

SENATE FILE NO. SF0092

Sentencing guidelines task force.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Meier and Decaria and Representative(s) Alden, Buchanan, Landon, Lubnau and Warren

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; creating a  
2 sentencing guidelines task force to study criminal  
3 sentencing in Wyoming; specifying membership and duties;  
4 requiring a report; providing an appropriation; and  
5 providing for an effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.**

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11 (a) There is created a sentencing guidelines task  
12 force.

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14 (b) The task force shall be comprised of:

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1           (i) Two (2) members of the Wyoming senate,  
2 appointed by the president of the senate. Not more than  
3 one (1) member shall be of the same political party. The  
4 president of the senate shall designate a cochairman of the  
5 task force;

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7           (ii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming house of  
8 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house.  
9 Not more than one (1) member shall be of the same political  
10 party. The speaker of the house shall designate a  
11 cochairman of the task force;

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13           (iii) Two (2) district court judges appointed by  
14 the chief justice of the Wyoming supreme court;

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16           (iv) One (1) circuit court judge appointed by  
17 the chief justice of the Wyoming supreme court; and

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19           (v) One (1) person at large, appointed by the  
20 governor.

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22           (c) The task force shall:

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24           (i) Meet no less than four (4) times;

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(ii) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of:

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(A) The Wyoming criminal sentencing statutes;

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(B) How the Wyoming criminal sentencing statutes are being implemented by state courts, to determine if the criminal sentencing statutes and actual criminal sentences imposed are effective in protecting the lives, property and safety of Wyoming citizens; and

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(C) Sentencing guidelines used by other states and the effectiveness of those guidelines.

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(iii) Develop recommendations to modify criminal sentencing statutes, including developing sentencing guidelines, if appropriate, and submit draft legislation for consideration by the joint judiciary interim committee;

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(iv) Report its findings and recommendations to the joint judiciary interim committee no later than November 1, 2008.

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1           (d) Legislators serving on the task force shall be  
2 paid salary, per diem and travel expenses as provided in  
3 W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as members of the  
4 task force. Members of the judiciary serving on the task  
5 force shall be paid from their respective courts' budgets  
6 for the performance of their official duties as members of  
7 the task force. The at-large member serving on the task  
8 force shall receive travel and per diem expenses incurred  
9 for the performance of his official duties as a member of  
10 the task force in the same amount as legislators under W.S.  
11 28-5-101.

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13           (e) The task force shall be staffed by the  
14 legislative service office. State agencies, including the  
15 University of Wyoming, shall assist the task force as  
16 requested in conducting its duties under this act.

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18           **Section 2.** There is appropriated ten thousand eight  
19 hundred seventy-five dollars (\$10,875.00) from the general  
20 fund, for the period commencing with the effective date of  
21 this act through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, to  
22 the legislative service office to fund the meetings of the  
23 task force.

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1           **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
4 Constitution.

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(END)