility requirements. One change includes a provision to confirm an applicant's mother or father was a resident of Indiana at the time of enlistment or had been a resident of Indiana for at least five years prior to applying for these scholarship benefits.

Despite tough economic times, Indiana legislators also fully funded the state's popular 21st Century Scholarship program. Under the plan, low-income 7th and 8th grade students who stay out of trouble with the law, remain drug-free and perform well academically through high school graduation will continue to be eligible for these full college-tuition scholarships.