

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0054

Wyoming meat packing initiative.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands &  
Water Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture and economic development;  
2 amending the duties of the Wyoming business council to  
3 require support for Wyoming producers in the agriculture  
4 and meat processing industry; expanding permissible loans  
5 and grants to Wyoming meat producers and processors;  
6 requiring rulemaking; requiring a report; and providing for  
7 effective dates.

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

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11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-12-109(b) and by creating new  
12 subsections (c) and (d) is amended to read:

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14 **9-12-109. Promotion of agriculture.**

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1           (b) The council shall meet not fewer than two (2)  
2 times per year to solicit input from industry groups, the  
3 department of agriculture, Wyoming governor's office,  
4 industry stakeholders and ~~in consultation to the extent~~  
5 practicable, consult with the economically needed diversity  
6 options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council to:

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8           (i) Develop a strategy to create small  
9 regionally located ~~beef-meat~~ processing plants inspected by  
10 the United States department of agriculture or Wyoming  
11 department of agriculture and mid-to-large sized processing  
12 plants for in-state, interstate and international sales;

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14           (ii) Market Wyoming grown and produced  
15 agricultural products in-state, regionally, nationally and  
16 internationally, through market development, trade shows  
17 and social media and other media outlets;

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19           (iii) Enhance the council's website to promote  
20 Wyoming grown or produced agricultural products including  
21 match making services between key food system partners;

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1           (iv) Contingent on available funds, provide  
2 loans or grants to be used to fund infrastructure for  
3 mid-sized meat processing plants for international,  
4 in-state and interstate sales. Loans or grants under this  
5 paragraph shall ~~be~~:

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7           (A) ~~Limited to~~ Provide funding to create,  
8 maintain or expand infrastructure for plants processing  
9 meat products for export and for in-state or interstate  
10 sale;

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12           (B) Be provided through a program  
13 administered by the council, including the Wyoming business  
14 ready community program, and subject to all applicable  
15 statutes and rules governing the program~~;~~

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17           (C) Not exceed one million dollars  
18 (\$1,000,000.00) per project and, for loans, have an  
19 interest rate not lower than three percent (3%) per annum.

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21           (v) Coordinate strategies to improve meat  
22 processing facilities and capabilities in Wyoming,  
23 including:

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(A) Providing technical assistance or expertise to assist producers and processors with seeking federal grants and loans;

(B) Increasing Wyoming producers' participation in applicable federal programs.

(vi) Provide loans, grants, technical assistance or expertise to assist producers plan, finance, construct, develop, acquire, own, lease, operate, maintain, modernize, upgrade or dispose, within and outside the state of Wyoming, meat processing facilities and all other property, structures, equipment, utilities and works of public improvement necessary or useful to facilitate the production, transportation, distribution and delivery of meat that is produced within or outside this state, including obtaining permits and acquiring necessary rights-of-way;

(vii) Provide technical assistance and expertise to assist producers with permitting, siting and other regulatory requirements;

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(viii) Provide technical assistance or expertise to assist producers acquire light, water, communications, security and other services for facilities as the authority deems advisable;

(ix) Investigate, plan and establish priorities for meat processing facilities in Wyoming;

(x) Engage with international and domestic stakeholders on potential market opportunities and meat processing projects to identify, develop and promote projects and market opportunities to increase the value of Wyoming livestock and meat;

(xi) Develop and administer programs to educate producers and the public on meat processing and the Wyoming livestock industry including tours, academic programs and communication plans.

(c) Any meat processing facility receiving assistance under this section shall comply with all applicable state and federal regulations.

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2 (d) The council shall submit a comprehensive report  
3 of the programs, objectives, activities and conditions  
4 covering the previous fiscal period to the joint  
5 agriculture, state and public lands and water resources  
6 interim committee not later than October 1 annually.

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8 **Section 2.** The Wyoming business council may  
9 promulgate rules as necessary to carry out the purposes of  
10 this act.

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12 **Section 3.**

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14 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
15 section, this act is effective July 1, 2021.

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17 (b) Section 2 of this act is effective immediately  
18 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become  
19 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
20 Constitution.

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(END)