

INTRODUCED: 6/1/2026

REFERRED TO: Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

SPONSOR: Councilor Hart

DIGEST: directs the City-County to require changes to the Office of Public Health and Safety (OPHS) after the audit completed by the Office of Audit and Performance (OAP)

SOURCE:

Initiated by: Councilor Hart

Drafted by: Paul Mullin, Counsel to the Minority Caucus

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTION:

Subject to approval or veto by Mayor

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Adoption and approvals

GENERAL COUNSEL APPROVAL: _____

Date: May 28, 2026

CITY-COUNTY GENERAL RESOLUTION NO. , 2026

PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL RESOLUTION to direct the City-County to require changes to the Office of Public Health & Safety (OPHS) as a result of the audit completed by the Office of Audit & Performance.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code (IC) § 36-3-4-23, the City-County Council of the Consolidated City of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana (Consolidated City-County) may create or terminate agencies of the Consolidated City-County and transfer to or from those agencies any powers, duties, functions, or obligations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 202-711 of the Revised Code of the Consolidated City and County (Revised Code) , the Office of Public Health and Safety (OPHS) was created under the Mayor's office; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 202-712 of the Revised Code, the director of the Office of Public Health and Safety shall (1) be appointed by the Mayor subject to City-County Council confirmation, (2) serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, and (3) execute contracts subject to the authority of the mayor and any other limitations prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, all officials, appointees, and employees of the Consolidated City-County must follow the Ethics portion, §293-101 through § 293-216, of the Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, all officials, appointees, and employees of the Consolidated City-County are subject to the conflicts of interests for contracts provisions spelled out in Section 293-211 of the Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 293-302 of the Revised Code requires that the Office of Corporation Counsel properly train all officials, appointees, and employees on the terms and conditions of the Ethics Code; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Public Health and Safety was audited by the Mayor's Office of Audit & Performance with a report published on April 9, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Audit Report found that there were significant issues with the OPHS's contracts and recommended ongoing staff training, a centralized system for managing and tracking contracts, steps to address noncompliance for contracts, and ethics training to follow ethics requirements from state and municipal law; and

WHEREAS, the City-County Council having considered the findings from the Audit Report, have created the following requirements:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The City-County Council hereby calls upon the director of OPHS to create a centralized system for tracking and managing contracts and invoices or otherwise utilize currently-existing processes or systems of the City-County enterprise. Additionally, the Council hereby calls for ongoing training for all staff of the office to ensure a general understanding of how to comply with the duties given to the OPHS. If the director does not comply with these requirements, the City-County Council will call upon the Mayor's office to replace the director.

SECTION 2. The City-County Council hereby calls upon the Office of the Corporate Counsel to provide in-person ethics training for the staff of OPHS, within the next six months, followed by monitoring OPHS to ensure all current and new employees comply with the current online training requirements.

SECTION 3. The City-County Council hereby calls upon the Mayor's office and the Office of Corporation Counsel to modify the ordinance to increase the training of ethical requirements for all of city and county departments and agencies.

SECTION 4. The City-County Council hereby calls upon the Office of Finance and Management to establish a monitoring system for OPHS that will ensure compliance with both city and state accounting policies and procedures.

SECTION 5. The City-County Council hereby calls upon the OPHS to take the any and all steps needed to address the findings made in the Audit Report and to fully cooperate with the other departments and agencies listed herein. Until this is done, the City-County Council will freeze any additional funding that goes to OPHS.

The foregoing was passed by the City-County Council this ____ day of _____, 2026, at ____ p.m.

ATTEST:

Maggie A. Lewis
President, City-County Council

Yulonda Winfield
Clerk, City-County Council

Presented by me to the Mayor this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Yulonda Winfield
Clerk, City-County Council

Approved and signed by me this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor