

SENATE FILE NO. SF0124

Economic development-rodeo museum.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Driskill, Anderson, Barlow, Biteman, Boner, Brennan, Cooper, Crago, Crum, Dockstader, Gierau, Hicks, Jones, Kolb, Landen, Laursen, D, Love, Nethercott, Olsen, Pappas, Rothfuss, Schuler and Scott and Representative(s) Banks, Brown, L, Byron, Campbell, K, Clouston, Davis, Filer, Geringer, Haroldson, Harshman, Jarvis, Larsen, L, Larson, JT, Locke, Nicholas, Sherwood, Tarver, Thayer, Washut, Williams, Winter and Wylie

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to tourism; providing an appropriation;
 2 specifying distribution and requirements for the
 3 appropriation; requiring reporting; and providing for an
 4 effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) There is appropriated fifteen million dollars
 11 (\$15,000,000.00) from the Wyoming tourism reserve and

1 projects account created in W.S. 39-15-111(p)(i)(B) to the
2 Wyoming office of tourism to contract with a rodeo and
3 cowboy museum and hall of fame project to promote tourism
4 and preserve Wyoming's cowboy heritage and western history.
5 This appropriation shall be distributed to the office of
6 tourism in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.
7 This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with
8 the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2036.
9 This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for
10 any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-
11 207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from this
12 appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2036.

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14 (b) The appropriation in subsection (a) of this
15 section shall be distributed to the office of tourism as
16 follows:

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18 (i) Three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) shall
19 be made available on the effective date of this act and
20 distributed not later than April 15, 2026;

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22 (ii) Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) shall
23 be distributed on July 1, 2026;

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2 (iii) Ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) shall
3 be distributed on July 1, 2027 or as soon as funds are
4 available on and after that date.

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6 (c) The appropriation provided in this section shall
7 be subject to all of the following:

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9 (i) For the period beginning July 1, 2026 and
10 ending June 30, 2028, the appropriation in this section
11 shall take priority and be fully executed in each fiscal
12 year prior to any required transfers from the Wyoming
13 tourism reserve and projects account to the Wyoming outdoor
14 recreation and tourism trust fund account pursuant to 2023
15 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 153, Section 2;

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17 (ii) The Wyoming tourism board shall solicit
18 requests for qualifications under subsection (b) of this
19 section and reject or recommend approval of requests
20 submitted under this paragraph for final action by the
21 governor;

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1 (iii) The Wyoming tourism board shall determine
2 and certify the project efforts have a reasonable
3 expectation of increasing tourism to Wyoming and generating
4 additional jobs, gross state product, state revenue, and
5 economic diversification;

6
7 (iv) The expenditure of funds contracted for a
8 project under this section shall be conditioned upon
9 expenditure of matching funds in the ratio of one dollar
10 (\$1.00) of project funds to not less than one dollar
11 (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source;

12
13 (v) Approval and allocation of any project under
14 this section shall include a repayment provision if the
15 project cannot be completed by June 30, 2030;

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17 (vi) Prior to final approval by the governor,
18 any proposed contract shall first be reviewed by the
19 attorney general, who shall certify the legality of the
20 transaction and all documents connected therewith;

21

1 (vii) The governor shall approve the project
2 contract only upon a determination that the project will
3 result in a substantial benefit to the public.

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5 (d) Not later than November 1 of each year until
6 November 1, 2036, the office of tourism shall report to the
7 joint appropriations committee on the expenditures made
8 each fiscal year from the appropriation in subsection (a)
9 of this section.

10

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

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16

17

(END)