



State Legislative Wins

124th Indiana General Assembly

Indiana Farmers Union (INFU) is a grassroots organization advocating for Indiana family farmers and consumers' economic and social well-being and quality of life through education, cooperation, and legislation. We advocate for policies that support a positive future for all family farmers, growers, and consumers across the state.

This document provides a list of policy accomplishments that INFU advocated for throughout the 124th Indiana General Assembly's 2026 legislative session. Each year, Indiana Farmers Union members gather to consider and adopt INFU's policy priorities through a member-driven, democratic process. These legislative accomplishments reflect the priorities established and approved by INFU members.

Farmland Access and Resources

✓ **PASSED SB164 / P.L. 71-2026 – Study of Community or Urban Micro Farming**
SB164 directs the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) to conduct a statewide study to evaluate the feasibility of establishing community or urban micro-farm zones across the state and submit a report to the General Assembly detailing findings. ISDA, in collaboration with local governments, health agencies, and community organizations, will assess the best practices for micro-farm management and the role they play in expanding food access and nutrition education, as well as land availability, zoning models, and food safety standards.

✗ **DEFEATED HB1333 (Land Use and Development) to Preserve Local Control**
HB1333 would have permitted the construction of data centers and large-scale developments on agricultural land designated as Class IV-VIII “less prime land,” bypassing local zoning process, public hearings, and rezoning votes. It also would have extended governmental immunity protections to certain entities that executed agreements under the Indiana Brownfields Program.

While the bill initially was intended to direct development away from prime farmland toward “less desirable” land, the protections for local communities were substantially weakened throughout the amendment process.

INFU opposes the bypassing of local control and community input for large-scale developments, amidst increasing pressures on land and resources in Indiana's farming communities. INFU members lobbied against this bill during the legislative session and helped defeat it from advancing.

Vibrant Rural Communities

- ✓ **PASSED SB56 / P.L. 9-2026 – Veterinary Licensing**
[SB56](#) allows the Board of Veterinary Medicine to issue licenses without requiring an examination for applicants who have experience working in other states and/or have out-of-state licenses. This legislation effectively provides out-of-state professionals with the opportunity to care for animals in Indiana. It also brings veterinarians under the same rules that apply for other healthcare professionals and will help expedite the licensing process to fill major gaps in veterinary care for livestock.
- ✓ **PASSED SB240 / P.L. 126-2026 – Surplus Interconnection Service**
[SB240](#) promotes the use of surplus interconnection service (SIS), which is the unused portion of existing interconnection capacity, by allowing new power generation and battery storage facilities to utilize existing electrical grid connections. This bill seeks to create efficiencies on the existing electrical grid and reduce the need for utilities to build costly new transmission lines, helping ratepayers across the state as demand for electricity grows.
- ✓ **PASSED HB1177 / P.L. 58-2026 – Childcare Assistance**
[HB1177](#) expands the tax credit for businesses that provide childcare services for their employees. Entities with up to 500 employees are now eligible to claim the \$100,000 annual child care tax credit, up from the previous 100 employee size cap. This expansion will encourage businesses to include childcare as part of employee benefits packages and enhance Indiana's childcare system, particularly in rural communities where there are major shortages, and strengthen the state's workforce in all areas.

Competitive Markets and Market Development

- ✓ **PASSED HB1424 / P.L. 163-2026 – Farm and Homestead Food Sales**
[HB1424](#) eases state regulations on small farm and homestead vendors, affording them the same regulatory treatment as home-based vendors. These new regulations include small farms and vendors earning up to \$1.5 million in gross food and meat, which account for nearly 90% of Indiana farms, and will allow them to sell meat products raised on their property and promote greater farm-fresh and direct-to-consumer sales. The law also requires the disclosure of the regulatory exemptions and vendor information on product labels to protect consumers and ensure traceability, which INFU urged legislators to maintain in the final bill.
 - ✓ **PASSED SB55 / P.L. 8-2026 – Agricultural Programs**
[SB55](#) established the pork market development program (pork program) and the soybean market development program (soybean program). These are designed to be state-level fallback programs in the event federal research and promotion funds are eliminated, with no additional fees added on. Prior to enactment, Indiana was the largest soybean producing state to not have such programs.
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