SESSION LAWS OF WYOMING

2026
Budget Session

SESSION LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF WYOMING

PASSED BY THE

SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

2026 BUDGET SESSION

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Legislative Service Office

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Chapter 1

BIRTHING CENTERS-MEDICAID COVERAGE

Original House Bill No. 4

AN ACT relating to medical assistance and services; authorizing payment for services rendered by a birthing center under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 42-4-103(a) by creating a new paragraph (xxxix) is amended to read:

42-4-103. Authorized services and supplies.

(a) Services and supplies authorized for medical assistance under this chapter include:

<u>(xxxix) Services provided by birthing centers as defined by W.S. 35-2-901(a)(iii).</u>

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 2

OIL AND GAS BONDING POOL-INVESTMENT AND EARNINGS

Original House Bill No. 5

AN ACT relating to oil and gas; providing for the investment of bonding pool assessment proceeds; specifying the disposition of investment earnings; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 30-5-129(a)(v) is amended to read:

30-5-129. Oil and gas bonding; rules for operators; requirements; reports; assessments.

(a) The commission shall promulgate rules to establish bonding options in addition to those specified in W.S. 30-5-104(d)(i)(D) for operators requiring bonds for producing oil or gas in Wyoming. The program required under this subsection shall be in accordance with all of the following:

(v) The commission may impose an assessment on each participating operator on the fair cash market value, as provided in W.S. 39-14-203, of all oil and gas produced, sold or transported from the operator's wells in Wyoming that are covered under this subsection in accordance with this paragraph. Beginning on July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030, the assessment shall be zero (0) mills on the dollar. Beginning July 1, 2030, the commission may impose an assessment under this paragraph in an amount not to exceed five-tenths of one (1) mill ($0.0005) on the dollar. All funds collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the separate account established under W.S. 30-5-116(b). For purposes of accounting and investing, funds collected under this paragraph shall be accounted for separately. The state treasurer shall invest funds collected under this paragraph in accordance with law, and all investment earnings shall be deposited in the separate account established under W.S. 30-5-116(b). Funds collected and investment earnings deposited under this paragraph shall be expended only on the bonding pool established under paragraph (iii) or (iv) of this subsection;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 3

FIREFIGHTERS-RETIREMENT PLANS

Original House Bill No. 34

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; authorizing firefighters to participate in retirement system plans as specified; providing appropriations; requiring rulemaking; specifying implementation; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-402(a)(xviii) and (xxv) is amended to read:

9-3-402. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(xviii) "Law enforcement officer" or "officer" means any member who is a county sheriff, deputy county sheriff, municipal police officer, duly authorized investigator of the Wyoming livestock board meeting the specifications of W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(E), duly authorized personnel of the Wyoming gaming commission meeting the specifications of W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(P), investigator employed by the Wyoming state board of outfitters and professional guides meeting the specifications of W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(J), Wyoming correctional officer, probation and parole agent employed by the Wyoming department of corrections, Wyoming law enforcement academy instructor, full-time state park ranger, University of Wyoming campus police officer, community college police officer, detention officer, ~~or~~ dispatcher for law enforcement agencies or any person employed on a full-time basis as a correctional forestry crew supervisor, correctional crew supervisor or correctional forestry crew manager by the Wyoming state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments or any other agency;

(xxv) "Firefighter member" means:

(A) Any employee of a Wyoming national guard fire department crash and rescue unit employed on a full-time basis for firefighting and rescue operations within the department; and

(B) Any person employed full-time or temporary full-time in a wildland firefighting occupation by any state agency.

Section 2. There is appropriated four hundred eleven thousand dollars ($411,000.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for retirement contributions made pursuant to this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the office of state lands and investments for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3.

(a) The Wyoming retirement board and the office of state lands and investments shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

(b) Coverage of persons employed on a full-time basis as a correctional forestry crew supervisor, correctional crew supervisor, correctional forestry crew manager or in a wildland firefighting occupation by the Wyoming state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments or any other state agency, as required by section 1 of this act, shall commence on July 1, 2026, unless those persons elect to continue participation in the Wyoming Retirement Act as a general member. An election shall be made by providing notice to the Wyoming retirement board not later than April 30, 2026. Once an election is made it shall not be rescinded. Service credit in any other retirement plan administered by the Wyoming retirement board, other than previous credit as a firefighter member or law enforcement officer member, shall not be included as service credit as a firefighter member or law enforcement member under this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 4

FIREFIGHTERS-PAID LEAVE AND HAZARD PAY

Original House Bill No. 35

AN ACT relating to the office of state lands and investments; authorizing firefighters to receive hazard pay and paid time off as specified; providing appropriations; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1.

(a) Correctional forestry crew supervisors, correctional crew supervisors, correctional forestry crew managers and any other person in a wildland firefighting occupation employed by the state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments shall:

(i) Receive a differential for firefighting work deemed hazardous in accordance with federal standards for firefighter hazard pay and subsection (b) of this section; and

(ii) Be eligible for paid time off in accordance with federal standards for firefighter paid time off and subsection (b) of this section.

(b) For purposes of this section, the office of state lands and investments shall monitor federal standards for firefighting work deemed hazardous and firefighter paid time off when determining compensation under subsection (a) of this section, but those federal standards shall not be binding on the office of state lands and investments.

Section 2. There is appropriated four hundred twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars ($422,500.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for purposes of providing hazard pay pursuant to section

1(a)(i) of this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning May 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the office of state lands and investments for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. The department of administration and information and the office of state lands and investments shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective May 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 5

ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS IN K-12 SCHOOLS

Original Senate File No. 18

AN ACT relating to enrollment of students in K-12 public schools; specifying the public schools of the state as being equally free and accessible to children attending school on a part-time basis; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-4-301 is amended to read:

21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all children; minimum school year.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of each school district in the state shall at all times be equally free and accessible to all children, including children attending school on a part-time basis, resident therein of five (5) years of age as of August 1, or September 15 if pursuant to an approved request under W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxxviii), of the year in which they may register in kindergarten as provided in W.S. 21-4-302(b) and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to regulations of the board of trustees.

(b) Each school district shall operate its schools and its classes for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five (175) days each school year unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the state board. Prior to submission of a proposed alternative schedule to the state board, the board of trustees shall hold at least two (2) advertised public meetings within the district, at which the board shall present the proposed alternative schedule and respond to public questions and comments. Any school district operating under an alternative schedule shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the educational goals and purposes for which the schedule was adopted.

~~(b)~~(c) A parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of any child eligible to attend public school in Wyoming under subsection (a) of this section shall have the option to apply for the ESA program specified by W.S. 21-2-901 on behalf of the child.

Section 2. W.S. 21-4-301 as amended by section 1 of this act, shall apply to enrollment of children beginning school year 2026-2027 and each school year thereafter.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 6

UNIFORM MORTGAGE MODIFICATION ACT

Original Senate File No. 31

AN ACT relating to mortgages; implementing the Uniform Mortgage Modification Act; specifying the priority of mortgages; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 34-30-101 through 34-30-107 are created to read:

CHAPTER 30
UNIFORM MORTGAGE MODIFICATION ACT

34-30-101. Short title.

This act may be cited as the Uniform Mortgage Modification Act.

34-30-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic or similar capabilities;

(ii) "Financial covenant" means an undertaking to demonstrate an obligor's creditworthiness or the adequacy of security provided by an obligor;

(iii) "Modification" includes a change, amendment, revision, correction, addition, supplementation, elimination, waiver or restatement;

(iv) "Mortgage":

(A) Means an agreement that creates a consensual interest in real property to secure payment or performance of an obligation, regardless of:

(I) How the agreement is denominated, including a mortgage, deed of trust, trust deed, security deed, indenture or deed to secure debt; and

(II) Whether the agreement also creates a security interest in personal property.

(B) Does not include an agreement that creates a consensual interest to secure liability owned by a unit owner to a condominium association, owners' association or cooperative housing association for association dues, fees or assessments.

(v) "Mortgage modification" means modification of:

(A) A mortgage;

(B) An agreement that creates an obligation, including a promissory note, loan agreement or credit agreement; or

(C) An agreement that creates other security or credit enhancement for an obligation, including an assignment of leases or rents or a guaranty.

(vi) "Obligation" means a debt, duty or other liability, secured by a mortgage;

(vii) "Obligor" means a person that:

(A) Owes payment or performance of an obligation;

(B) Signs a mortgage; or

(C) Is otherwise accountable, or whose property serves as collateral, for payment or performance of an obligation.

(viii) "Recognized index" means an index to which changes in the interest rate may be linked that is:

(A) Readily available to, and verifiable by, the obligor; and

(B) Beyond the control of the person to whom the obligation is owed.

(ix) "Record", used as a noun, means information:

(A) Inscribed on a tangible medium; or

(B) Stored in an electronic or other medium and retrievable in perceivable form.

(x) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record:

(A) Execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(B) Attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol, sound or process.

(xi) "This act" means W.S. 34-30-101 through 34-30-107.

34-30-103. Scope.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, this act applies to a mortgage modification.

(b) This act does not affect:

(i) Law governing the required content of a mortgage;

(ii) A statute of limitations or other law governing the expiration or termination of a right to enforce an obligation or a mortgage;

(iii) A recording statute;

(iv) A statute governing the priority of a tax lien or other governmental lien;

(v) A statute of frauds or the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act;

(vi) Except as provided in W.S. 34-30-104(b)(viii), law governing the priority of a future advance.

(c) This act does not apply to any of the following modifications:

(i) A release of, or addition to, property encumbered by a mortgage;

(ii) A release of, addition of, or other change in an obligor; or

(iii) An assignment or other transfer of a mortgage or an obligation.

34-30-104. Effect of mortgage modification.

(a) For a mortgage modification described in subsection (b) of this section:

(i) The mortgage continues to secure the obligation as modified;

(ii) The priority of the mortgage is not affected by the modification;

(iii) The mortgage retains its priority regardless of whether a record of the mortgage modification is recorded; and

(iv) The modification is not a novation.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section applies to one (1) or more of the following mortgage modifications:

(i) An extension of the maturity date of an obligation;

(ii) A decrease in the interest rate of an obligation;

(iii) If the modification does not result in an increase in the interest rate of an obligation as calculated on the date the modification becomes effective:

(A) A change to a different index that is a recognized index if the previous index to which changes in the interest rate were linked is no longer available;

(B) A change in the differential between the index and the interest rate;

(C) A change from a floating or adjustable rate to a fixed rate; or

(D) A change from a fixed rate to a floating or adjustable rate based on a recognized index.

(iv) A capitalization of unpaid interest or other unpaid monetary obligation;

(v) A forgiveness, forbearance or other reduction of principal, accrued interest or other monetary obligation;

(vi) A modification of a requirement for maintaining an escrow or reserve account for payment of an obligation, including taxes and insurance premiums;

(vii) A modification of a requirement for acquiring or maintaining insurance;

(viii) A modification of an existing condition to advance funds;

(ix) A modification of a financial covenant; and

(x) A modification of the payment amount or schedule resulting from another modification described in this section.

(c) The effect of a mortgage modification not described in subsection (b) of this section is not governed by this act. This act shall not be construed to negate the validity or priority of a mortgage modification not described in subsection (b) of this section.

34-30-105. Uniformity of application; construction.

(a) In applying and construing this uniform act, a court shall consider the promotion of uniformity of the law among jurisdictions that enact it.

(b) This act shall not be construed to negate the validity or priority of a mortgage modification not described in W.S. 34-30-104(b).

34-30-106. Relation to electronic signatures in global and national commerce act.

This act modifies, limits or supersedes the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7001 et seq., as amended, but does not modify, limit or supersede 15 U.S.C. § 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in 15 U.S.C. § 7003(b).

34-30-107. Applicability.

This act applies to a mortgage modification made on or after July 1, 2026 regardless of when the mortgage or obligation was created.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 7

INCREASE OF HATHAWAY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Original Senate File No. 47

AN ACT relating to increasing the Hathaway scholarship program awards; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-16-1304(a)(i)(A), (ii)(A) and (iii)(A), 21-16-1305(a)(i)(A) and 21-16-1306(a)(i)(B)(II) and (C) are amended to read:

21-16-1304. Hathaway opportunity, performance and honor scholarships.

(a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S. 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a scholarship to pursue a degree or certificate as follows:

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of forty-three (43) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway opportunity scholarship for:

(A) ~~Eight hundred forty dollars ($840.00)~~ <u>One thousand one hundred eighty dollars ($1,180.00)</u> per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

(ii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of fifty-six (56) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway performance scholarship for:

(A) ~~One thousand two hundred sixty dollars ($1,260.00)~~ <u>One thousand seven hundred seventy dollars ($1,770.00)</u> per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

(iii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of seventy-nine (79) on an examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway honor scholarship for:

(A) ~~One thousand six hundred eighty dollars ($1,680.00)~~ <u>Two thousand three hundred sixty dollars ($2,360.00)</u> per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarships.

(a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S. 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship to pursue a certificate or degree as follows:

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and either a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of thirty (30) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance or a qualifying cumulative score on a career-technical aptitude test as determined by the department, a scholarship for:

(A) ~~Eight hundred forty dollars ($840.00)~~ One thousand one hundred eighty dollars ($1,180.00) per semester at a Wyoming community college if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

21-16-1306. Need based scholarships.

(a) In addition to scholarships made available under W.S. 21-16-1304 and 21-16-1305 there shall be made available a need based Hathaway scholarship as follows:

(i) The scholarship shall be available only to students qualifying for a scholarship under W.S. 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305 and for federal financial aid. The scholarships under this section shall be computed and awarded as follows:

(B) If the student has annual unmet financial need greater than two thousand dollars ($2,000.00):

(II) If a student is eligible for a scholarship under this article but does not qualify under subdivision (I) of this subparagraph – an award equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the annual unmet financial need in excess of two thousand dollars ($2,000.00), but not to exceed ~~one thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars ($1,575.00)~~ two thousand one hundred twenty dollars ($2,120.00) per year.

(C) A student qualifying for any award under this section shall receive a minimum amount of ~~one hundred five dollars ($105.00)~~ one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00) for each semester of qualification. One-half (1/2) of the annual award amount under this section shall be provided to the student at each semester of qualification;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 8

LOTTERY TICKETS-ACCEPTANCE OF DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS

Original Senate File No. 24

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming lottery; authorizing debit card payments for lottery ticket purchases; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-17-108(a)(ii) is amended to read:

9-17-108. Adoption by board of procedures regulating conduct of lottery games.

(a) The board may adopt regulations, policies and procedures regulating the conduct of lottery games in general, including, but not limited to, regulations, policies and procedures specifying:

(ii) The sale price of tickets or shares and the manner of sale, provided, however, that all sales shall be for cash or debit cards only and payment by checks, ~~debit cards,~~ credit cards, charge cards or any other form of payment is prohibited;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 9

ELECTIONS-VOTER REGISTRATION REVISIONS

Original Senate File No. 30

AN ACT relating to elections; clarifying the definition of "qualified elector"; making conforming changes related to voter registration and voter qualifications; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 18-16-102(a)(ix)(C) and (G), 22-1-102(a)(xxvi), 22-3-102(a)(ii) and (vi), 22-3-103(b) and 22-29-104(a)(v)(C) and (G) are amended to read:

18-16-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(ix) "Qualified elector" means a natural person who:

(C) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the next election~~; at which he may offer to vote~~;

(G) Has been a bona fide resident of Wyoming for not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the next election. ~~at which he offers to vote.~~

22-1-102. Definitions.

(a) The definitions contained in this chapter apply to words and phrases used in this Election Code and govern the construction of those words and phrases unless they are specifically modified by the context in which they appear. As used in this Election Code:

(xxvi) "Qualified elector" includes every citizen of the United States who is a bona fide resident of Wyoming, has been a bona fide resident of Wyoming for not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the next election, ~~at which he offers to vote,~~ has registered to vote and will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the next election. ~~at which he may offer to vote.~~ No person is a qualified elector who is a currently adjudicated mentally incompetent person, or who has been convicted of a felony and his civil or voting rights have not been restored. A literacy test shall not be imposed as a condition to voting in any election;

22-3-102. Qualifications; temporary registration.

(a) A person may register to vote not less than fourteen (14) days before an election, at any election specified in W.S. 22-2-101(a)(i) through (viii) or as provided by W.S. 22-3-117, who satisfies the following qualifications:

(ii) He will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the next ~~general~~ election provided he shall not be permitted to vote until he has attained the age of eighteen (18);

(vi) He has been a bona fide resident of Wyoming for not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the next election. ~~at which he offers to vote.~~

22-3-103. Furnishing of oath forms; contents thereof.

(b) Following the provision of the information required in subsection (a) of this section, the form shall require the applicant's signature in full below the following oath:

I, ..., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the United States; that I am a bona fide resident of the state of Wyoming and this county; I have resided in the state for not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the next election; that if registered in another county or state, I hereby request that my registration be withdrawn; that I will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next election; that I am not currently adjudicated a mentally incompetent person, that I have not been convicted of a felony, or if I have been convicted of a felony, I have had my civil or voting rights restored by a competent authority; and that the voter registration information contained herein is true and accurate to my best knowledge and belief.

