

SENATE FILE NO. SF0100

Wyoming business council-evaluation and reform-2.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Love, Barlow, Brennan, Cooper,  
Crago, Crum, Nethercott and Olsen and  
Representative(s) Filer, Fornstrom and  
Geringer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the administration of the government;  
2 creating a task force; specifying duties of the task force  
3 in evaluating the Wyoming business council; specifying  
4 additional ex officio members of the Wyoming business  
5 council board; specifying duties of the Wyoming business  
6 council; requiring reports; providing appropriations; and  
7 providing for an effective date.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-12-103(a) is amended to read:

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1           **9-12-103. Wyoming business council; creation;**  
2 **composition; compensation; termination; meetings; surety**  
3 **bonds; fiscal control.**

4  
5           (a) There is created the Wyoming business council.  
6 The council is a body corporate operating as a state  
7 instrumentality operated solely for the public benefit. As  
8 such it shall have, and is hereby vested with, the powers  
9 and duties conferred in this chapter. Beginning March 1,  
10 2022, it shall be governed by a board of directors  
11 consisting of thirteen (13) voting directors, appointed by  
12 the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The  
13 governor shall be a member and cochairman of the board, but  
14 shall not vote. The appointed directors shall have  
15 demonstrated leadership and business expertise. An equal  
16 number of directors shall be appointed to initial terms of  
17 one (1), two (2) and three (3) years. Thereafter, directors  
18 shall serve for terms of three (3) years. No appointed  
19 director shall serve more than two (2) successive three (3)  
20 year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint  
21 a successor in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101. The governor  
22 may remove any board member he appoints for cause and shall  
23 remove any director who fails to attend three (3)

1 consecutive regular meetings of the council. No appointed  
2 council member shall send a designee to attend a council  
3 meeting nor vote by proxy. The board shall select one (1)  
4 of its members to act as cochairman of the board. The  
5 board shall retain a chief executive officer. The chief  
6 executive officer serves at the pleasure of the board. All  
7 of the appointed directors shall be appointed at large and  
8 at least twelve (12) of the appointed directors shall be  
9 residents of Wyoming. In addition to the appointed voting  
10 members, there shall be one (1) ex officio nonvoting member  
11 appointed by the president of the senate and one (1) ex  
12 officio nonvoting member appointed by the speaker of the  
13 house of representatives.

14

15 **Section 2.**

16

17 (a) There is created the Wyoming business council  
18 strategic advisory task force to consist of the following  
19 members:

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21 (i) The governor or the governor's designee;

22

1           (ii) Two (2) members of the house of  
2 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
3 representatives. One (1) member appointed under this  
4 paragraph shall be designated by the speaker of the house  
5 as cochairman of the task force;

6

7           (iii) Two (2) members of the senate, appointed  
8 by the president of the senate. One (1) member appointed  
9 under this paragraph shall be designated by the president  
10 of the senate as cochairman of the task force;

11

12           (iv) One (1) member of the Wyoming business  
13 council board of directors;

14

15           (v) One (1) member representing business in  
16 Wyoming, recommended by a statewide organization  
17 representing Wyoming business and appointed by the  
18 governor;

19

20           (vi) One (1) member representing manufacturing  
21 business in Wyoming, appointed by the governor;

22

1           (vii) One (1) member representing agriculture  
2 business in Wyoming, appointed by the governor;

3

4           (viii) One (1) member representing the oil, gas  
5 or mineral industry, appointed by the governor;

6

7           (ix) One (1) member representing the tourism  
8 industry, appointed by the governor;

9

10           (x) Two (2) members representing local economic  
11 development organizations in Wyoming, appointed by the  
12 governor;

13

14           (xi) One (1) member who is an elected official  
15 of a city or town in Wyoming, recommended by a statewide  
16 organization representing municipalities in Wyoming and  
17 appointed by the governor;

18

19           (xii) One (1) member who is an elected official  
20 of a county in Wyoming, recommended by a statewide  
21 organization representing counties in Wyoming and appointed  
22 by the governor.

23

1           (b) The task force shall be staffed by the  
2 legislative service office.

3

4           (c) The task force shall meet not less than three (3)  
5 times during the work of the task force.

6

7           (d) Legislative members of the task force shall  
8 receive salary, per diem and mileage as provided by W.S.  
9 28-5-101. Members of the task force who are not members of  
10 the legislature or state employees shall receive per diem  
11 and mileage as provided by W.S. 28-5-101.

12

13           (e) The task force shall:

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15           (i) Evaluate the Wyoming business council and  
16 its programs, duties and functions, including those  
17 programs, duties and functions assumed or delegated to the  
18 Wyoming business council that are not specified in the  
19 Wyoming Economic Development Act;

20

21           (ii) Review economic development initiatives  
22 from similar states to Wyoming to inform and develop

1 proposed recommendations and possible policy changes for  
2 the Wyoming business council;

3

4 (iii) Review the information reported and  
5 submitted by the Wyoming business council under section 3  
6 of this act;

7

8 (iv) Consider and develop a proposed strategic  
9 direction for the Wyoming business council that represents  
10 the needs of the Wyoming business community;

11

12 (v) Evaluate which programs, duties and  
13 functions of the Wyoming business council should be  
14 retained, modified, privatized, transferred or eliminated;

15

16 (vi) Consider and develop recommended  
17 improvements for the operations of the Wyoming business  
18 council, including how the Wyoming business council  
19 interacts with and involves the Wyoming business community;

20

21 (vii) Develop recommendations for a clear method  
22 for communicating and reporting the work and operations of  
23 the Wyoming business council to the governor's office and

1 the joint minerals, business and economic development  
2 interim committee;

3

4 (viii) Evaluate other community infrastructure  
5 development programs and opportunities that may be  
6 available through consensus block grant funding, mineral  
7 royalty grants or other funding mechanisms;

8

9 (ix) Consider and make recommendations for the  
10 incorporation and funding of regional comprehensive  
11 economic development strategies through the Wyoming  
12 business council in coordination with local governments and  
13 economic development organizations;

14

15 (x) Consider and make a recommendation to the  
16 legislature about the creation of a select economic  
17 development committee;

18

19 (xi) Consider and develop proposed legislation  
20 to implement any recommendations or proposals developed  
21 through the task force's work under this subsection.

22

1           (f) Not later than October 1, 2026, the task force  
2 shall:

3

4           (i) Report its findings and recommendations for  
5 the Wyoming business council to the governor and the joint  
6 minerals, business and economic development interim  
7 committee;

8

9           (ii) Forward any proposed legislation for the  
10 2027 general session to the joint minerals, business and  
11 economic development interim committee or to another  
12 applicable committee.

13

14           (g) The task force may request the assistance of any  
15 state agency or other entity in completing its work. Upon  
16 receiving a request under this subsection, each agency or  
17 entity shall provide assistance to the task force as  
18 requested.

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20           (h) The task force created under this section shall  
21 terminate on December 31, 2026.

22

23           **Section 3.**

1

2 (a) On the effective date of this act, the Wyoming  
3 business council shall not take any action that expands any  
4 program, duty or function of the Wyoming business council  
5 and shall not assume any new program, duty or function  
6 until July 1, 2027, unless otherwise required by law.

7

8 (b) Not later than April 30, 2026, the Wyoming  
9 business council shall report to the joint minerals,  
10 business and economic development interim committee, the  
11 governor, the state budget department and the Wyoming  
12 energy authority on all of the following:

13

14 (i) The total amount of grant funds and  
15 financial aid obligated for disbursement as of April 30,  
16 2026 but not disbursed;

17

18 (ii) The number of loans executed by the Wyoming  
19 business council that are still outstanding as of April 30,  
20 2026. In reporting information under this paragraph, the  
21 Wyoming business council shall itemize each loan by program  
22 and report the recipient of each outstanding loan, the  
23 terms and conditions of each outstanding loan, the

1 repayment schedule for each loan and the amount remaining  
2 to be repaid for each outstanding loan;

3

4 (iii) The number of bonds executed by the  
5 Wyoming business council before April 30, 2026 that are  
6 still outstanding as of April 30, 2026. In reporting  
7 information under this paragraph, the Wyoming business  
8 council shall report each outstanding bond, the terms and  
9 conditions of each outstanding bond and any amount  
10 remaining to be paid or repaid for each outstanding bond;

11

12 (iv) Agreements or contracts for grants, loans,  
13 bonds and financial aid for which the state receives or  
14 will receive a portion or all of the funds upon a sale of  
15 property or the project;

16

17 (v) All real and personal property owned or held  
18 by the Wyoming business council as of April 30, 2026.  
19 Information reported under this paragraph shall include the  
20 program or function for which the property is owned or  
21 held;

22

1           (vi) Each program and function administered or  
2 operated by the Wyoming business council;

3  
4           (vii) Each set or group of funds received or  
5 managed by the Wyoming business council;

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7           (viii) The return on investment for each program  
8 operated or administered by the Wyoming business council.

9  
10           **Section 4.**

11  
12           (a) There is appropriated twenty thousand dollars  
13 (\$20,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative  
14 service office for purposes of providing salary, per diem  
15 and mileage to the legislative members of the task force  
16 created under section 2 of this act. This appropriation  
17 shall be for the period beginning with the effective date  
18 of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation  
19 shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose  
20 and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
21 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
22 2028.

23

1           (b) There is appropriated forty thousand dollars  
2   (\$40,000.00) from the general fund to the office of the  
3   governor for purposes of providing per diem and mileage to  
4   nonlegislative members of the task force created under  
5   section 2 of this act. This appropriation shall be for the  
6   period beginning with the effective date of this act and  
7   ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be  
8   transferred or expended for any other purpose and any  
9   unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
10  appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
11  2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this  
12  appropriation not be included in the standard budget of the  
13  office of the governor for the immediately succeeding  
14  fiscal biennium.

15

16           (c) There is appropriated seventy-five thousand  
17  dollars (\$75,000.00) from the general fund to the  
18  legislative service office for purposes of securing expert  
19  or consulting services associated with the evaluation and  
20  review of the Wyoming business council specified in this  
21  act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning  
22  with the effective date of this act and ending June 30,  
23  2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or

1 expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,  
2 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall  
3 revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

4

5 (d) The legislative service office and the office of  
6 the governor may accept grants, gifts and donations to be  
7 utilized for the purposes specified in this section.

8

9 **Section 5.** This act is effective immediately upon  
10 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
11 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
12 Constitution.

13

14

(END)