

Bill No.: HB1002 **Effective:** **Immediately**
LSO No.: **21LSO-1008**
Enrolled Act No.: HEA No. 0001
Chapter No.: 1
Prime Sponsor: Sommers
Catch Title: **Federal COVID vaccine mandates-prohibition and remedies-2.**
Subject: COVID-19 vaccine mandate prohibition, litigation authorization, resolution to federal government.

Summary/Major Elements:

- This act provides findings and statements concerning the federal government's actions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, divided into two parts:
 - The first part contains findings and assertions regarding the onset of COVID-19, the development of vaccines for COVID-19, the announcement of federal COVID-19 vaccine mandates, opposition to the federal mandates based on personal choice and rights found in the United States and the Wyoming Constitutions, and Wyoming's rejection of the federal power to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - The second part condemns the promulgation of any federal COVID-19 vaccination requirement as an infringement on the rights of Wyoming citizens to make their own healthcare decisions without governmental coercion, intrusion, or dictate. The Legislature also resolves that no state or local public entity should be coerced into enforcing federal vaccine mandates, that public entities should not be required to require proof of COVID-19 vaccination in order to provide public benefits, and that the Wyoming Attorney General is empowered to litigate against federal COVID-19 vaccine mandates.
- The act creates a statute that prohibits state or local public entities from enforcing any federal COVID-19 vaccine mandate that requires an employer to ensure that an employee receives a COVID-19 vaccination. The act doesn't apply to public entities that receive federal funding and that would lose federal funding by not complying with a federal COVID-19 vaccine mandate. The prohibition in this act is enforceable until a conflicting federal law takes effect and is enforceable if a conflicting federal law is declared invalid and during any time that a federal court has stayed any conflicting federal law.
- The act authorizes the Wyoming Attorney General, with the Governor's direction and consent, to initiate or participate in litigation to resist all federal COVID-19 vaccine mandates that are contrary to the law and the rights of Wyoming citizens. The act appropriates \$4,000,000 to fund these litigation efforts.
- The act requires the Wyoming Secretary of State to transmit copies of this act to specified federal officials, including congressional leadership, the President of the United States, and Wyoming's congressional delegation.

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.