

Bill No.: HB0197 **Effective:** **Immediately**

LSO No.: 21LSO-0572

Enrolled Act No.: HEA No. 0064

Chapter No.: 92

Prime Sponsor: Newsome

Catch Title: **Connect Wyoming program-federal funding.**

Subject: Appropriating CARES Act funds for broadband internet projects.

Summary/Major Elements:

- In the federal Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, states were allocated relief funds to cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Wyoming received one billion two hundred fifty million dollars (\$1,250,000,000) in relief funds.
- In expending these funds, the Governor and Wyoming Business Council created the Connect Wyoming program, which was designed to provide CARES Act funds for middle-mile and last-mile broadband internet projects to improve access and meet the increased need for reliable high-speed internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This act appropriates CARES Act funds, in an amount to be specified by the Legislature, to the Wyoming Business Council for additional broadband internet projects through the Connect Wyoming program. Funds may be expended until December 31, 2021 or the last day on which CARES Act funds may be expended, whichever is later.

The above summary is not an official publication of the Wyoming Legislature and is not an official statement of legislative intent. While the Legislative Service Office endeavored to provide accurate information in this summary, it should not be relied upon as a comprehensive abstract of the bill.