.... (Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and affirmed or sworn to before me by .... this .... day of ...., (year).

.... (Signature and title of registry agent or person authorized to administer oaths)

22-29-104. Definitions when principal act is silent.

(a) When used in a principal act, the following definitions apply, unless the term is otherwise specifically defined in that principal act:

(v) "Qualified elector" means a natural person who:

(C) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the <u>next</u> election~~; at which he may offer to vote;~~

(G) Has been a bona fide resident of Wyoming for not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the <u>next</u> election<u>.</u>~~ at which he offers to vote.~~

Section 2. This act is effective June 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 10

BURIALS OF INDIGENT VETERANS-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 11

AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; amending eligibility requirements for indigent veterans in order for counties to request reimbursement for preparing and transporting indigent veterans for burial; specifying indigent veterans who qualify for burial expenses paid by the department of family services also qualify for payment of burial expenses by counties; increasing the amount paid for burial expenses by the department of family services; clarifying priority of payment for burial expenses of indigent veterans; making a conforming amendment; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-14-101(a), (b) and by creating a new subsection (d) and 42-2-103(c) are amended to read:

19-14-101. Burial of indigents.

(a) The board of county commissioners of each county shall provide for the preparation of the body and transmittal to and burial in the veteran's cemetery of any <u>veteran</u> other than a dishonorably discharged veteran of the armed forces of the United States ~~who served on behalf of the United States in any war or conflict as defined in section 101, title 38, United States Code and~~ who dies leaving insufficient funds to defray the necessary funeral expenses. The amount expended for transporting the body shall not exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00). The amount paid under this section for burial shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00). Each board shall account for the county expenses incurred under this subsection during a fiscal year. By August 1 of each year, a county may request reimbursement by the department of family services for the expenses incurred under this subsection for the preceding fiscal year. The department of family services shall reimburse the expenses in accordance with W.S. 35-1-428(c).

(b) Before assuming charge and expense for preparation and transmittal of the body and burial, each board of county commissioners shall first determine according to procedures they establish that the deceased veteran of the armed forces of the United States whose body they are called upon to bury served in the armed forces of the United States, ~~during World War II or any preceding war in which the United States was a party or during the Korean or Vietnam conflicts,~~ was other than dishonorably discharged and died in the county leaving insufficient means to defray the necessary funeral expenses.

(d) Payment made for burial expenses by the board of county commissioners in accordance with this section shall be considered payment of last resort that follows all other sources and is provided subsequent to all other benefits.

42-2-103. Provision of assistance and services; duties of department; burial assistance; department of health state supplemental security income program.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article and subject to the availability of funds, the department shall pay the burial or cremation expenses of any recipient of aid under the personal opportunities with employment responsibilities (POWER) program, supplemental security income or Medicaid at the time of his death and without sufficient means in his own estate or other resources to provide burial or cremation. The amount paid under this subsection shall not exceed ~~one thousand dollars ($1,000.00)~~ one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) after consideration of funds available to the recipient from all other sources. In addition to the amount paid for burial or cremation under this subsection, an amount shall be paid for transportation expenses to the veteran's cemetery for a deceased veteran who qualifies for burial there and who qualifies for burial expenses under this subsection in an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00). In determining eligibility under this subsection, the department shall not consider as available funds, an amount up to or equal to one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) of the corpus of a Medicaid qualifying trust meeting the requirements of W.S. 42-4-113. No board of county commissioners shall be responsible for any burial or cremation expenses in excess of the amount paid under this subsection. Burial or cremation expenses under this subsection shall not include those expenses relating to cemetery costs.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 11

THEFT AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 7

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; amending the penalties for theft and related offenses as specified; amending the number of theft offenses needed for a felony theft offense; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-3-402(c)(iii) and (j) and 6-3-411(e) are amended to read:

6-3-402. Theft; penalties.

(c) Except as provided in subsections (g) and (j) of this section, theft is:

(iii) A misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year, a fine of not more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars ($750.00)~~ one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00), or both, if the value of the property is less than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00).

(j) Any person convicted of a ~~fifth~~ third or subsequent offense for theft, shoplifting, larceny, wrongful taking of property, wrongful disposal of property or livestock rustling, any other theft offense under this section, any theft offense under a municipal ordinance or any theft offense pursuant to a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction separately brought and tried shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

6-3-411. Unlawful use of theft detection shielding devices; penalty.

(e) A person who commits any of the offenses specified under subsections (a) through (d) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year, a fine of not more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars ($750.00)~~ one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00), or both.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 12

ABSCONDING FOR CRIMINAL PURPOSES-CRIMINAL OFFENSE

Original Senate File No. 8

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; creating the criminal offense of absconding for criminal purposes; specifying penalties; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-5-215 is created to read:

6-5-215. Absconding for criminal purposes; penalty.

(a) A person is guilty of absconding for criminal purposes if the person travels from one (1) county to another county in Wyoming or from one (1) county in Wyoming to another jurisdiction outside of Wyoming:

(i) After having committed any criminal offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act of 1971 and with the intent to evade or elude law enforcement;

(ii) With the intent to commit an additional criminal offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act of 1971 after having committed an offense in the original county; or

(iii) To dispose of or conceal the proceeds, property or other items of value obtained after committing any criminal offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act of 1971.

(b) The penalty for absconding for criminal purposes shall be the same as the penalty for the most serious crime that was committed, was intended to be committed or furthered as a result of the absconding for criminal purposes.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 13

HOSPITAL BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS

Original Senate File No. 5

AN ACT relating to counties; authorizing county memorial hospitals and hospital districts to file for bankruptcy under chapter 9 of the United States bankruptcy code as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 18-8-109(a)(intro), (b) and (c) and 35-2-438(a)(intro) and by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

18-8-109. Dissolution; bankruptcy.

(a) Subject to the requirements of this section, the trustees of a memorial hospital may vote <u>to file bankruptcy under chapter 9 of the United States bankruptcy code or</u> to dissolve and terminate the county memorial hospital. The plan to dissolve and terminate the county memorial hospital shall provide for the following:

(b) Before any <u>vote by the trustees to file bankruptcy or</u> plan to dissolve and terminate a county memorial hospital is effective, the <u>bankruptcy petition and initial</u> plan <u>for the adjustment of debts or the dissolution and termination plan</u> shall be approved by the board of county commissioners.

(c) If the board of county commissioners approves <u>the bankruptcy petition and initial plan for adjustment of debts or</u> the dissolution and termination plan, the board of trustees may <u>take all action necessary to obtain confirmation</u>

<u>of the plan of adjustment and closure of the case under chapter 9 of the United States bankruptcy code or</u> take all action necessary to effectuate the plan and dissolve and terminate the county memorial hospital.

35-2-438. Dissolution; bankruptcy.

(a) Subject to the requirements of this section, the trustees of a hospital district may vote to <u>file bankruptcy under chapter 9 of the United States bankruptcy code or to</u> dissolve and terminate the district. The plan to dissolve and terminate the district shall provide for the following:

<u>(d) Filing of bankruptcy under subsection (a) of this section shall not require a vote of qualified electors. Before any vote by the trustees of a hospital district to file bankruptcy, the bankruptcy petition and initial plan for adjustment of debts shall be posted on any website operated by the district and be publicly available for a period of not less than seven (7) days prior to the first public meeting of the trustees where the petition and plan will be considered. If the trustees approve the bankruptcy petition and initial plan for adjustment of debts, the trustees may take all action necessary to obtain confirmation of the plan of adjustment and closure of the case under chapter 9 of the United States bankruptcy code.</u>

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

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 14

FENTANYL TO MINORS-ENHANCED PENALTY

Original Senate File No. 9

AN ACT relating to controlled substances; providing for an enhanced penalty for controlled substance offenses related to the distribution or delivery of fentanyl to minors; making conforming amendments; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-7-1036(a) and by creating a new subsection (c) is amended to read:

35-7-1036. Distribution to person under 18; drug free school zones.

(a) Any person eighteen (18) years of age or over who violates W.S. 35-7-1031(a) by distributing methamphetamine or a controlled substance listed in Schedules I or II which is a narcotic drug to a person under eighteen (18) years of age who is at least three (3) years his junior is punishable by the fine authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(i), by a term of imprisonment of up to twice that authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(i), or both. Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, any person eighteen (18) years of age or over who violates W.S. 35-7-1031(a) by distributing any other controlled substance listed in Schedules I, II, III, to a person under eighteen (18) years of age who is at least three (3) years his junior is punishable by the fine authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(ii), by a term of imprisonment up to twice that authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(ii), or both. Any person eighteen (18) years of age or over who violates W.S. 35-7-1031(a) by distributing any controlled substance listed in Schedule IV to a person under eighteen (18) years of age who is at least three (3) years his junior is punishable by the fine authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(iii), by a term of imprisonment up to twice that authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(iii), or both. Any person eighteen (18) years of age or over who violates W.S. 35-7-1031(a) by distributing any controlled substance listed in Schedule V to a person under eighteen (18) years of age who is at least three (3) years his junior is punishable by the fine authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(iv), by a term of imprisonment up to twice that authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(iv), or both.

(c) Any person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age who violates W.S. 35-7-1031(a) by distributing fentanyl to a person under eighteen (18) years of age is guilty of a felony punishable by the fine authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(ii), by a term of imprisonment up to twice that authorized by W.S. 35-7-1031(a)(ii), or both. As used in this subsection, "fentanyl" includes fentanyl and any isomer, ester, ether, salt and salt of isomers, esters and ethers of fentanyl, whenever the existence of these isomers, esters, ethers and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation of fentanyl.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 15

GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 17

AN ACT relating to state lands; removing the restriction on the number of authorized good neighbor authority employee positions; requiring employee positions to be funded only using funds from the Wyoming state forestry good neighbor authority revolving account; authorizing gifts, donations and bequests to be deposited into the account; prohibiting the acceptance of real property for purposes of the good neighbor authority; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-1-502 and 36-1-503(b) are amended to read:

36-1-502. Wyoming state forestry good neighbor authority revolving account; creation; investment of funds; authorized expenditures.

(a) There is created the Wyoming state forestry good neighbor authority revolving account. The account shall include all legislative appropriations, federal funds, county funds, partner funds, funds generated from good neighbor authority projects or other federally funded cooperative forest management projects, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests, donations and all income from investments of monies in the account. The state forester is specifically empowered to accept grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations for deposit in the account, including those which are limited in their purpose by the grantor except as provided in W.S. 36-1-503(a)(vi). If a contract is entered into pursuant to W.S. 36-1-503(a)(iii), funds in the account may be expanded on good neighbor authority projects prior to receipt of federal fund reimbursements. Funds deposited into the account are continuously appropriated to the state forester to be expended only as provided in this section. Unless otherwise specifically provided, appropriations to the account shall not lapse or revert at the end of any fiscal period.

(b) Upon written approval of the state forester, expenditures shall be made out of the account for good neighbor authority projects, ~~or~~ other cooperative forest management projects or hiring additional employees under W.S. 36-1-503(b).

36-1-503. Powers and duties of state forester.

(b) The state forester may hire additional employees as necessary to conduct good neighbor authority projects or other federally funded cooperative forest management projects funded through the account. Employees hired under this subsection shall be funded using ~~federal~~ funds deposited in the account. ~~The state forester shall not fill more than four (4) full-time employee positions and six (6) at-will employee contract positions under this subsection.~~

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 16

911 FUNDING

Original Senate File No. 32

AN ACT relating to emergency telephone service; requiring a study on next generation 911 service; authorizing a grant program to fund shortfalls in current 911 service; requiring rulemaking; making a conforming amendment; requiring a report; specifying applicability; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 16-9-113 is created to read:

16-9-113. 911 study and grants.

(a) From funds appropriated for that purpose, the department of transportation shall conduct a study, with input from the stakeholders and industry, examining the transition to next generation 911 within the state of Wyoming. The study shall include, without limitation, governance of the 911 system, operations, expenses, efficiencies and funding. The results of the study under this subsection shall be reported to the joint corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim committee not later than September 1, 2027.

(b) From funds appropriated for that purpose, the department of transportation is authorized to provide grants to a governing body for any shortfall in funding necessary to operate the current 911 system. Any governing body that currently operates a 911 system may apply to the department of transportation for a grant as provided in this section. The governing body shall submit an application to the department detailing the shortfall in funding and any other information required by the department. The department shall approve a grant for any amounts requested in an application that the department determines are necessary to operate the current 911 system.

Section 2. W.S. 16-9-102(a)(x) is amended to read:

16-9-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(x) "This act" means W.S. 16-9-101 through ~~16-9-111~~ 16-9-113;

Section 3. The department of transportation shall begin accepting applications for grants under W.S. 16-9-113(b) as created by section 1 of this act not later than July 1, 2026.

Section 4. There is appropriated three million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($3,750,000.00) from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the department of transportation for purposes of this act for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. Of this appropriation, three million dollars ($3,000,000.00) shall only be used to award grants to governing bodies under W.S. 16-9-113(b) as created by section 1 of this act and seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($750,000.00) shall only be used to conduct the study required under W.S. 16-9-113(a) as created by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

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

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 17

2026 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

Original Senate File No. 52

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act; providing for the funding of large projects under that act; specifying large projects approved for funding in 2026; authorizing distributions from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account for approved large projects; providing for the reversion of funds; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Board" means the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board created by W.S. 9-15-104;

(ii) "Income account" means the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account created by W.S. 9-15-103(b).

(b) Pursuant to the authority granted under W.S. 9-15-104(k) and subject to each recipient's certification under W.S. 9-15-103(r), authorization is granted for funding of the large projects provided for in subsections (c) through (h) of this section.

(c) Upper Greybull Fish Passage III:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming game and fish commission;

(ii) Project purpose: Restoration of native fisheries, riparian and aquatic ecosystems through vegetation management, riparian restoration and removal of barriers to fish movement on approximately forty-eight (48) miles of streams in northeast Wyoming in order to:

(A) Maintain migration and movement for native fish species;

(B) Maintain river function;

(C) Reduce or eliminate excessive erosion;

(D) Stabilize irrigation delivery systems.

(iii) Project description: River restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: Three million three hundred seventy-three thousand nine hundred eleven dollars ($3,373,911.00);

(v) Project grant: The total grant for the project, including all grants previously awarded for the project and the additional one hundred fifty thousand dollar ($150,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection, shall be one million three hundred thousand dollars ($1,300,000.00);

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one hundred fifty thousand dollars ($150,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(d) Baggs Valley Headwaters V:

(i) Project sponsor: Little Snake River conservation district;

(ii) Project purpose: Restoration of native vegetation through mechanical, chemical and prescribed fire across a varied landscape of approximately five thousand five hundred (5,500) acres in Carbon county in order to:

(A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk, moose, antelope and other species;

(B) Maintain primary migration corridors for native ungulates;

(C) Maintain core population areas for greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

(D) Conserve valuable grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes.

(iii) Project description: Rangeland restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: Five million two hundred six thousand five hundred dollars ($5,206,500.00);

(v) Project grant: The total grant for the project, including all grants previously awarded for the project and the additional seven hundred thousand dollar ($700,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection, shall be two million one hundred forty-eight thousand dollars ($2,148,000.00);

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board seven hundred thousand dollars ($700,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(e) Absaroka Front Cheatgrass:

(i) Project sponsor: Park county weed and pest district;

(ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive grasses on approximately forty-eight thousand (48,000) acres in Park county in order to:

(A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk, moose, antelope and bighorn sheep;

(B) Maintain core population areas for greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

(C) Conserve valuable grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

(D) Maintain agricultural production and opportunity on high-quality ranch lands.

(iii) Project description: Invasive species management;

(iv) Total project budget: Three million five hundred thirty-four thousand eight hundred ninety dollars ($3,534,890.00);

(v) Project grant: The total grant for the project, including all grants previously awarded for the project and the additional three hundred ninety-five thousand dollar ($395,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection, shall be six hundred eighty-five thousand dollars ($685,000.00);

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board three hundred ninety-five thousand dollars ($395,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(f) Cody Canal Fish Screen:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming game and fish commission;

(ii) Project purpose: Removal of fish species from entrainment in irrigation systems by screening and by returning to the main headgate infrastructure in Park county in order to:

(A) Maintain fish populations on a river system with extraordinarily high losses of fish;

(B) Maintain recreational opportunity on a river with high values for fishing;

(C) Conserve species considered vulnerable to loss.

(iii) Project description: River restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: Four million four hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred sixty-seven dollars ($4,429,367.00);

(v) Project grant: The board is authorized to grant to the sponsor eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(g) North Platte Cheatgrass:

(i) Project sponsor: Natrona county weed and pest district;

(ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive grasses on approximately nine thousand (9,000) acres in Natrona county in order to:

(A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk and antelope;

(B) Reduce or eliminate the potential for catastrophic fire;

(C) Allow regeneration of cottonwood gallery forests.

