

2015 Legislative Session Summary

by IaUW Priorities



Education

- **Pre-K pilot** was continued at \$10 million/year in each budget.
- **Early Education Matching Grants** were continued at \$2 million/year. Funding was in Governor's and House budget but stripped from Senate. IaUW helped lead effort to restore funding.
- IaUW worked to raise awareness of need for **additional CCDF support** to meet growing wait list.

Income/Financial Stability

- **Smoothing the Cliff Effect** – HB1616 passed out of the House and the Senate Family and Children Committee and died without a hearing in Appropriations. IaUW testified on this and **removal of SNAP Asset Limits**, both ways to smooth the cliff effect and incentivize work.
- **Recoupling State EITC** – Recoupling provisions (that would have helped married couples and families with three or more children) were not included in final tax revisions, largely due to fiscal impact (\$12 – \$15 million). State EITC remains “as is.”
- **Tax Refund Garnishment** – Bill sponsors agreed to most provisions suggested by IaUW, ensuring exemptions for intangibles (<\$300), certain types of income (veterans, Social Security), injured or unobligated spousal protections. Bill died.

Health

- IaUW prepared data for the Senate Appropriations Committee related to **HIP and State/Federal exchange issues** for presentation on 3/26.

Strong Communities

- **2-1-1** – The budget included \$1 million per year for the two years for Indiana 2-1-1 services. The State joins scores of private funders supporting the statewide system.
- **NAP Tax Credits** were preserved. IaUW prepared a comprehensive tax credit summary that was used by legislators and lobbied to preserve NAP. **IDA Tax Credits** were also preserved.
- IaUW also weighed in on a bill related to **property tax sale transfers to nonprofits**.

IaUW also worked behind the scenes (HIV, FSSA drug testing, etc.), preparing materials for IN Coalition for Human Services. IaUW info is posted at www.iauw.org or <http://www.iauw.org/pubpol/publicpolicy.htm>

One-page fact sheets on

- [Facts about Enrollment in Indiana](#) (presented to Senate Appropriations 4/2 re: HIP and Marketplace enrollment and consequences in Indiana if Supreme Court negates subsidies)
- [Early Education--Child Care and Pre-K](#)
- [Smoothing the Cliff Effect](#) and
- [Taxpayer Fairness and the State EITC](#).

Testimony about

- [Pre-K and child care in the budget](#),
- [HB1616](#), a bill to smooth the cliff effect, and
- [HB1349](#), a bill addressing various tax matters including State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and various tax credits such as Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) Tax Credits.
- [Work scheduling practices](#)

Legislative Webinars on 1/22, 3/22 and 5/12

Our quick summaries about

- [tax credits](#) and
- [Budget Summary](#) comparing 2013 enacted, Governor's, House-passed, Senate-passed version and final budget.

Mobilized participation around

- [Third House session calendar](#), weekly emails with talking points.
- Feb. 10 Statehouse Day– 13 individuals, at least 14 Sens, 17 Reps
- Feb. 10 2-1-1 reception- 9 Sens and 20 Reps.
- March 4 Statehouse Day– 16 members and partners w/“in-office” meetings (20-30 min ea) with 13 Sens and 6 Reps.
- [2-1-1 letter](#) (1300+ sign-ons), action alerts on EEMG and 2-1-1 funding.