FISCAL NOTE

This bill contains an appropriation of \$5,000,000 from the LEGISLATIVE STABILIZATION RESERVE ACCOUNT to the SCHOOL FINANCE LITIGATION ACCOUNT.

The bill proposed to continuously appropriate funding from the SCHOOL FINANCE LITIGATION ACCOUNT to the Wyoming Attorney General's Office to cover the costs of litigation associated with the State public school finance system. The bill specifies that this appropriation shall not lapse or revert expect upon further action of the Legislature.

DETAIL OF APPROPRIATION

Agency #: 015 Agency Name: Attorney General's Office

Unit: 0115 School Funding Equity Litigation

EXPENDITURE BY SERIES AND YEAR	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
0100 Personnel/Benefit Costs	\$0	\$559,985	\$559,985
0200 Supportive Services Costs	\$0	\$33,500	\$33,500
0400 Central/Data Services Costs	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
0900 Contractual Services Costs	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0
Total Expenditure Per Year:	\$0	\$1,596,485	\$596,485
Grand Total Expenditure:	\$2,192,970		
Total Appropriated to Agency:	\$5,000,000		
Total Appropriated by Fund:			
LEGISLATIVE STAB. RES. ACCT.	\$5,000,000		

Description of Appropriation:

Funds appropriated in this bill will only be expended if the State enters into active litigation of the school funding equity model. The Attorney General's Office (AGO) currently has funding appropriated in the School Funding Equity Litigation unit for this purpose and will work to expend these appropriations prior to accessing the funding appropriated in this bill.

The AGO would expect to hire additional attorneys and expert witnesses and pay support costs necessary for these employees to defend the State. Additional funds in the appropriation not allocated in FY2022 and FY2023 will be used in future years of the litigation as needed, or pay cost associated with any additional litigation that may occur.

Assumption:

The AGO presents expenditure of the appropriation in this bill under the assumption that litigation commences in FY2022 and that current appropriations are insufficient to cover necessary litigation costs.

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(Information provided by Steve Winders, Attorney General's Office, 777-7840)