(iii) Project description: Invasive species management;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million nine hundred sixteen thousand dollars ($2,916,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The board is authorized to grant one million dollars

($1,000,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(h) Western Wyoming Cheatgrass:

(i) Project sponsor: Teton county weed and pest district;

(ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive grasses on approximately forty-eight thousand five hundred (48,500) acres in western Wyoming in order to:

(A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk, moose, antelope and bighorn sheep;

(B) Maintain core population areas for greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

(C) Conserve valuable grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

(D) Maintain agricultural production and opportunity on high-quality ranch lands.

(iii) Project description: Invasive species management;

(iv) Total project budget: Six million nine hundred sixty-three thousand eight hundred three dollars ($6,963,803.00);

(v) Project grant: The total grant for the project, including all grants previously awarded for the project and the additional two million dollar ($2,000,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection, shall be three million four hundred thousand dollars ($3,400,000.00);

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(j) Any unexpended and unobligated funds remaining from appropriations under this section shall revert to the income account on June 30, 2030.

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

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 18

WATER DISTRICTS-FUNDS FOR MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Original Senate File No. 68

AN ACT relating to irrigation projects; authorizing irrigation districts, watershed improvement districts and water conservancy districts to direct a portion of annual district funding for major maintenance projects; authorizing investments of major maintenance accounts; authorizing water conservancy districts to assess mills for major maintenance projects as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 41-3-771, 41-7-402(a) and 41-8-121(a) are amended to read:

41-3-771. Methods of levying and collecting; class A.

To levy and collect taxes under class A as provided in W.S. 41-3-770, the board shall, in each year, determine the amount of money necessary to be raised by taxation, taking into consideration other sources of revenue of the district, and shall fix a rate of levy which when levied upon every dollar of assessed valuation of property within the district, and with other revenues will raise the amount required by the district, to supply funds for paying expenses of organization, for surveys and plans, paying the costs of construction, operating and maintaining the works of the district; provided, however, that said rate shall not exceed one-half (1/2) mill on the dollar, prior to the delivery of water from the works, and thereafter not to exceed one (1) mill on the dollar, of assessed valuation of the property within the district, except in the event of accruing defaults and/or deficiencies where an additional levy may be made as provided in W.S. 41-3-775 <u>and except as authorized in this section for major maintenance projects</u>. The board shall on or before the third Monday of July of each year, certify to the board of county commissioners of each county within the district or having a portion of its territory in the district, the rate so fixed with direction that at the time and in the manner required by law for levying of taxes for county purposes, such board of county commissioners shall levy such tax upon the assessed valuation of all property within the district, in addition to such other taxes as may be levied by such board of county commissioners, at the rate so fixed and determined; provided, however, that said assessment and tax levied under the provisions of this act shall not be construed as being a part of the general county mill levy. <u>The amount to be raised under this section may include an amount for major maintenance projects for any aging irrigation infrastructure project. An amount not to exceed one (1) additional mill may be assessed for the purpose of major maintenance projects. All amounts assessed for major maintenance projects shall be held in a separate major maintenance account and funds in the account may be invested with the state treasurer in local government investment equity pools.</u>

41-7-402. Due dates; annual budget of district; hearings on budget; petition for additional funds; hearings on petition.

(a) Assessments to meet expenses of any current year of any district shall become due, payable and delinquent at such time or times each year as may be fixed by law for state and county taxes to become due, payable and delinquent. Commissioners having charge of any irrigation district shall on or before the first Tuesday of June of each year file with the clerk of the court having jurisdiction of such district, a report showing an itemized estimate of the money to be raised by assessment within the district for the purpose of constructing new work, maintenance and to meet the yearly current expenses of the district. In addition to the amount above provided, the commissioners may add a sum which in their judgment shall be sufficient to provide for possible delinquencies. Within thirty (30) days after filing such annual report, at a time and place to be fixed by the court or a judge thereof, the judge shall examine such report, hear all objections thereto, fix and determine the amount to be raised by assessments for the current year and cause such adjudication to be entered of record in said court and a certified copy thereof to be delivered to the commissioners of such district. The commissioners shall add thereto such amount as may be necessary to meet the principal and interest on lawful indebtedness of the district maturing during the current year, together with a sum which in their judgment shall be sufficient to provide for possible delinquencies. When thus completed it shall be known as "the budget of .... district for the year (year)" and also be verified under oath by any one (1) of the commissioners. The amount to be raised under this subsection may also include an amount for major maintenance projects for any aging irrigation infrastructure project. All amounts assessed for major maintenance projects shall be held in a separate major maintenance account and shall be pooled until the amount in the account is sufficient to provide funding for the major maintenance project. Funds in the major maintenance account may be invested with the state treasurer in local government investment pools.

41-8-121. Assessments generally.

(a) The board of directors shall, on or before the third Monday in July of each year, certify to the board of county commissioners of the county within the watershed improvement district in which assessed land is located the amount of the annual installments of assessments against the land, together with a fair proportionate amount of the estimated operating and maintenance charges apportioned to the land for the next succeeding year. Thereupon the county commissioners shall certify to and deliver the assessment roll to the county assessor of the county and the county assessor shall extend the amounts so certified on the tax roll as a flat special assessment against the land benefited. The assessments shall be subject to the same interest and penalties in case of delinquency as in the case of general taxes, and shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as in the case of general taxes; provided, that the assessments shall become due and payable only at the times and in the amounts as may be determined by the board of directors. The amount to be raised under this subsection may also include an amount for major maintenance projects for any aging irrigation infrastructure project. All amounts assessed for major maintenance projects shall be held in a separate major maintenance account and shall be pooled until the amount in the account is sufficient to provide funding for the major maintenance project. Funds in the major maintenance account may be invested with the state treasurer in local government investment pools.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 19

SALES AND USE TAX REORGANIZATION

Original Senate File No. 79

AN ACT relating to sales and use tax; revising the sales tax chapter to include the administration of the use tax; repealing duplicative provisions; making conforming amendments; specifying applicability; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 5-9-128(a)(vi)(D), 9-1-507(j)(ii), 9-4-604(g)(i)(A) and (h)(i)(A), 16-9-209(f), 16-10-105(b)(iii), 18-5-509(a), 18-16-107(a)(xxii), 31-2-103(d) through (f), 31-2-104(k), 31-2-201(k)(intro) and (o)(ii), 31-18-408, 35-12-105(c), 39-15-101(a)(vii)(intro), (xv), (xxxix)(U)(VII) and by creating new paragraphs (xlviii) through (xlx), 39-15-102(a) and by creating new subsections (g) and (h), 39-15-103(a)(i)(A) and (K), (b)(i) through (iii) and (c)(ii), 39-15-104(a), (b) and (f)(intro), 39-15-105(a)(intro), (vi) by creating a new subparagraph (F) and (vii)(B), 39-15-106(a), 39-15-107(a)(i), (vi), (b)(intro), (i), (iv), (xi) and by creating a new paragraph (xii), 39-15-108(b)(ii)(intro) and (d)(i), 39-15-109(d) by creating a new paragraph (v), 39-15-110 by creating a new subsection (c), 39-15-111(b)(iii)(intro), (c) and by creating a new subsection (s), 39-15-202(a), 39-15-203(a)(i)(E)(III), (ii)(F)(III), (v)(E)(III) and (vi)(G)(III), 39-15-306(b)(v), 39-15-402(a)(vii), 39-15-501(a)(intro), 39-15-502(a)(i), (g)(i), (ii)(A) and (iii), 39-17-209(c)(v)(C), 39-17-309(c)(vi)(C) and 39-18-105(b) are amended to read:

5-9-128. Civil jurisdiction.

(a) Each circuit court has exclusive original civil jurisdiction within the boundaries of the state for:

(vi) Actions to foreclose and enforce the following statutory liens only, when the amount claimed on the lien does not exceed fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00), exclusive of court costs:

(D) Liens for taxes as provided by W.S. 39-15-108(d). ~~and 39-16-108(d).~~

9-1-507. Examination of books of state institutions, agencies and certain districts and entities; independent audit authorized; guidelines.

(j) The director of the department of audit shall certify:

(ii) To the director of the state department of revenue by October 5 of each year, a list of counties, cities and towns that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the director of the department of revenue shall withhold monthly disbursements of state and local sales, use and lodging tax revenues under W.S. 39-15-111~~,~~ and 39-15-211~~, 39-16-111 and 39-16-211~~ to the noncompliant county, city or town for the period after October 15 until the noncompliant county, city or town has come into compliance unless good cause for noncompliance is shown to the director of the department of audit as described in W.S. 9-1-510(b). All withheld disbursements under this paragraph shall be retained by director of the department of revenue in the account from which the disbursement would be made until the county, city or town is in compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section, or as otherwise provided by law. The director of the department of audit shall certify to the director of the department of revenue when a county, city or town comes into compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The director of the department of revenue shall certify monthly to the department of audit, the legislature and the noncompliant county, city or town the amount of disbursements withheld until the noncompliant county, city or town has come into compliance;

9-4-604. Distribution and use; capital construction projects and bonds; municipal, county and special district purposes.

(g) Not to exceed forty million dollars ($40,000,000.00) of the total proceeds of all bonds issued under subsection (b) of this section may be loaned or granted to incorporated cities and towns. Loans or grants shall be made only under the following conditions:

(i) Loans may be made for municipal purposes with or without interest. If the state loan and investment board deems it necessary to secure the loan, no security other than pledges of specified revenue to repay a loan shall be required. Before a loan application is approved the board shall determine by proper investigation that:

(A) The applicant will fully utilize all local revenue sources reasonably and legally available for repaying the loan for which an application is made excluding the local optional sales and use tax authorized by W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i) or (iii); ~~and 39-16-204(a)(i) or (ii);~~

(h) Not to exceed twenty million dollars ($20,000,000.00) of the total proceeds of all bonds issued under subsection (b) of this section may be loaned or granted to counties or special districts. As used in this subsection "special districts" means hospital districts, fire protection districts, sanitary and improvement districts, solid waste disposal districts, service and improvement districts and water and sewer districts. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no special district, either standing alone or as a member of a joint powers board, shall receive any grant or loan under this section until the special district's grant or loan application has received a written review from the board of county commissioners in any county in which the special district is located. The board of county commissioners shall review: (1) the ability of the special district to fund the project through bonds, (2) whether the project is adverse to the needs, plans or general welfare of the county, (3) whether the special district has utilized local funding resources, and (4) whether the special district has met county standards. If any part of the special district lies within five (5) miles of the corporate limits of any city or town, the special district's grant or loan application shall also receive a written review from the governing body of the city or town. The written review shall be submitted to the state loan and investment board by the special district with its grant or loan application. Loans or grants shall be made only under the following conditions:

(i) Loans, with or without interest, may only be made for county or special district purposes which are permitted by law. If the state loan and investment board deems it necessary to secure the loan, no security other than pledges of specified revenue to repay a loan shall be required. Before a loan application is approved the board shall determine by proper investigation that:

(A) The applicant will fully utilize all local revenue sources reasonably and legally available for repaying the loan excluding the local optional sales <u>and use</u> tax under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i) or (iii)~~; and 39-16-204(a)(i) or (ii);~~

16-9-209. Special fee.

(f) All special fees billed and collected by a local exchange company or radio communications service provider shall not be considered revenues of the local exchange company or radio communications service provider and are not subject to tax under W.S. 39-15-101 through ~~39-16-311~~ <u>39-15-502</u>.

16-10-105. Ordinance or resolution for construction; required and authorized provisions.

(b) Subject to voter approval as provided by subsection (e) of this section, a city, town, county or joint powers board may fund the surface water drainage utility by general and special funds, revenue or other bonds and other forms of indebtedness, service charges or a combination of these sources. The resolution or ordinance establishing the utility, or a resolution or ordinance later adopted by the governing body, shall specify the means of financing the surface water drainage utility by one (1) or more of the following sources:

(iii) Any other source of revenue including the capital facilities tax collected under W.S. 39-15-203(a)(iii), ~~and 39-16-203(a)(ii)~~ if so dedicated.

18-5-509. Referral.

(a) Any board of county commissioners which receives an application to permit a wind energy facility or solar energy facility which does not meet the definition of an industrial facility as defined in W.S. 35-12-102(a)(vii)(E) or (G) may refer the facility to the industrial siting council for additional permitting consistent with the requirements of the Industrial Development Information and Siting Act, W.S. 35-12-101 through 35-12-119, but the provisions of W.S. 39-15-111 ~~and 39-16-111~~ shall not apply. A referral shall be made only when a board of county commissioners finds there are potentially significant adverse environmental, social or economic issues which the county board of commissioners does not have the expertise to consider or authority to address.

18-16-107. Powers of district.

(a) Each district may:

(xxii) Impose an optional sales and use tax pursuant to W.S. 39-15-203; ~~and 39-16-203;~~

31-2-103. Contents of application; signature; vehicle identification number; issuance of certificate.

(d) Upon receipt of an application and payment of fees any county clerk shall, if satisfied that the applicant is the owner of the vehicle for which application for certificate of title is made, issue a paper certificate of title or electronic certificate of title, if available, upon a form or electronic format, approved by and provided at cost to the county clerk by the department in the name of the owner bearing the signature and seal of the county clerk's office. The county clerk shall not deliver a certificate of title issued under this section until presentation of a receipt for payment of sales or use tax pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b) ~~or 39-16-107(b)~~ or presentation of a county treasurer receipt noting a valid exemption from paying the sales or use tax. If a lien is filed with respect to the vehicle, the county clerk shall, within three (3) business days, deliver a copy of the filed lien and a copy of the issued title to the financial institution and if available, such delivery may be made electronically. Each paper certificate of title or electronic version, shall bear a document control number with county designation and certificate of title number. The title shall be completely filled out giving a description of the vehicle including factory price in a manner prescribed by the department, indicate all encumbrances or liens on the vehicle and indicate the date of issue. Certificates of title shall contain forms for assignment of title or interest and warranty thereof by the owner with space for notation of liens and encumbrances at the time of transfer on the reverse side and contain space for the notarization of the seller's signature for a sale or transfer of title. Certificates of title are valid for the vehicle so long as the vehicle is owned or held by the person in whose name the title was issued. A certificate of title is prima facie proof of ownership of the vehicle for which the certificate was issued.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, a person regularly engaged in the business of making loans or a supervised financial institution, as defined in W.S. 40-14-140(a)(xix), that repossesses a motor vehicle on which it has filed a lien shall not be liable for sales or use tax or for any penalties for nonpayment of the sales or use tax pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b) ~~or 39-16-107(b)~~ prior to obtaining a title from the county clerk for that vehicle.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, an insurance company that acquires ownership of a motor vehicle pursuant to a damage settlement shall not be liable for sales or use tax or for any penalties for nonpayment of the sales or use tax pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b) ~~or 39-16-107(b)~~ prior to obtaining a title from the county clerk for that vehicle.

31-2-104. Transfer of ownership.

(k) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (j) of this section, the surviving owner or owners of a vehicle held by joint tenants with the right of survivorship may transfer ownership without first obtaining a title in the name of the surviving owner or owners by complying with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and providing the transferee with a certified copy of the death certificate of the deceased owner. Any applicable sales or use tax shall be paid pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b).~~ or 39-16-107(b).~~

31-2-201. Registration required; timelines.

(k) W.S. 31-2-225 notwithstanding, upon compliance with W.S. 39-15-107(b), ~~and 39-16-107(b),~~ if applicable, an owner of a commercial vehicle that is not a Wyoming based commercial vehicle as defined by W.S. 31-18-201(a)(vi), a nonresident owner of a vehicle not employed in this state, or any owner upon transfer of ownership or lease, may, as an alternative to registration, obtain one (1) temporary registration permit in a twelve (12) month period authorizing operation of the vehicle on the highways of this state for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the date of issuance of the temporary registration permit. Any registration issued under this section shall bear a distinctive number assigned to the vehicle, an expiration date and at all times be prominently displayed and clearly visible on the vehicle in the manner prescribed by the department. Application for a temporary registration permit shall be made to the county treasurer in the manner and form prescribed by the department. A temporary registration permit under this subsection shall be considered an initial registration under W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xxx). The fee for the temporary registration permit shall be an amount equal to the following fractions of the annual registration fees for the vehicle required under W.S. 31-3-101:

(o) A resident found to be in control of a vehicle operated or driven upon any highway for which Wyoming vehicle registration is required shall be rebuttably presumed to be the actual owner of the vehicle, subject to the following:

(ii) Upon a determination that a resident is in control of a vehicle operated or driven upon any highway in Wyoming for which Wyoming vehicle registration is required, the department shall notify the resident in writing that the resident is required to register the vehicle and to pay any sales or use taxes due on the purchase or use of the vehicle in accordance with W.S. 39-15-107(b)(i) ~~or 39-16-107(b)(ii)~~ within thirty (30) days from the date of the notice;

31-18-408. Provision of sales and use tax information; penalty.

(a) Any person engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property, at retail, outside of this state, and operating any motor vehicle in this state delivering to the purchaser or the purchaser's agent in this state any goods sold by the vendor shall, upon entering this state, provide necessary information to the department of revenue for the purposes of the collection of any sales or use tax which may be due under the provisions of W.S. 39-15-101 through ~~39-16-311~~ 39-15-502. The department shall provide forms furnished by the department of revenue for the operator to provide the necessary information for the department of revenue to collect any use tax due. The department of revenue shall promulgate necessary rules and regulations to implement this provision pursuant to W.S. 39-11-102.

(b) Any person knowingly violating the provisions of this section or any rules promulgated under it shall, in addition to any penalty imposed under W.S. 31-18-701 through 31-18-707, be liable for a civil penalty of not less than one hundred dollars ($100.00) and not to exceed an amount equal to three (3) times the amount of the sales or use tax due under the provisions of W.S. 39-15-101 through ~~39-16-311~~ 39-15-502.

35-12-105. Appointment and duties of administrator; staff; rules and regulations.

(c) The director, administrator and the staff of the division are authorized to the extent possible, at the request of local governments, to provide technical assistance to local governments in the preparation of anticipated impacts related to a proposed project consistent with W.S. 39-15-111(c) and (d) ~~and 39-16-111(d) and (e)~~ and negotiation of agreements with applicants as provided for in W.S. 35-12-107.

CHAPTER 15
SALES AND USE TAX

ARTICLE 1
STATE SALES AND USE TAX

39-15-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(vii) "Sale" means any transfer of title or possession in this state for a consideration. ~~Including~~ "Sale" includes a purchase by a person for storage, use or consumption in this state and includes the fabrication of tangible personal property when the materials are furnished by the purchaser. ~~but excluding~~ "Sale" does not include an exchange or transfer of tangible personal property upon which the seller or lessor has directly or indirectly paid sales or use tax incidental to:

(xv) "Vendor" means any person engaged in the business of selling at retail or wholesale tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under this article. "Vendor" includes a vehicle dealer as defined by W.S. 31-16-101(a)(xviii), a remote seller to the extent provided by W.S. 39-15-501 and a marketplace facilitator to the extent provided by W.S. 39-15-502. A person is not in the business of selling if selling tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under this article is not a habitual or regular activity of the person. Agents acting under the authority of the vendor include but are not limited to truckers, peddlers, canvassers, salespersons, representatives, employees, supervisors, distributors, delivery persons or any other persons performing services in this state. "Vendor" also includes every person who engages in regular or systematic solicitation by three (3) or more separate transmittances of an advertisement or advertisements in any twelve (12) month period in a consumer market in this state by the distribution of catalogs, periodicals, advertising flyers, or other advertising, or by means of print, radio, television or other electronic media, by mail, telegraph, telephone, computer data base, cable, optic, microwave, satellite or other communication system for the purpose of effecting retail sales of tangible personal property;

(xxxix) Telecommunications definitions:

(U) "Telecommunications service" means the electronic transmission, conveyance or routing of voice, data, audio, video or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points. The term telecommunications service includes such transmission, conveyance or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance or routing without regard to whether such service is referred to as voice over internet protocol services or is classified by the Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value added. Telecommunications service shall not include:

(VII) Radio and television audio and video programming services, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission, conveyance and routing of the services by the programming service provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services shall include but not be limited to cable service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 522(6) and audio and video programming services delivered by commercial mobile radio service providers, as defined in 47 C.F.R. 20.3;

(xlviii) "Purchase price" means the sales price paid for property purchased for storage, use or consumption in this state;

(xlix) "Storage" means the keeping or retention in this state of tangible personal property purchased from a vendor for any purpose except for sale in the course of business or subsequent use outside the state;

(xlx) "Use" means the exercise of any right or power over tangible personal property incident to ownership or by any transaction where possession is given by lease or contract.

39-15-102. Administration; confidentiality.

(a) This article is known and may be cited as the ~~"Selective Sales Tax Act of 1937"~~ "Sales and Use Tax Act".

(g) The state preempts the field of imposing tax upon sales and purchases of tangible personal property and storage, use and consumption of tangible personal property as provided by this article. No county, city, town or other political subdivision may impose, levy or collect taxes upon sales or storage, use or consumption of tangible personal property except as provided in this section.

(h) The use tax imposed under this chapter shall be administered in the same manner as the sales tax imposed under this chapter and shall be distributed in the same manner as sales taxes collected under this chapter subject to the specific requirements of this chapter.

39-15-103. Imposition.

(a) Taxable event. The following shall apply:

(i) Except as provided by W.S. 39-15-105, there is levied an excise tax upon:

(A) The sales price of every retail sale of tangible personal property within the state and upon the purchase price of persons making first use of taxable services or storing, using or consuming taxable personal property or specified digital products in this state;

(K) The sales price paid for all services and tangible personal property used in rendering services to real or tangible personal property within an oil or gas well site beginning with and including the setting and cementing of production casing, or if production casing is not set as in the case of an open hole completion, after the completion of the underreaming or the attainment of total depth of the oil or gas well and continuing with all activities sequentially required for the production of any oil or gas well regardless of the chronological occurrence of the activity. All services required during the entire productive life of the well, including recompletion, all the way through abandonment shall be subject to this subparagraph. The provisions of W.S. 39-15-301 through 39-15-311 ~~and W.S. 39-16-301 through 39-16-311~~ shall not apply to this subparagraph;

(b) Basis of tax. The following shall apply:

(i) Except as provided by W.S. 39-15-105, there is levied and shall be paid by the purchaser on all sales and purchases an excise tax upon all events as provided by subsection (a) of this section;

(ii) For purposes of W.S. 39-15-107(b)(i), the sales price of motor vehicles, house trailers, trailer coaches, trailers or semitrailers as defined by W.S. 31-1-101 shall be declared by the purchaser upon a copy of the original invoice from the vendor or upon an affidavit furnished by the department if not purchased from a vendor and the tax collected shall be based upon the declaration or invoice;

(iii) Except for those vehicles specified under W.S. 39-15-107(b)(viii), the tax imposed by this article upon the sale of a motor vehicle, house trailer, trailer coach, trailer or semitrailer purchased inside or outside the state of Wyoming as a gift shall be collected from the donee prior to the first registration based upon the fair market value of the gift at the time of the gift;

(c) Taxpayer. The following shall apply:

(ii) Every person purchasing goods or services taxed by this article and every person making first use of taxable services or storing, using or consuming tangible personal property or specified digital products from a vendor who does not maintain a place of business in this state is liable for the taxes and shall pay any tax owed to the department unless the taxes have been paid to a vendor. Specified digital products are only subject to the tax imposed by this article as specified in subparagraph (a)(i)(P) of this section. The liability is not extinguished until the tax has been paid to the state except that a receipt given to the person by a registered vendor in accordance with paragraph (i) of this subsection is sufficient to relieve the purchaser from further liability;

39-15-104. Taxation rate.

(a) Except as provided by W.S. 39-15-105 there is levied and shall be paid by the purchaser on all sales and purchases an excise tax of three percent (3%) upon all events as provided by W.S. 39-15-103(a).

(b) Effective July 1, 1993, in addition to the ~~sales~~ excise tax under subsection (a) of this section there is imposed an additional ~~sales~~ excise tax of one percent (1%) which shall be administered as if the ~~sales~~ tax rate under subsection (a) of this section was increased from three percent (3%) to four percent (4%). The revenue from these increases shall be distributed in the same manner as other ~~sales~~ excise tax revenue under those sections.

(f) The tax rate imposed upon a ~~transaction~~ sale or purchase subject to this chapter shall be sourced as follows:

39-15-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following sales, purchases or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(vi) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property which are essential human goods and services, the following are exempt:

(F) Tangible personal property sold by any person for delivery in this state is deemed sold for storage, use or consumption herein and is subject to the tax imposed by this article unless the person selling the property has received from the purchaser a signed certificate stating the property was purchased for resale and showing his name and address;

(vii) For the purpose of exempting sales of services provided primarily to businesses, the following are exempt:

(B) A person regularly engaged in the business of making loans or a supervised financial institution, as defined in W.S. 40-14-140(a)(xix), that forecloses a lien or repossesses a motor vehicle on which it has filed a lien shall not be liable for payment of sales or use tax, penalties or interest due under this section ~~or W.S. 39-16-108~~ for that vehicle.

39-15-106. Licenses; permits.

(a) Every vendor shall obtain from the department a sales tax license to conduct business in the state. The license shall be granted only upon application stating the name and address of the applicant, the name and address of all agents operating in the state, the character of the business in which the applicant proposes to engage, the location of ~~the proposed business and~~ all places of business together with other information as the department may require. Effective July 1, 1997, a license fee of sixty dollars ($60.00) shall be required from each new vendor, except for any remote vendor who has no requirement to register in this state, or who is using one (1) of the technology models pursuant to the streamlined sales and use tax agreement. Failure of a vendor to timely file any return may result in forfeiture of the license granted under this section. The department shall charge sixty dollars ($60.00) for reinstatement of any forfeited license. The department shall send any vendor who reports no gross sales for three (3) consecutive years a form prescribed by the department to show cause why the vendor's license should not be revoked. The vendor shall complete and file the report with the department within thirty (30) days of receipt of the form. If the department finds just cause for the vendor to retain the license, no further action shall be taken. If the department finds just cause to revoke the license, the vendor shall be notified of the revocation. Any vendor whose license is revoked under this subsection may appeal the decision to the state board of equalization as provided in subsection (g) of this section.

39-15-107. Compliance; collection procedures.

(a) Returns, reports and preservation of records. The following shall apply:

(i) Each vendor shall on or before the last day of each month file a true return showing the preceding month's gross sales and remit all taxes to the department. The returns shall contain such information and be made in the manner as the department by regulation prescribes. The department may provide an option for the return to be submitted and for any taxes to be remitted electronically. The department may allow extensions for filing returns and paying the taxes by regulation, but no extension may be for more than ninety (90) days. If the total tax to be remitted by a vendor during any month is less than one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00), a quarterly or annual return as authorized by the department, and remittance in lieu of the monthly return may be made on or before the last day of the month following the end of the quarter or year for which the tax is collected. If the accounting methods regularly used by any vendor are such that reports of sales made during a calendar month would impose unnecessary hardships, the department after receiving a formal request filed by the vendor may accept reports at intervals as would be more convenient to the taxpayer. Any vendor shall report whether the vendor sells nicotine products, as defined by W.S. 39-18-101(a)(xi), in this state to the department in the form and manner required by the department. The department may reject any report required under this paragraph of any vendor who does not comply with the nicotine sales reporting requirements. Every person purchasing goods or services taxable by this article who does not pay the tax owed to a vendor and every person storing, using or consuming tangible personal property purchased from a vendor who does not maintain a place of business in this state is liable for the tax imposed by this article and shall, on or before the last day of each month, file a return showing the gross purchases made during the preceding month and remit all taxes due to the department as provided in this paragraph. The return shall contain such information and be made in the manner as the department shall prescribe by rule and regulation. The department, by rule and regulation, may allow an extension for filing a return and paying any tax due, but no extension shall be granted for more than ninety (90) days;

(vi) ~~The~~ If any vendor discontinues his business or sells his stock of goods he shall ~~file~~ make a final return and payment within thirty (30) days ~~after discontinuing or selling his~~ thereafter. His successor in business shall withhold from the purchase price an amount equal to any taxes, penalty or interest due until the time the former owner produces a receipt from the department showing that all amounts due have been paid or a certificate that no taxes are due. If the successor fails to withhold from the purchase price the amount due the successor is liable for same;

(b) Payment. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, there is levied and shall be paid by the purchaser an excise tax at the rate applied under W.S. 39-15-104 upon sales and purchases in Wyoming. The vendor shall collect the tax and give the purchaser a receipt therefor displaying the tax paid separately. The following shall apply:

(i) Except as provided by paragraph (viii) of this subsection, no vendor shall collect taxes imposed by this article upon the sale of motor vehicles, house trailers, trailer coaches, trailers or semitrailers. The taxes imposed shall be collected by the county treasurer prior to the first registration in Wyoming and not upon subsequent registration by the same applicant. The county treasurer may allow the taxes to be paid electronically after the amount of sales tax has been determined by the county treasurer. The county treasurer may charge a fee of not more than the costs of processing the transaction but not to exceed a fee of three percent (3%) as necessary to recoup fees incurred due to electronic payments. The county treasurer shall provide the applicant a receipt specifying the amount of sales tax collected and noting any valid exemption from sales tax. The county treasurer shall collect and remit to the department the tax in effect in the county of the owner's principal residence as indicated on the owner's driver's license or other government issued identification. The tax shall not be collected if the vehicle was previously registered by the same nonresident owner in another state;

(iv) A person regularly engaged in the business of making loans or a supervised financial institution, as defined in W.S. 40-14-140(a)(xix), that forecloses a lien or repossesses a motor vehicle on which it has filed a lien, or an insurance company that acquires ownership of a motor vehicle pursuant to a damage settlement, shall not be liable for payment of sales or use tax, penalties or interest due under this section ~~or W.S. 39-16-107~~ for that vehicle;

(xi) If a vendor or direct payer pays taxes due and payable under this chapter on or before the fifteenth day of the month that the taxes are due under paragraph (v) of this subsection, a credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed by this chapter for expenses incurred by a vendor or direct payer for the accounting and reporting of taxes. The credit is equal to one and ninety-five hundredths percent (1.95%) of the amount of tax due, provided that the total credit under this paragraph ~~and W.S. 39-16-107(b)(viii)~~ shall not exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00) in any month. The vendor or direct payer shall deduct the credit for each tax period on forms prescribed and furnished by the department. The credit shall be deducted only from the share of the tax that is distributed to the general fund under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(i);~~.~~

(xii) The county treasurer may collect the tax due and any interest, penalties or costs of collection through the use of a collection agency or by the filing of a civil action.

39-15-108. Enforcement.

(b) Interest. The following shall apply:

(ii) If the sales or use tax on a vehicle, including local option sales or use tax, under W.S. 39-15-101 through 39-15-211, ~~or 39-16-101 through 39-16-211,~~ is not paid within sixty-five (65) days after the date of the sale, or in the case of a motor vehicle brought into this state, sixty-five (65) days after the vehicle is brought into the state if the owner submits to the county treasurer an affidavit and any other satisfactory proof as necessary to verify the date the vehicle was brought into the state:

(d) Liens. The following shall apply:

(i) Any tax due under this article constitutes a debt to the state from the persons who are parties to the transaction, other than any vendor or other seller who is prohibited or not authorized by law to collect any tax under this article, and is a lien from the date the tax is due on all the real and personal property of those persons. The lien does not apply to purchasers who paid the tax to the vendor. Notice of the lien shall be filed with the county clerk of the county in which the persons who are parties to the transaction reside or in which the vendor conducts business. The tax lien ~~does not~~ shall have preference over ~~preexisting indebtedness but shall have priority from and after the date of filing or recording.~~ all liens except any valid mortgage or other liens of record filed or recorded prior to the date the tax became due. The department shall cancel lien statements within sixty (60) days after taxes due are paid or collected. No other action by the department is required to perfect a lien under this paragraph regardless of the type of property involved;

39-15-109. Taxpayer remedies.

(d) Credits. The following shall apply:

(v) The department shall allow a credit for sales tax legally imposed and paid to another state on a purchase equal to but not exceeding the liability for use tax under this article on that purchase. The department may require that any claim for a credit be substantiated in writing showing the sales tax paid.

39-15-110. Statute of limitations.

(c) Every vendor and person storing, using or consuming tangible personal property in this state shall preserve within this state for three (3) years suitable records and books as may be necessary to determine the amount of tax for which the vendor or person is liable under the provisions of this article, together with invoices and books showing all merchandise purchased. All records, books and invoices shall be available for examination by the department during regular business hours except as arranged by mutual consent.

39-15-111. Distribution.

(b) Revenues earned under W.S. 39-15-104 during each fiscal year shall be recognized as revenue during that fiscal year for accounting purposes. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (p) of this section, for all revenue collected by the department under W.S. 39-15-104 the department shall:

(iii) From the remaining share, ~~until June 30, 2004, deduct an amount equivalent to one-half percent (0.5%) and thereafter~~ deduct an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-15-104. From this amount, the department shall distribute ~~until June 30, 2004, twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00) and thereafter~~ forty thousand dollars ($40,000.00) <u>of sales tax and ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00) of use tax</u> annually to each county in equal monthly installments and then distribute the remainder to each county in the proportion that the total population of the county bears to the total population of the state. The balance shall then be paid monthly to the treasurers of the counties, cities and towns for payment into their respective general funds. The percentage of the balance that will be distributed to each county and its cities and towns will be determined by computing the percentage that net sales taxes collected attributable to vendors in each county including its cities and towns bear to total net sales taxes collected of vendors in all counties including their cities and towns. Subject to subsection (h) of this section, this percentage of the balance shall be distributed within each county as follows:

(c) If any person commences after the effective date of this act to construct an industrial facility, as that term is defined in W.S. 35-12-102, under a permit issued pursuant to W.S. 35-12-106, or if the federal or state governm ent commences to construct any project within this state with an estimated construction cost as specified in the definition of industrial facility in W.S. 35-12-102 the department of revenue shall thereafter pay to the county treasurer and the county treasurer will distribute to the county, cities and towns of that county in which the industrial facility or project is located, impact assistance payments from the monies available under paragraph (b)(i) of this section. Each payment to the county treasurer shall be equal to an amount determined by the industrial siting council under this subsection and shall continue during the period of construction except that in the case of an industrial facility or a federal or state government project which is expected to continue in phases for an indefinite period of time, the department of revenue shall discontinue payments under this section when construction of any phase has ceased or been substantially completed for twelve (12) consecutive months. The person constructing the industrial facility and the counties affected by the construction of the industrial facility shall provide evidence at the public hearing held pursuant to W.S. 35-12-110(f)(i) of the mitigated and unmitigated impacts that the construction will have on the counties, cities and towns determined by the industrial siting council to be affected by the construction of the industrial facility. The industrial siting council shall review the evidence of the impacts and determine, applying a preponderance of evidence standard, the dollar amount of the unmitigated impacts. The council shall state, in the order issued under W.S. 35-12-113(a), the total dollar amount of the impact assistance payment and include specific findings of fact detailing the basis for the total dollar amount determination and if requested by the affected county, city or town, its justification for rejecting, in whole or in part, an application for an impact assistance payment. The impact assistance payment shall be distributed by the department of revenue in an amount and on a schedule determined by the council, based on evidence presented at the hearing. Under no circumstances shall the total dollar amount of the impact assistance payment exceed the maximum allowable percentage specified in this subsection of the total estimated material costs of the facility, as those costs are determined by the council. The maximum allowable percentage shall be two and twenty-five hundredths percent (2.25%) for facilities with total estimated materials costs of three hundred fifty million dollars ($350,000,000.00) or less except as otherwise provided in this subsection, two percent (2%) for facilities with total estimated materials costs in excess of three hundred fifty million dollars ($350,000,000.00) but less than eight hundred fifty million dollars ($850,000,000.00) and one and one-half percent (1.50%) for facilities with total estimated materials costs of eight hundred fifty million dollars ($850,000,000.00) or more. For facilities with total estimated materials costs of three hundred fifty million dollars ($350,000,000.00) or less, the council may increase the maximum allowable percentage to not more than two and seventy-six hundredths percent (2.76%) if the council includes in the specific findings required under this subsection that the maximum allowable percentage of two and twenty-five hundredths percent (2.25%) is insufficient to mitigate the identified impacts. The council shall submit a report to the joint appropriations committee and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee not later than ten (10) business days after increasing the maximum allowable percentage as specified in this subsection, including data to support the increase. The impact assistance payments shall be distributed to the county treasurer and the county treasurer will distribute to the county and to the cities and towns therein based on a ratio established by the industrial siting council during a public hearing held in accordance with W.S. 35-12-110(f)(i). In determining the distribution ratio, the industrial siting council may consider the extent and location of the unmitigated impacts, the populations of the affected counties, cities and towns, including any disproportionate impacts on smaller communities, and any other equitable factor. The industrial siting council shall review the distribution ratio for construction projects on a regular basis and make appropriate adjustments. A governing body which is primarily affected by the facility, or any person issued a permit pursuant to W.S. 35-12-106, may petition the industrial siting council for review and adjustment of the distribution ratio or the amount of the impact assistance payment upon a showing of good cause. The impact assistance payment shall be in addition to all other distributions under this section, but no impact assistance payment shall be made for any period in which the county or counties are not imposing at least a one percent (1%) tax authorized by W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i) ~~and 39-16-204(a)(i)~~ or at least a total of a two percent (2%) ~~sales~~ tax authorized under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i), (iii) and (vi). ~~and at least a total of a two percent (2%) use tax authorized under W.S. 39-16-204(a)(i), (ii) and (v).~~ For purposes of this subsection, the industrial facility or federal or state government project will be deemed to be located in the county in which a majority of the construction costs will be expended, provided that upon a request from the county commissioners of any adjoining county to the industrial siting council, the council may determine that the social and economic impacts from construction of the industrial facility or federal or state government project upon the adjoining county are significant and establish the ratio of impacts between the counties and certify that ratio to the department of revenue who will thereafter distribute the impact assistance payment to the counties pursuant to that ratio. Each county, city and town that receives a distribution under this subsection shall provide an annual report to the industrial siting council describing how the impact assistance payment was expended. The report shall first be submitted not later than one (1) year after the impact assistance payment is approved and annually each year thereafter for the duration in which distributions are made and until all distributions are expended. The industrial siting council shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this subsection.

(s) Taxes collected under subsections W.S. 39-15-107(a)(i) and (ii) shall be remitted in full by the county treasurer to the department monthly or as required by the department together with reports as required by the department. County treasurers shall be reimbursed monthly in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of use tax remitted to the department in the preceding month for deposit into the county general fund.

ARTICLE 2
LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX

39-15-202. Administration.

(a) The state preempts the field of imposing tax upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services and purchases for storage, use or consumption in this state as provided by this article and no county, city, town or other political subdivision may impose, levy or collect taxes upon retail sales, admissions and services or purchases for storage, use or consumption in this state except as provided in this article. Any tax imposed under this article on retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services shall also impose an excise tax at the same rate on purchases for storage, use or consumption in this state as provided in this article.

39-15-203. Imposition.

(a) Taxable event. The following shall apply:

(i) The following provisions apply to imposition of the general purpose excise tax under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i):

(E) If the proposition is approved by the qualified electors or under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph, the board of county commissioners shall by ordinance impose an excise tax upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services. The board of county commissioners or the city or town council shall adopt an ordinance for the tax authorized by W.S. 39-15-204(a)(i). The ordinance shall include the following:

(III) A provision that any amendments made to article 1 ~~or to chapter 16~~ not in conflict with article 1 of this chapter ~~or to chapter 16~~ shall automatically become a part of the sales tax ordinances of the county, city or town;

(ii) The following provisions apply to imposition of the lodging excise tax under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(ii):

(F) If the proposition is approved by the qualified electors the board of county commissioners, city council or town council, as appropriate, shall by ordinance impose an excise tax upon the sales price for lodging services. Following approval of a proposition to impose the tax, the county, city or town shall within thirty (30) days following certification of the election results and annually thereafter each year the tax is in effect, notify the department of revenue of the ordinance or resolution imposing the lodging tax and shall submit a list to the department of all persons selling lodging services within their respective jurisdiction. The board of county commissioners or the city or town council shall adopt an ordinance for the tax authorized by this paragraph. The ordinance shall include the following:

(III) A provision that any amendments made to article 1 ~~or to chapter 16~~ not in conflict with article 1 of this chapter ~~or to chapter 16~~ shall automatically become a part of the sales tax ordinances of the county, city or town;

(v) The following provisions apply to imposition of the excise tax under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(vi) the purpose of which is economic development:

(E) If the proposition is approved by the qualified electors, the board of county commissioners shall by ordinance impose an excise tax upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services. The board of county commissioners or the city or town council shall adopt an ordinance for the tax authorized by W.S. 39-15-204(a)(vi). The ordinance shall include the following:

(III) A provision that any amendments made to article 1 ~~or to chapter 16~~ not in conflict with article 1 of this chapter ~~or to chapter 16~~ shall automatically become a part of the sales tax ordinances of the county, city or town;

(vi) The following provisions apply to imposition of the municipal tax under W.S. 39-15-204(a)(vii):

(G) If the proposition is approved by the qualified electors, the city or town council shall adopt an ordinance for the tax authorized by W.S.

39-15-204(a)(vii) consistent with the approved proposition. The ordinance shall include the following:

(III) A provision that any amendments made to article 1 of this chapter ~~or to chapter 16 of this title~~ that are not in conflict with article 1 of this chapter ~~or to chapter 16 of this title~~ shall automatically become a part of the sales tax ordinances of the city or town;

39-15-306. Licenses; permits; bonding.

(b) Bonding. The following shall apply:

(v) Whenever a nonresident general or prime contractor or nonresident subcontractor furnishes a surety bond for the faithful performance of his contract or subcontract there is imposed an additional obligation upon the surety company to the state of Wyoming and the department as its agent that the nonresident contractor shall pay all sales taxes which become due in the performance of the contract. In the case of a nonresident general or prime contractor this additional obligation includes liability to pay the department all sales taxes which have not been paid to a licensed vendor or the department by the nonresident contractor. The nonresident general or prime contractor or his surety company is authorized to recover from the nonresident subcontractor the amount of sales taxes accruing with respect to purchases made by the nonresident subcontractor which were paid to the department by the nonresident contractor or the surety company, or an amount equal to the sales taxes so paid by the nonresident contractor may be withheld from payments made under the contract. The liability of the surety company under this section is limited to three percent (3%), plus the increased rate under W.S. ~~39-16-104(b)~~ 39-15-104(b) if the tax under that section is in effect, of the contract price;

39-15-402. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(vii) "Sales tax," "use tax" or "sales and use tax" means the tax levied under W.S. 39-15-101 through 39-15-311;

39-15-501. Sales from remote sellers.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any seller of tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under this chapter ~~15 or 16 of this title~~ who does not have a physical presence in this state shall remit sales tax and follow all applicable procedures and requirements of this chapter as if the seller had a physical presence in this state once the seller meets the following requirements for the current calendar year or the immediately preceding calendar year:

39-15-502. Marketplace facilitators.

(a) A marketplace facilitator shall be considered the vendor for each sale that the facilitator facilitates on its marketplace for a marketplace seller. Each marketplace facilitator shall:

(i) Be responsible for all obligations imposed under ~~chapters 15 and 16 of this title~~ this chapter;

(g) As used in this section:

(i) "Marketplace" means any method through which a marketplace seller may sell or offer for sale tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under ~~chapter 15 or 16 of this title~~ this chapter for delivery into this state regardless of whether the marketplace seller has a physical presence in this state;

(ii) "Marketplace facilitator" means any person that facilitates a sale for a marketplace seller through a marketplace by:

(A) Offering for sale by a marketplace seller, by any means, tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under ~~chapter 15 or 16 of this title~~ this chapter for delivery into this state; and

(iii) "Marketplace seller" means a vendor who sells or offers for sale tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under ~~chapter 15 or 16 of this title~~ this chapter for delivery into this state through a marketplace that is owned, operated or controlled by a marketplace facilitator.

39-17-209. Taxpayer remedies.

(c) Refunds. The following shall apply:

(v) The license tax under W.S. 39-17-204(a)(i) is subject to refund on the following:

(C) Diesel fuel sold by a distributor, importer, supplier or dealer and used as heating fuel or to a person engaged in logging operations, mining operations, manufacturing, processing, drilling, exploration or well servicing, highway or other construction or railroad operations when the fuel is consumed directly in logging operations, mining operations, manufacturing, processing, drilling, exploration or well servicing, highway or other construction or railroad operations, or other nonhighway operations or uses is subject to a refund. The record of purchases under this paragraph shall be submitted quarterly on a form provided by or in a format required by the department, along with receipts detailing the gallons purchased and license taxes paid. The refund form and receipts shall be invalid if not submitted to the department within one (1) year following date of purchase. The department shall not deduct the state sales and use tax imposed by the provisions of W.S. 39-15-101 through ~~39-16-311~~ 39-15-502 from the refund to any person who possesses a valid sales or use tax license under W.S. 39-15-106, ~~or 39-16-106,~~ or if the person is exempt from paying sales or use taxes under W.S. 39-15-105. ~~or 39-16-105.~~ A copy of the most recent sales or use tax report or proof that the person is exempt from sales or use taxes shall accompany the claim for refund;

39-17-309. Taxpayer remedies.

(c) Refunds. The following shall apply:

(vi) The license tax under W.S. 39-17-304(a)(i) is subject to refund as follows:

(C) Liquefied natural gas, renewable diesel or compressed natural gas converted to liquefied natural gas at the point of delivery sold by a distributor, importer, supplier or dealer and used as heating fuel or to a person engaged in logging operations, mining operations, manufacturing, processing, drilling, exploration or well servicing, highway or other construction or railroad operations when the alternative fuel is consumed directly in logging operations, mining operations, manufacturing, processing, drilling, exploration or well servicing, highway or other construction or railroad operations, or other nonhighway operations or uses is subject to a refund. The record of purchases under this paragraph shall be submitted quarterly on a form provided by or in a format required by the department, along with receipts detailing the gallons, gasoline gallon equivalent or diesel gallon equivalent purchased and license taxes paid. The refund form and receipts shall be invalid if not submitted to the department within one (1) year following date of purchase. The department shall not deduct the state sales and use tax imposed by the provisions of W.S. 39-15-101 through ~~39-16-211~~ 39-15-502 from the refund to any person who possesses a valid sales or use tax license under W.S. 39-15-106, ~~or 39-16-106,~~ or if the person is exempt from paying sales or use taxes under W.S. 39-15-105. ~~or 39-16-105.~~ A copy of the most recent sales or use tax report or proof that the person is exempt from sales or use taxes shall accompany the claim for refund.

39-18-105. Exemptions.

(b) The sales and use tax exemptions specified in W.S. 39-15-105 ~~and 39-16-105~~ are not applicable to this article.

Section 2. W.S. 31-2-113(a)(iv) is amended to read:

31-2-113. Electronic lien and title system.

(a) As used in this section "electronic lien and title system" means a statewide electronic lien and title system implemented by the department to process through electronic means:

(iv) Payment of sales or use tax pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b).~~, or 39-16-107(b).~~

Section 3. W.S. 39-15-402(a)(x) and 39-16-101 through 39-16-311 are repealed.

Section 4. Nothing in this act shall be deemed to affect any use tax imposed under W.S. 39-16-201 through 39-16-211 prior to July 1, 2026 and the tax shall continue to be administered in the same manner as the sales tax under W.S. 39-15-201 through 39-15-211.

Section 5.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Section 2 of this act is effective July 1, 2027.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 20

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE-ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Original Senate File No. 80

AN ACT relating to sales and use taxes; removing the requirement for specified notices related to sales and use taxes to be sent by mail; authorizing electronic notices; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-15-102(d), 39-15-107(a)(iv) and (b)(ix), 39-15-108(c)(xii) and (xvi) and 39-16-108(c)(vi) and (xviii) are amended to read:

39-15-102. Administration; confidentiality.

(d) ~~Notices required to be mailed~~ Written notice by ~~the department under this article if mailed to the address shown on the records of~~ the department, using contact information provided by the taxpayer, shall be sufficient for the purposes of this article. Written notice may be provided electronically by the department if the contact information provided by the taxpayer includes an electronic communication option.

39-15-107. Compliance; collection procedures.

(a) Returns, reports and preservation of records. The following shall apply:

(iv) If a vendor fails to file a return as required by this article, the department shall give written notice ~~by mail~~ to the vendor to file a return on or before the last day of the month following the notice of delinquency. If a vendor then fails to file a return the department shall make a return from the best information available which will be prima facie correct and the tax due therein is a deficiency and subject to penalties and interest as provided by this article;

(b) Payment. The following shall apply:

(ix) When the department has reason to believe the collection of any tax, penalty or interest will be jeopardized by delay it shall immediately levy a jeopardy assessment and the amount assessed shall be immediately due and payable. Notice of the assessment shall be given to the vendor personally or by ~~mail~~ written notice. If the jeopardy assessment is not paid within ten (10) days after the service of notice upon the vendor, the deficiency penalty and interest provided in W.S. 39-15-108(c)(ii) shall attach to the amount of the jeopardy assessment;

39-15-108. Enforcement.

(c) Penalties. The following shall apply:

(xii) If a vendor fails to file a return as required by this article, the department shall give written notice ~~by mail~~ to the vendor to file a return on or before the last day of the month following the notice of delinquency. If a vendor then fails to file a return the department shall make a return from the best information available which will be prima facie correct and the tax due therein is a deficiency and subject to penalties and interest as provided by this article;

(xvi) Notwithstanding W.S. 39-15-102(e), if any vendor or taxpayer is one hundred fifty (150) days or more delinquent on taxes due under this article, has not entered into a formal payment arrangement with the department and after thirty (30) days written notice, ~~provided by first class mail,~~ the department shall post monthly the name of the vendor or taxpayer, the sales and use tax license number, physical address and the unpaid balance owed by the vendor or taxpayer on the website of the department indicating that the vendor or taxpayer has not paid the tax due under this article.

39-16-108. Enforcement.

(c) Penalties. The following shall apply:

(vi) The department shall promptly give written notice of all taxes, penalty and interest due under this section ~~by personal service or mail~~ to the ~~address~~ contact information as shown in the department records;

(xviii) Notwithstanding W.S. 39-16-102(c), if any vendor or taxpayer is one hundred fifty (150) days or more delinquent on taxes due under this article, has not entered into a formal payment arrangement with the department and after thirty (30) days written notice, ~~provided by first class mail,~~ the department shall post monthly the name of the vendor or taxpayer, the sales and use tax license number, physical address and the unpaid balance owed by the vendor or taxpayer on the website of the department indicating that the vendor or taxpayer has not paid the tax due under this article.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 21

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAID-CRITERIA

Original Senate File No. 6

AN ACT relating to medical assistance and services; codifying current state criteria for Medicaid eligibility; specifying applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 42-4-106 by creating a new subsection (e) is amended to read:

42-4-106. Application for assistance; determination of eligibility; assignment of benefits; resources and income allowances defined for institutionalized spouse.

(e) The following requirements shall be met before an applicant is eligible for medical assistance under this chapter:

(i) An applicant shall be a citizen or national of the United States and shall provide a valid social security number and proof of identity. An applicant considered to be lawfully present in the United States shall be eligible for medical assistance under this chapter. The requirement in this paragraph shall not apply when determining if the department of health will cover children in the custody of the department of family services;

(ii) An applicant shall be a Wyoming resident or meet the criteria specified in the Wyoming Medicaid state plan. An applicant who intends to return to the applicant's home in another state or country shall not be considered a Wyoming resident;

(iii) An applicant shall fulfill not less than one (1) of the following criteria:

(A) Be determined disabled according to social security guidelines by the social security administration or the department;

(B) Be entitled to receive supplemental security income or be eligible for supplemental security income-related programs;

(C) Be entitled to receive hospice services in accordance with a voluntary election and a health care provider statement of a terminal condition where:

(I) The applicant has received hospice services or resided in a medical institution for not less than thirty (30) consecutive days; or

(II) The applicant is not a supplemental security income recipient and dies before completion of the time requirement specified in subdivision (I) of this subparagraph.

(D) Be qualified for services, pursuant to rules of the department, under a Medicaid waiver or other expansion that the legislature has authorized;

(E) Be infected with tuberculosis and, if the person is not a Wyoming resident or United States citizen, is present in Wyoming and, if not treated, is a threat to infect Wyoming residents with tuberculosis;

(F) Be otherwise qualified for medical assistance pursuant to federal Medicaid regulations or be eligible under a mandatory requirement of the federal government for participation in Medicaid, provided that no expansion eligibility for Medicaid beyond the eligibility as of January 1, 2026 shall occur without prior authorization by the legislature, except that the governor may authorize a temporary expansion in eligibility needed to combat a public health emergency, provided that the temporary expansion shall end not more than thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the next legislative session;

(G) Be a child in the custody of the department of family services in foster care, basic foster care, noncitizen foster care, subsidized adoption or in residence at the Wyoming boys' school or the Wyoming girls' school;

(H) Be enrolled in the 1115 family planning waiver. The department of health is authorized to continue operating the 1115 waiver until its planned expiration in December 31, 2027 and is not authorized to renew the waiver beyond this expiration date;

(J) Be enrolled in the employed individuals with disabilities program under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XV) of the federal Social Security Act;

(K) Be enrolled in the breast and cervical cancer treatment program under section 1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVIII) of the federal Social Security Act.

(iv) An applicant shall fulfill any other criteria required pursuant to rules of the department or federal Medicaid regulations.

Section 2. The department of health shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act not later than October 1, 2026.

Section 3. This act applies to applications for medical assistance submitted or renewed on or after July 1, 2027.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2027.

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

Approved February 27, 2026.

Chapter 22

SUBLEASING OF STATE LANDS-EXEMPTIONS

Original Senate File No. 16

AN ACT relating to state lands; amending provisions and creating exemptions regarding the subleasing of state grazing lands; providing definitions; establishing a non-owned livestock fee; repealing obsolete provisions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-5-105(d)(iii), by creating new subparagraphs (D) and (E) and by creating a new subsection (k) is amended to read:

36-5-105. Criteria for leasing; preferences; assignments, subleases or contracts; lands taken for war purposes; mineral lands excepted; agricultural lands.

(d) If the lessee of state lands shall assign, sublease or contract all or any part of the lease area, the lease shall be subject to cancellation unless the director approves the assignment, sublease or contract subject to criteria established by the board of land commissioners provided that:

(iii) In no event shall the lands be subleased unless one-half (1/2) of the excess rental is paid to the state. For purposes of this paragraph, "excess rental" means the amount of money received from the sublease by the lessee is in excess of the current annual grazing and agricultural lease rental. "Excess rental" shall be calculated by identifying the total money received for only the use of leased or subleased state lands and subtracting the annual lease rental;

(iv) A lessee of state lands whose lease authorizes grazing on the state lands shall not be required to obtain the approval of the director to allow livestock the lessee does not own to graze on the state lands provided that:

(D) Notice of the presence of livestock not owned by the lessee shall be given to the board on a form provided by the office of state lands and investments not more than thirty (30) days after the arrival of the livestock on the leased land;

(E) In addition to the annual rental amount, the lessee shall pay a monthly fee per head of non-owned livestock which shall be established by the board and shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the annual animal unit month rental rate. The payment shall be made to the board not later than thirty (30) days after the removal of the non-owned livestock. For purposes of this subparagraph, "animal unit month" means as defined by W.S. 41-3-116(a)(ii).

(k) If at any time a state grazing lessee notifies the office that the common ownership of the entities holding the state grazing lease and owning the livestock grazing on the state grazing lease is not less than eighty percent (80%), a sublease or a non-owned livestock fee shall not be required.

Section 2. W.S. 36-5-105(d)(iv)(A) through (C), (v) and (vi) is repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 2, 2026.

Chapter 23

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

Original Senate File No. 2

AN ACT relating to appropriations for the legislature; providing appropriations for the operation of the legislative branch of state government; providing for terms and conditions and other requirements relating to appropriations for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2026 and the period of the budget as specified; providing for carryover of certain funds beyond the biennium as specified; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. There is appropriated from the general fund to the legislative service office the following specified amounts, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the costs and expenses of the Wyoming legislature through June 30, 2028:

SALARIES	
LSO Staff Permanent/Temporary	$11,499,818
Legislators – Session	1,156,600
Legislators – Interim	2,239,976
Session Staff	575,608
Employer Paid Benefits	4,906,076
IN-STATE TRAVEL	
Mileage and Per Diem – Session	1,543,200
Mileage and Per Diem – Interim	1,252,390
OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL	
Travel Expenses	93,800
Per Diem	128,800
DUES	
National Conference of State Legislatures	293,524
The Energy Council	76,800
Council of State Governments	271,346
Other	15,520
REGISTRATION FEES	75,600
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	50,000
ETS SERVICES (Network connections & backup)	10,000

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT 1,524,720
(Information technology, copying,
supplies and equipment, furniture,
contract services, special projects, etc.)

STATUTES, SESSION LAWS AND DIGESTS...................................... 405,000

TOTAL..$26,118,778

Section 2. [Standard Provision-Flex]. The Management Council may transfer funds from one expense category to another under Section 1 of this act as the activities of the legislature may require.

Section 3. [Standard Provision-Travel]. The appropriation for out-of-state travel under this act shall be used to reimburse legislators for documented legislative travel and per diem expenses to attend out-of-state meetings in accordance with policies of the Management Council. In addition to other out-of-state travel authorized in Management Council policies, Management Council may approve out-of-state travel for legislators that furthers the interests of the state of Wyoming. This travel may include travel to meet with legislators or legislative committees from other states and travel to attend other meetings, conferences or events that further the interests of the state of Wyoming.

Section 4. [Carry Forward of Prior Appropriations].

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-207, the unobligated portions of the following appropriations shall not revert on June 30, 2026, and are hereby reappropriated to the legislative service office for the following purposes:

(i) Any unexpended, unobligated amounts reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 59, Sections 4(a)(i) and 7 and 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140, Section 2 are reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office for the period commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. Expenditures of amounts reappropriated under this paragraph shall be for professional consulting expertise and other support necessary to carry out and execute work of the legislature pertaining to required K-12 education responsibilities, issues and studies. Professional consulting expertise may be retained by the legislative service office only upon approval of the Management Council, and the unexpended, unobligated amounts may be expended for contractual agreements between the Management Council and professional consultants;

(ii) Any balance remaining on June 30, 2026, resulting from the sale of legislative laptop computers prior to that date is appropriated to the legislative service office to be used for the purchase of replacement laptop computers and support systems for the period commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028;

(iii) Any unexpended, unobligated amounts appropriated for expenditure under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 59 are reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office at the direction of the Management Council for extraordinary expenses of the legislature and as necessary to supplement any expense category under this act, for the period commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 5. [New Legislator Training Compensation].

(a) From and after the date the state canvassing board certifies the results of the 2026 general election in accordance with W.S. 22-16-118, legislators elect and newly appointed legislators may, to the extent authorized by the Management Council, receive mileage and per diem at the same rate as members of the legislature plus an amount equal to the daily salary paid to legislators for each day spent at a legislative training function or at a meeting of an interim committee to which they will be assigned.

(b) There is appropriated from the general fund to the legislative service office thirty-four thousand dollars ($34,000.00) for purposes of this section.

(c) As used in this section:

(i) "Legislator elect" means a person elected to the legislature during the 2026 general election who is not a current member of the legislature and before the person is duly sworn in;

(ii) "Newly appointed legislator" means a person appointed after the 2026 general election to fill a vacancy in the House or Senate and before the person is duly sworn in.

Section 6. [Economic Development Authorized Travel].

(a) Subject to available appropriation, legislators traveling out-of-state, including internationally, in connection with executive branch or legislatively approved efforts to expand and diversify Wyoming's energy and industrial economy or to attract new business enterprises to the state or to improve access to and growth in domestic and international markets, are authorized reimbursement of actual travel expenses, including travel, lodging, meals and necessary incidentals, provided:

(i) Reimbursement of travel expenses for members of the legislature to participate in economic development efforts under this section shall require the approval of the Management Council;

(ii) In designating members authorized to receive travel reimbursement under this section, preference shall be given to members who have expressed an intention to seek re-election to, or if mid-term to continue to serve in, the Wyoming legislature during the 2027 and 2028 legislative sessions.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 7. [Wyoming State Treasurer's Investment Conference]. There is appropriated twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for payment of registration, mileage and per diem for legislators attending the Wyoming state treasurer's investment conference in the 2026 or 2027 interim.

Section 8. [Interpretive Exhibits and Wayfinding Subcommittee].

(a) There is appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office to pay the salary, mileage and per diem of the legislative members of the capitol interpretive exhibits and wayfinding subcommittee created by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140, Section 8(a).

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 9. [Economic Modeling]. There is appropriated four hundred ninety-two thousand one hundred dollars ($492,100.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for regional economic modeling software and maintenance fees for the 2027-2028 biennium to support the legislative service office budget fiscal division fiscal note process, the legislative service office research division administrative rules economic impact analysis and other projects and assignments of the legislature as necessary.

Section 10. [Effective Dates].

(a) As used in this act, "effective immediately" means effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution. Any appropriation contained in this act that is effective immediately shall not lapse until June 30, 2028, unless otherwise specified.

(b) Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 24

EPINEPHRINE DELIVERY METHODS

Original Senate File No. 19

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; authorizing the administration of epinephrine through the use of auto-injectors, nasal sprays and any other federally approved device or method; amending definitions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-4-310(c)(iii), 21-4-316(a), (b)(intro), (c)(i) through (iii), (vii), (viii), (d)(intro), (ii), (e)(i), (ii), (iv) and (v), 33-24-158(b), 35-4-902(a)(viii), 35-4-903(a)(intro), (b)(intro) and (ii), 35-4-904(a), (b)(intro) and (c), 35-4-905 and 35-4-906(a) through (e) are amended to read:

21-4-310. Self-administration of medication for potentially life threatening conditions.

(c) As used in this section:

(iii) "Medication required for potentially life threatening conditions" includes, but is not limited to asthma medication and prescription ~~single dose~~ epinephrine. ~~pens.~~

21-4-316. Administration of stock epinephrine.

(a) A district board may adopt and implement a policy whereby the district may acquire, maintain and dispense to schools within the district a supply of epinephrine. ~~auto-injectors.~~ Upon authorization by the board, school nurses and assigned school personnel may administer ~~a~~ stock epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ to a student that the school nurse or assigned school personnel in good faith believes is experiencing a severe allergic reaction. A district board shall not be required to obtain a prescription to acquire, maintain or dispense to schools within the district a supply of epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ under this section. A district board may enter into arrangements with manufacturers or third-party suppliers of epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ to obtain the epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ at fair market, free or reduced prices.

(b) A district board that decides to acquire, maintain and dispense a supply of epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ shall:

(c) ~~Not later than December 31, 2014,~~ The department of education, in consultation with the department of health, shall develop and make available to all schools guidelines for the management of students with life threatening allergies. The guidelines shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) Identification of life threatening allergies or severe allergic reactions qualifying for the administration of epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ under this act;

(ii) Identification of appropriate and acceptable epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ administration devices or methods;

(iii) Education and training for school personnel on the management of students with life threatening allergies, including training related to the administration of epinephrine; ~~auto-injectors;~~

(vii) Requirements for each school to keep a record of each incident that involves a life threatening allergy or the administration of stock epinephrine; ~~auto-injectors;~~

(viii) Requirements for schools that have adopted a policy allowing for the administration of stock epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ pursuant to this section to maintain a list of employees in the school or school district who have been trained and assigned to administer stock epinephrine; ~~auto-injectors;~~

(d) A school that possesses and makes available stock epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ and those persons specified in this subsection shall not be liable for damages for any injuries that result from the administration of, self-administration of, or failure to administer epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ that may constitute ordinary negligence. This immunity applies regardless of whether authorization was provided by the student's parent or guardian or by the student's health care provider. This immunity does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, willful or wanton negligence. The administration of stock epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ in accordance with this section is not the practice of medicine. The immunity from liability provided under this section is in addition to and not in lieu of that provided under W.S. 1-11-20. The immunity provided in this subsection extends to:

(ii) An authorized health care provider who prescribes stock epinephrine; ~~auto-injectors;~~ and

(e) As used in this section:

(i) “Administer” or “administration” means the direct application of ~~a~~ stock epinephrine; ~~auto-injector;~~

(ii) “Assigned school personnel” means an employee, agent or volunteer of a school designated by the administrator of the school who has completed the training required under this section to provide or administer stock epinephrine; ~~auto-injectors;~~

(iv) “Provide” means the supply of one (1) or more stock epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ doses;

(v) “Stock epinephrine” means ~~injectable~~ medications used for the treatment of severe, life-threatening allergies that schools or districts buy and keep on-site for emergency use.

33-24-158. Prescription of epinephrine or opiate antagonist by pharmacist.

(b) The board, in cooperation with the Wyoming state board of medicine, shall adopt rules specifying the requirements a pharmacist shall meet in order to prescribe ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist.

35-4-902. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(viii) “Epinephrine” ~~auto-injector”~~ means ~~an automatic injectable~~ a device or method that administers the drug epinephrine to a person experiencing anaphylaxis and includes epipens, nasal sprays or any other device or method under a different ~~brand~~ name used for emergency epinephrine delivery for the treatment of anaphylaxis and which device or method is approved by the United States food and drug administration.

35-4-903. Prescription of epinephrine or opiate antagonist.

(a) A practitioner or a pharmacist acting in good faith and exercising reasonable care may, without a prescriber-patient relationship, prescribe ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist to:

(b) A practitioner or pharmacist who prescribes ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist under this article shall provide education to the person to whom the epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or opiate antagonist is prescribed, which shall include written instruction on how to:

(ii) Respond appropriately to an anaphylaxis or opiate related drug overdose event, including how to administer epinephrine ~~through use of an epinephrine auto-injector~~ or administer an opiate antagonist;

35-4-904. Standing order for epinephrine or opiate antagonist; anaphylaxis and drug overdose treatment policy; rules.

(a) A practitioner acting in good faith and exercising reasonable care may prescribe by a standing order ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist to an entity that, in the course of the entity's official duties or business, may be in a position to assist a person experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose.

(b) An entity prescribed ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist by standing order shall establish an anaphylaxis or a drug overdose treatment policy in accordance with rules adopted by the department of health. The anaphylaxis or drug overdose treatment policy shall:

(c) The Wyoming state board of medicine and the Wyoming state board of nursing may adopt rules as necessary to implement and administer <u>a</u> prescription of ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist by a standing order.

35-4-905. Voluntary participation.

This article does not establish a duty or standard of care for a person to prescribe or administer epinephrine~~, through use of an epinephrine auto-injector,~~ or an opiate antagonist.

35-4-906. Administration of epinephrine or opiate antagonist; immunity from liability; exemption from unprofessional conduct; relation to other law.

(a) A person acting in good faith may administer epinephrine ~~through use of an epinephrine auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist to another person who appears to be experiencing anaphylaxis or an opiate related drug overdose.

(b) A person who administers epinephrine ~~through use of an epinephrine auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist pursuant to this article is personally immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury.

(c) A practitioner or pharmacist who prescribes ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or <u>an</u> opiate antagonist pursuant to this article is personally immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury.

(d) An entity that establishes an anaphylaxis or drug overdose treatment policy pursuant to this article is immune from civil or criminal liability for any act or omission related to the administration of epinephrine ~~through use of an epinephrine auto-injector~~ or an opiate antagonist resulting in damage or injury.

(e) Prescribing ~~an~~ epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ or <u>an</u> opiate antagonist by a practitioner or pharmacist pursuant to this article shall not constitute unprofessional conduct.

Section 2. The department of education, the department of health and the board of pharmacy shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this section are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 25

UNINCORPORATED NONPROFIT ASSOCIATIONS-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 22

AN ACT relating to corporations, partnerships and associations; authorizing decentralized unincorporated nonprofit associations to automatically convert to unincorporated nonprofit associations as specified; conforming language in the Wyoming Decentralized Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act with the Wyoming Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act; requiring assets of decentralized unincorporated nonprofit associations to be distributed as required by federal law when winding up a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association; clarifying references to decentralized unincorporated nonprofit associations; amending definitions; repealing obsolete provisions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 17-22-106(b), (c) and (d), 17-32-102(a)(i), (iii)(intro), (A), (C), (vi) through (ix), by creating a new paragraph (xiv) and by renumbering (xiv) as (xv), 17-32-104(a), (b), (c)(i) and (iii), 17-32-106(a), (b) and (c)(ii) through (iv), 17-32-107(b) through (e), 17-32-108(b)(i) and (ii), 17-32-109, 17-32-110(b)(ii), 17-32-111, 17-32-112, 17-32-113(a)(i), 17-32-114(b)(i) through (iii), 17-32-115(a), 17-32-116(a), 17-32-117(a), 17-32-119, 17-32-120(c), 17-32-121(b)(i), 17-32-122(a)(ii), 17-32-123(a), (d)(intro), (ii) and (iv), 17-32-124(a) and (c), 17-32-125(a) through (d), 17-32-126(a), (b)(i), (ii)(A), (B), (D) and (iii), 17-32-127(a) by creating a new paragraph (vii), (c)(iii), (v)(B) and (d)(viii) and 17-32-128 are amended to read:

17-22-106. Liability in tort and contract.

(b) A person is not liable for a breach of a nonprofit association's contract ~~merely~~ solely because the person is a member, is authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or is a person considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

(c) A person is not liable for a tortious act or omission for which a nonprofit association is liable ~~merely~~ solely because the person is a member, is authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or is a person considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

(d) A tortious act or omission of a member or other person for which a nonprofit association is liable is not imputed to a person ~~merely~~ solely because the person is a member of the nonprofit association, is authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or is a person considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

17-32-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Administrator" means a person, whether or not a member, authorized by the ~~members~~ membership of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association to fulfill administrative or operational tasks at the direction of the membership of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association;

(iii) "Decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association" ~~or "nonprofit association"~~ means an unincorporated nonprofit association that meets the following requirements:

(A) Consists of at least one hundred (100) members joined by mutual consent under an agreement, that may be in writing or inferred from conduct, for a common nonprofit purpose~~, except as permitted under W.S. 17-32-104;~~

(C) Is not formed under any other law governing the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's organization or operation.

(vi) "Established practices" means the practices used by a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association without material change during the most recent five (5) years of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's existence, or if the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association has existed for less than five (5) years, during the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's entire existence;

(vii) "Governing principles" means all agreements and any amendment or restatement of those agreements, including any decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association agreements, consensus formation algorithms, smart contracts or enacted governance proposals, that govern the purpose or operation of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association and the rights and obligations of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's members and administrators, whether contained in a record, implied from the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's established practices or both;

(viii) "Member" means a person who, under the governing principles of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, may participate in the selection of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's administrators or the development of the policies and activities of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association;

(ix) "Membership interest" means a member's voting right in a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association determined by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles, including as ascertained from decentralized ledger technology on which the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association relies to determine a member's voting right;

(xiv) "Distributed ledger protocol" means an executable software deployed to a distributed ledger including smart contracts or networks of smart contracts;

~~(xiv)~~(xv) "This act" means W.S. 17-32-101 through ~~17-32-128~~ 17-32-129.

17-32-104. Profits; prohibitions on distributions and dividends; compensation and other permitted payments.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may engage in profit-making activities, but profits from any activities shall be used in furtherance of, or set aside for, the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's common nonprofit purpose.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may not pay dividends or distribute any part of its income or profits to its members or administrators or persons outside the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(c) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(i) Pay reasonable compensation or reimburse reasonable expenses to its members, administrators and persons outside the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association for services rendered, including with respect to the administration and operation of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, which may include the provisions of collateral for the self-insurance of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, voting or participation in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's operations and activities;

(iii) Repurchase membership interests to the extent authorized by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles; and

17-32-106. Statement of authority as to real property.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall execute and record a statement of authority to transfer an estate or interest in real property in the name of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(b) An estate or interest in real property in the name of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may be transferred by a person so authorized in a statement of authority recorded in the office of the county clerk in which a transfer of the property ~~will~~ would be recorded.

(c) A statement of authority shall set forth:

(ii) The address in this state, including the street address, if any, of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association does not have an address in this state, the statement of authority shall include the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's address out of state;

(iii) The name or title of the person authorized to transfer an estate or interest in real property held in the name of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association; and

(iv) The action, procedure or vote of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association which authorizes the person to transfer the real property of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association and which authorizes the person to execute the statement of authority.

17-32-107. Liability in tort or contract.

(b) A person is not liable for a breach of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's contract merely because the person is a member, administrator, authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or considered as a member by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(c) A person is not liable for a tortious act or omission for which a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is liable merely because the person is a member or administrator of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, or is a person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or considered as a member by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(d) A tortious act or omission of a member, administrator or other person for which a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is liable is not imputed to a person merely because the person is a member or administrator of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, or is a person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or considered as a member by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(e) A member, administrator, person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, or person considered as a member by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, may assert a claim against the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may assert a claim against a member, administrator, person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or person considered as a member by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-108. Capacity to assert and defend; standing.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may assert a claim on behalf of its members if:

(i) One (1) or more members of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association have standing to assert a claim in their own right;

(ii) The interests the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association seeks to protect are germane to its purposes; and

17-32-109. Effect of judgement or order.

A judgment or order against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is not by itself a judgment or order against a member or administrator of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-110. Appointment of agent to receive service of process.

(b) A statement appointing an agent shall set forth:

(ii) The address in this state, including the street address, if any, of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association does not have an address in this state, the statement shall include the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's address out of state; and

17-32-111. Summons and complaint; service on whom.

In an action or proceeding against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, a summons and complaint shall be served on an agent authorized to receive service of process or a person authorized to administer the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If none of them can be served, service may be made on a member of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-112. Claim not abated by change of members, administrators or persons authorized.

A claim for relief against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall not abate merely because of a change in its members or persons authorized to administer the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-113. Venue.

(a) For purposes of venue, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is a resident of a county in which:

(i) The decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association has an office; or

17-32-114. Perpetual existence, dissolution, continuation of existence.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may be dissolved by any of the following methods:

(i) If the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association provide a time or method for dissolution, by that method;

(ii) If the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association do not provide a method for dissolution, by approval of its members in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120;

(iii) If membership in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association falls below one hundred (100) members and the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association does not meet the requirements of a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association under W.S. 17-22-101 through 17-22-115. In the event membership in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association falls below one hundred (100) members and the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association meets the requirements of a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association under W.S. 17-22-101 through 17-22-115, the entity automatically converts to a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association unless the governing principles otherwise specify~~; another organizational statute and the organization meets the statutory requirements of that organization;~~

17-32-115. Admission, suspension, dismissal or expulsion of members.

(a) A person becomes a member of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in accordance with the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If there are no applicable governing principles, a person shall be considered a member upon purchase or assumption of ownership of a membership interest ~~or other property or instrument that confers a voting right with the nonprofit association~~ and the person shall continue as a member ~~absent~~ until the person's suspension, dismissal or expulsion pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, resignation pursuant to W.S. 17-32-116 or the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's dissolution and wind-up pursuant to W.S. 17-32-114 and W.S. 17-32-126.

17-32-116. Member resignation.

(a) A member may resign as a member of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in accordance with the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If there are no applicable governing principles, a member shall be deemed to have resigned as a member upon the disposal, whether voluntary or involuntary, of all membership interests or other property or instruments that confer upon the person a voting right within the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-117. Duties of members.

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in the governing principles, a member shall not have any fiduciary duty to a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or to any other member of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association solely by reason of being a member.

17-32-119. Member interests transferable.

Except as otherwise provided in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles, a member interest or any right thereunder is freely transferable to another person through conveyance of the membership interest.~~ or other property that confers upon a person a voting right within the nonprofit association.~~

17-32-120. Approval by members.

(c) Unless otherwise provided for in the governing principles, membership interest in a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall be calculated in proportion to a member's voting rights within the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-121. Utilization of distributed ledger technology.

(b) The governing principles for a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(i) Specify whether any distributed ledger technology utilized or enabled by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association will be fully immutable or subject to change by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association and whether any distributed ledger will be fully or partially public or private, including the extent of a member's access to information;

17-32-122. Consensus formation algorithms and governance process.

(a) In accordance with its governing principles, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(ii) In accordance with any procedure specified pursuant to W.S.

17-32-121, modify the consensus mechanism, as well as the requirements, processes and procedures or substitute a new consensus mechanism, requirements, processes or procedures that comply with this state's law and the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-123. Selection of administrators; rights and duties of administrators.

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles, the members of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may select the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's administrators in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120.

(d) If in a record, the governing principles of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may limit or eliminate the liability of an administrator to the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or its members for money damages for any action taken, or failure to take any action, as an administrator except liability for:

(ii) An intentional infliction of harm on the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or its members;

(iv) Breach of the duty of loyalty should one exist, unless, following full disclosure of all material facts to the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association members, the specific act or transaction that would otherwise breach the duty of loyalty is authorized or ratified by approval of the disinterested members pursuant to W.S. 17-32-120;

17-32-124. Right to inspect records.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, on reasonable notice, a member or administrator of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall be entitled to an electronic record of any record maintained by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association regarding the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's activities, financial condition and other circumstances, to the extent the information is material to a member or administrator's rights and duties under the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles or this act.

(c) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may impose reasonable restrictions on access to and use of information that may be provided under this section, including by designating the information confidential and imposing nondisclosure or other safeguarding obligations on the recipient of the information. In a dispute concerning the reasonableness of a restriction under this subsection, the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall have the burden of proving reasonableness.

17-32-125. Indemnification; advancement of expenses.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in its governing principles, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may reimburse a member or administrator for authorized expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may indemnify a member or administrator for any debt, obligation or other liability incurred in the course of the member or administrator's activities on behalf of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. To be eligible for indemnification, an administrator must have complied with the duties stated in W.S. 17-32-123. If in a record, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles may broaden or limit this right of indemnification.

(c) If a person is made, or threatened to be made, a party in a proceeding based on that person's conduct in the affairs of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, that person is entitled, upon written request to the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, including through decentralized ledger technology, to receive payment of or reimbursement by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, of reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees and disbursements, incurred by that person in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding. To be entitled to these payments or advances the person making the request shall make a written affirmation that the person has a good faith belief that the criteria for indemnification in subsection (a) of this section have been satisfied and that the person will repay the amounts paid or reimbursed if it is determined that the criteria for reimbursement have not been satisfied. No payment or reimbursement under this subsection shall be made without prior approval, in a record, of the disinterested members under W.S. 17-32-102.

(d) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a member or administrator for liability asserted against or incurred by the member or administrator in that capacity, whether or not the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association would have the power to indemnify or advance expenses to the member or administrator against the same liability under this section.

17-32-126. Winding up; termination.

(a) A dissolved decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall wind up its operations and the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall continue after dissolution only for the purpose of winding up.

(b) In winding up a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, the members:

(i) Shall discharge the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's debts, obligations and other liabilities, settle and close the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's business and distribute any remaining property:

(A) As required by state law other than this chapter or federal law requiring assets of ~~an~~ a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association to be distributed to another entity or person with similar nonprofit purposes;

(B) In accordance with the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles. In the absence of applicable governing principles, to the current members of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in proportion to their membership interests; or

(C) If neither ~~subdivision~~ subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph applies, in accordance with the law of unclaimed property contained in W.S. 34-24-101 through 34-24-140.

(ii) May:

(A) Authorize an administrator to wind up the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120. Any administrator so authorized shall owe the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association a duty of care in the conduct or winding up of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association to refrain from grossly negligent or reckless conduct, willful or intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;

(B) Preserve the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's operations and property as a going concern for a reasonable time;

(D) Transfer the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's property;

(iii) If the members of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association do not appoint an administrator or administrators to wind up the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, the members shall owe the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association a duty of care in the conduct or winding up of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's operations to refrain from engaging in grossly negligent or reckless conduct, willful or intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law.

17-32-127. Mergers.

(a) As used in this section:

(vii) "Charitable purpose" means any purpose of an organization that is recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any successor section, or that upon dissolution shall distribute its assets to a public benefit corporation, the United States, a state or a person that is recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any successor section.

(c) A merger involving a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is subject to the following requirements:

(iii) The plan of merger shall be approved by the members of each decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association that is a constituent organization in the merger, subject to W.S. 17-32-120. If a member of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association that is party to a merger will have personal liability with respect to an obligation of a constituent or surviving organization, the consent in a record of that member to the plan of merger shall also be obtained;

(v) Following approval of the plan, a merger under this section shall be effective if:

(B) The surviving organization is a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, as specified in the plan of merger and upon compliance by any constituent organization that is not a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association with any requirements, including any required filings in the office of the secretary of state, of the organization's governing statute; or

(d) When a merger becomes effective:

(viii) The merger shall not affect the personal liability, if any, of a member, administrator or manager of a constituent association for a debt, liability or obligation of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association incurred before the merger is effective; and

17-32-128. Conversion of entities.

A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may effect a conversion by complying with the applicable provisions of W.S. 17-26-101 and any applicable provisions of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles.

Section 2. W.S. 17-32-102(a)(ii) is repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 26

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Original Senate File No. 71

AN ACT relating to the administration of the government; reconstituting the office of homeland security as the Wyoming department of homeland security; specifying duties and budget requirements for the department; specifying the transfer of assets, obligations and duties of the office of homeland security to the department of homeland security; making conforming amendments; requiring reports; specifying applicability; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1.

(a) The Wyoming office of homeland security created in the Wyoming Homeland Security Act is hereby transferred from the office of the governor to the Wyoming department of homeland security, as created in this act, on July 1, 2026. All property, equipment, obligations and unexpended funds of the office of homeland security are transferred to the department of homeland security, except as provided in this section.

(b) The following shall apply to the reorganization specified in subsection (a) of this section:

(i) No plan of reorganization under W.S. 9-2-1707(a)(iii) for the transfer of the office of homeland security from the office of the governor to the department of homeland security shall be required;

(ii) Upon the creation of the department of homeland security in accordance with this act, the governor shall appoint a director of the department. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the governor from appointing the director who was appointed under W.S. 19-13-104(d) as the director of the department;

(iii) Upon the transfer of the office of homeland security under this section, the department of homeland security shall assume all duties and authorities granted under Wyoming law.

(c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to impair any existing contracts, agreements or other obligations of the Wyoming office of homeland security executed before the effective date of this act. The Wyoming department of homeland security shall, to the greatest extent authorized by law, fulfill existing agreements, contracts and other obligations of the office of homeland security from funds transferred under this act or other funds appropriated to the department of homeland security for those purposes. To the extent that the office of homeland security has outstanding contracts, agreements or other obligations that cannot be assumed lawfully by the department of homeland security, the office of the governor shall assume those contracts, agreements or other obligations.

(d) The following shall be transferred to the Wyoming department of homeland security on July 1, 2026, subject to subsection (c) of this section:

(i) Any unexpended, unobligated funds appropriated to the office of homeland security or to the office of the governor, homeland security division (department 001, division 1100) during the 2026 budget session;

(ii) Any full-time or part-time positions provided or granted to the office of homeland security or to the office of the governor, homeland security division (department 001, division 1100) during the 2026 budget session;

(iii) Any other unexpended, unobligated funds that the office of homeland security is authorized to maintain on and after July 1, 2026.

(e) Not later than October 1, 2026, the department of homeland security shall report to the joint judiciary interim committee on the transfer required under this act.

Section 2. W.S. 9-2-2022 is created to read:

9-2-2022. Wyoming department of homeland security created.

As part of the reorganization of Wyoming state government, there is created the Wyoming department of homeland security consisting of the Wyoming office of homeland security created in the Wyoming Homeland Security Act. The department of homeland security shall not be subject to a transition period as defined in W.S. 9-2-1703(a)(ix). A reorganization plan shall not be required of the director.

Section 3. W.S. 5-11-101(a)(intro), 7-19-106(a)(xiv), 7-19-201(e), 9-2-1102(a)(xix), 18-3-402(a)(xxvi), 19-13-102(a)(v), 19-13-103(a)(i), 19-13-104(a), (d)(intro), (i) and by creating a new paragraph (vii), 19-13-105(a), (b), (c)(intro), (i), (d) and (e), 19-13-113(c), 19-13-117(a) through (c), (e)(intro), (ii) and (g), 19-13-301(b) and (c)(intro), 19-13-302(a) and (b), 19-13-303(a)(intro), 19-13-501(a)(iii) and (v), 24-12-102(c)(intro) and (i)(A), 31-2-234(b), 35-9-152(a)(viii), (x) and (xii), 35-9-153(a)(intro), (c), (e) and (g), 35-9-154(a)(intro), 35-9-155(d)(intro), 35-9-156(a) and 35-9-157(c)(iii) are amended to read:

5-11-101. Wyoming court security commission created; membership; powers and duties; compensation; report required.

(a) The Wyoming court security commission is created under the supervision of the Wyoming supreme court. The commission shall be composed of the director of the ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security or ~~his~~ <u>the director's</u> designee and nine (9) additional members who shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years commencing July 1, 2008, who may be reappointed to serve subsequent terms. The nine (9) additional members shall include:

7-19-106. Access to, and dissemination of, information.

(a) Criminal history record information shall be disseminated by criminal justice agencies in this state, whether directly or through any intermediary, only to:

(xiv) The ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security for purposes of obtaining background information on prospective homeland security workers and regional emergency response team participants;

7-19-201. State or national criminal history record information.

(e) The Wyoming military department, any public fire department, ambulance service or regional emergency response team may as a condition of employment or other participation with the entity require all applicants for employee or volunteer positions with the entity to submit to fingerprinting in order to obtain state and national criminal history record information. In addition, the ~~office~~ department of homeland security may as a condition of participation in a regional emergency response team require all team participants to submit to fingerprinting in order to obtain state and national criminal history record information.

9-2-1102. Commission; composition; appointment of members; removal; terms; officers; vacancies; meetings.

(a) The commission shall consist of thirteen (13) voting members to be appointed by the governor and who may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The voting members shall be appointed from each of the following associations and agencies from their membership:

(xix) The Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security.

18-3-402. Duties generally.

(a) The county clerk shall:

(xxvi) Report all conveyances, as defined by W.S. 19-13-501(a)(i), to the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security and the division of criminal investigation in accordance with W.S. 19-13-501 and 19-13-502.

CHAPTER 13

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

19-13-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(v) "Director" means the director~~, office~~ of the department of homeland security appointed pursuant to W.S. 19-13-104;

19-13-103. Legislative determination; coordination with federal government and other states.

(a) Because of the possibility of the occurrence of disasters of unprecedented size and destructiveness resulting from enemy attack, sabotage, terrorism, civil disorder or other hostile action, or from fire, flood, earthquake, other natural causes and other technological disasters, and to insure that preparations of Wyoming will be adequate to deal with such disasters, and generally to provide for the common defense and to protect the public peace, health and safety, and to preserve the lives and property of the people of Wyoming, it is hereby found and declared to be necessary:

(i) To create a Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security~~, within the governor's office,~~ and to authorize the creation of local homeland security programs in the political subdivisions of the state;

19-13-104. Powers of governor generally; director, department of homeland security.

(a) The governor ~~has general direction and control of the office of homeland security, and is~~ and, if delegated under this subsection, the director are responsible for the carrying out of the provisions of this act, and in the event of disaster beyond local control, the governor may assume direct operational control over all or any part of the homeland security functions within Wyoming. The governor may delegate ~~such~~ any powers specified in this section to the director established under subsection (d) of this section, or through the director to the deputy director to carry out this act.

(d) The position of the director~~, office~~ of the department of homeland security is created ~~in the governor's office~~ and shall be appointed by the governor. ~~He shall be responsible to the governor and~~ The director may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The director shall:

(i) Supervise the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security;

(vii) Prepare and submit a budget for the department of homeland security in accordance with W.S. 9-2-1010 through 9-2-1014.3.

19-13-105. Homeland security program.

(a) The ~~office~~ department of homeland security ~~within the governor's office~~ is created. The ~~governor~~ director shall appoint a deputy director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security, with the approval of the governor. The director may appoint ~~such~~ assistants as may be necessary. The director and ~~his~~ the director's assistants shall be compensated in an amount to be determined and fixed by the ~~Wyoming~~ human resources division of the department of administration and information. The deputy director shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~governor and may be removed as provided in W.S. 9-1-202~~ director.

(b) The director may employ technical, clerical, stenographic and other personnel and make ~~such~~ expenditures within the appropriations or from other funds made available to ~~him~~ the director for purposes of homeland security as necessary to carry out this act. ~~He~~ The director shall be provided with necessary and appropriate office space, furniture, equipment, stationery and printing in the same manner as for personnel of other state agencies.

(c) The director is the administrative head of the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security. In addition to the duties described in W.S. 19-13-104(d), the director:

(i) Shall be responsible, ~~to~~ in consultation with the governor and in accordance with this act, for the implementation of the state program for homeland security for Wyoming;

(d) The deputy director shall perform duties as assigned by the director and, in the absence of the director, ~~he~~ is the ~~administrative~~ head of the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security.

(e) The ~~office~~ department of homeland security may receive and share criminal identification, intelligence and criminal history information available to law enforcement agencies for the purposes provided by W.S. 19-13-103.

19-13-113. State and political subdivisions exempt from liability; exceptions; license to practice not required; homeland security worker defined; recognized educational programs; real estate owners exempt from liability; criminal history record information.

(c) As used in this section, "homeland security worker" includes any full or part-time paid, volunteer or auxiliary employee of any state, territories or possessions of the United States, the District of Columbia, any neighboring country, any political subdivision thereof, or any agency or program performing homeland security services at any place in this state subject to the order or control of or pursuant to a request of the state government or any political subdivision thereof and includes instructors and students in recognized educational programs where homeland security services are taught. A recognized educational program includes programs in educational institutions duly existing under the laws of this state and such other educational programs as are established by the ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security or otherwise under this act.

19-13-117. Lifesaver programs; process for grants; administration; account established; rules; grant criteria.

(a) The ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security shall administer a lifesaver program to provide grants to counties for search and rescue designed to quickly find a person suffering from Down syndrome, brain injuries, autism, Alzheimer's or other dementia related disorders who wanders and becomes lost and missing. The program shall operate on a county basis, under which participants wear transmitters to allow the county sheriff's departments to electronically locate participants if necessary.

(b) The ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security shall establish by rule and regulation an application procedure and calendar for grants under this section and adopt other rules as necessary to implement this section.

(c) In administering this program, the ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security and counties shall establish a policy of including private sector participants to the fullest extent possible unless a viable private sector solution does not exist.

(e) The ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security shall provide grants, subject to the following:

(ii) The director of the ~~office~~ <u>department</u> of homeland security shall prioritize the grant awards in accordance with the respective needs of each county for tracking services and the availability of local funding sources, as documented in the applications submitted.

(g) The lifesaver program account is created. The account shall consist of those funds appropriated to the account by the legislature and all monies received from federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations to the account. The ~~office~~ department of homeland security is specifically empowered to accept grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations to the account. Funds in the account shall only be expended by the ~~office~~ department of homeland security for the purpose of providing grants under this section.

19-13-301. Search and rescue account; created; expenditures.

(b) Revenues deposited within the search and rescue account shall be expended by the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security to reimburse counties for costs directly incurred in a specific search and rescue operation, subject to W.S. 19-13-302 and rules and regulations adopted by the Wyoming search and rescue council. Expenditures for reimbursement pursuant to this subsection shall receive priority over all other authorized account expenditures. No revenues deposited within the account shall be used to reimburse counties for any salary or benefits normally paid to its employees.

(c) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security may expend revenues available within the search and rescue account for other search and rescue program purposes including:

19-13-302. Search and rescue account administration.

(a) Any county sheriff's office in this state may make a claim on the search and rescue account for reimbursement of costs directly incurred in the performance of search and rescue activities. Any claim made pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted to the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security. Upon receipt, the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security shall transmit the claim to the Wyoming search and rescue council for review and action in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The Wyoming search and rescue council shall review and act upon all claims submitted under subsection (a) of this section no later than June 30 following the year in which expenses were incurred for the claim submitted. If there are insufficient funds to pay all approved claims, the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security shall prorate reimbursement among all approved claims. Payments authorized through the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security pursuant to this section shall be paid by the state treasurer by warrant issued by the state auditor upon vouchers signed by the director~~,~~ of the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security or ~~his~~ the director's designee.

19-13-303. Search and rescue council; appointment; vacancies; compensation; duties.

(a) The Wyoming search and rescue council is established and shall consist of eleven (11) voting members. The director of the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security, or ~~his~~ the director's designee, shall serve as a voting member and the permanent executive secretary to the council. The governor shall appoint the remaining ten (10) members to serve four (4) year terms as follows:

19-13-501. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iii) "Critical infrastructure zone" means an area of property, whether covering the surface estate, mineral estate, pore space estate or nonphysical property, designated by the governor in consultation with the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security as property encompassing critical infrastructure;

(v) "Director" means the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security appointed under W.S. 19-13-104;

24-12-102. Duties generally; emergencies; coordination.

(c) The state highway patrol shall coordinate with local, tribal, state and federal law enforcement agencies, the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security and any other appropriate entity to operate an alert system under the integrated public alert and warning system or successor system, adhering to the United States department of justice criteria. The state highway patrol shall operate and integrate additional missing persons alert communications networks that enable and help facilitate search efforts for an adult at risk or other missing person of an age, needs or circumstances that may fall outside the scope of the America's missing: broadcast emergency response alert criteria. The state highway patrol shall report annually to the division of criminal investigation the number of times and dates that the alert systems were used, the age, race and gender of the abducted person, whether the abduction was thwarted and whether an alert system assisted in resolving the abduction. In addition:

(i) If the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe or the cooperative tribal governing body:

(A) Operate or seek to operate an alert system under the integrated public alert and warning system or successor system on the Wind River Indian Reservation, adhering to the United States department of justice criteria, or operate or seek to operate an additional missing persons alert communications network also operated by the state, the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security and state highway patrol shall assist and coordinate with any tribal agency in establishing, integrating or operating that system;

31-2-234. Search and rescue license plates.

(b) The fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be payable to the department or county treasurer and shall be accounted for separately. Except as otherwise provided by law, the fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be distributed to the search and rescue account within the ~~office~~ department of homeland security as created in W.S. 19-13-301. Funds distributed to the search and rescue account under this section shall be administered in accordance with the following:

(i) The funds deposited in the search and rescue account under this section are continuously appropriated to the ~~office~~ department of homeland security and shall only be used for the purposes provided in W.S. 19-13-301(b) and 19-13-301(c);

(ii) The ~~office~~ department of homeland security may establish methods to accept voluntary contributions in support of search and rescue activities for deposit into the search and rescue account. The ~~office~~ department of homeland security may suggest and solicit specific contribution amounts;

(iii) The department, in consultation with the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security, is authorized to receive and credit to the search and rescue account, any money or property of any kind or character donated, granted or bequeathed to Wyoming search and rescue activities. The ~~office~~ department of homeland security shall have the authority to carry out the terms, if any, of the grant, donation or bequest, or in the absence of any terms or limitations, to expend the money or the proceeds of the property as it may deem advisable for search and rescue activities under the provisions of this section and W.S. 19-13-301.

35-9-152. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(viii) "Regional emergency response team" means any group of local government emergency responders brought together and supported by the state and confirmed by the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security to assist an affected jurisdiction within the different regions of the state with the intent to protect life and property against the dangers of incidents and emergencies involving hazardous materials or weapons of mass destruction;

(x) "Director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security" means as defined in W.S. 19-13-102(a)(v);

(xii) "Weapons of mass destruction" means as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2332(a) as of April 1, 2004, or as subsequently defined by rules and regulations of the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security;

35-9-153. State emergency response commission; creation; duties.

(a) There is created a state emergency response commission that shall consist of members appointed by the governor to advise the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security and the department of homeland security with respect to activities under this act. The commission shall consist of not less than four (4) members representing the mining, trucking, manufacturing, energy and railroad industries, one (1) member each from the legislature, local government, local law enforcement, fire services, the Eastern Shoshone tribe, the Northern Arapaho tribe, homeland security, the media, the medical field, emergency medical services and the general public, and one (1) representative from each of the following state agencies:

(c) The commission shall appoint a chairman and other officers deemed necessary from among its members. The commission may meet as often as deemed necessary by a majority of the commission or at the request of the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security. Commission members who are not state employees may be reimbursed for per diem and mileage for attending commission meetings in the same manner and amount as state employees.

(e) The commission shall review collection and disbursement of funds and advise the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security on activities and responsibilities under this act.

(g) The commission shall perform all duties and acts prescribed by 42 U.S.C. 11001 et seq., and all other applicable law, with the assistance of the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security and other state agencies determined to be necessary by the commission.

35-9-154. Emergency response training, planning and reporting.

(a) After consultation with the commission and the state fire marshal, the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security shall:

35-9-155. Regional response teams; rulemaking.

(d) The director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security, in consultation with the state fire marshal and subject to approval by the state emergency response commission, shall:

35-9-156. Local response authority.

(a) Every political subdivision of the state shall designate a local emergency response authority for responding to and reporting of hazardous material or weapons of mass destruction incidents that occur within its jurisdiction. The designation of a local emergency response authority and copies of any accompanying agreements and other pertinent documentation created pursuant to this section shall be filed with the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security within seven (7) days of the agreement being reduced to writing and signed by all appropriate persons.

35-9-157. Right to claim reimbursement.

(c) Local emergency response authorities and regional emergency response teams shall be entitled to recover their reasonable and necessary costs incurred as a result of their response to a hazardous material or weapons of mass destruction incident. Costs subject to recovery under this act include, but are not limited to, the following:

(iii) A reasonable fee, as established through rules and regulations of the director, ~~office~~ department of homeland security, for the use of equipment, including rolling stock, in responding to a hazardous materials or weapons of mass destruction incident outside the responders' normal jurisdiction;

Section 4. W.S. 11-14-118(a), (b), (d) and (e)(ii) is amended to read:

11-14-118. Registration of ammonium nitrate.

2009 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 92, provides this section is effective on and after July 1, 2009 only upon certification of the governor to the secretary of state that the United States department of homeland security has published final federal rules under H.R. 2764, Subtitle J, Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate or its successor. As of the date of the publication of the 2009 Wyoming statutes no such certification had been made.

(a) Any person who possesses ammonium nitrate or regulated ammonium nitrate materials shall be registered with the department. The registration application shall be on a form approved by the director in consultation with and upon the recommendation of the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security. The director shall charge an annual registration fee not to exceed fifty dollars ($50.00). Nothing in this section shall require the registration of any person who produces, sells or purchases ammonium nitrate exclusively for use in the production of an explosive under a license or permit issued under chapter 40 of title 18, U.S.C.

(b) Ammonium nitrate and regulated ammonium nitrate materials shall be secured to provide reasonable protection against vandalism, theft or other unauthorized use. Reasonable protection may include, but not be limited to, ensuring that storage facilities are fenced and locked when unattended, and inspected daily for signs of attempted entry or vandalism to any storage facility. The director in consultation with or upon the recommendation of the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security, may recommend other security measures. The director shall work in consultation with or upon the recommendation of the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security to provide information to ammonium nitrate users on appropriate security measures.

(d) Registrants shall comply with all federal and state requirements regarding the dissemination of any information, providing the director and the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security access to the records.

(e) For the purposes of this section:

(ii) "Regulated ammonium nitrate materials" means regulated ammonium nitrate material fertilizer products which have been determined by the director in consultation with and upon the recommendation of the director of the ~~office~~ department of homeland security to warrant regulation based on the potential explosive capacity of the fertilizer material determined by the ammonium nitrate content.

Section 5. W.S. 31-1-202(d), as amended by 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 35, Section 2 and effective July 1, 2027, is amended to read:

31-1-202. Records.

(d) The department shall maintain records of vehicle registrations from all counties indexed by distinctive vehicle numbers assigned by the department, the name of the registered owner and vehicle identification numbers. The department shall maintain a record of all vehicle certificates of title from all counties in the electronic lien and title system established under W.S. 31-2-113. Records are public and open to inspection by the public during reasonable office hours. The department shall maintain a vehicle identification number index of all vehicles for which certificates of title have been issued. Upon receipt of a notice of issuance of a certificate of title from any county clerk the department may destroy all records relating to former transfers of title to the vehicle and shall retain only the notice of issuance of the certificate of title in effect at any time. The department may annually compile and publish a list of all registered vehicles and supplements thereto which shall be furnished to Wyoming peace officers and the Wyoming ~~office~~ department of homeland security without charge.

Section 6.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 1 and 6 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 27

WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD MEMBER REFERRAL-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 13

AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; increasing the referral bonus amount for the Wyoming national guard member referral incentive program; expanding eligibility of the program; extending the sunset date for the program; making conforming amendments; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-9-403(e)(intro), (i), (ii), (iv)(B) and (v) is amended to read:

19-9-403. Pay and allowances of officers and enlisted persons in active state service and state active duty; worker's compensation coverage for national guard members; no pension denied by reason of service.

(e) There is created the Wyoming national guard member referral incentive program. The purpose of the program shall be to incentivize and maximize peer-to-peer recruiting that results in a completed accession to the Wyoming national guard by providing a referral bonus to Wyoming national guard members, veterans of the Wyoming national guard, current employees of the military department or recruits beginning the enlistment process with the Wyoming national guard who make a successful referral. Administration of this program shall require that:

(i) A Wyoming national guard member, veteran of the Wyoming national guard, current employee of the military department or recruit beginning the enlistment process with the Wyoming national guard may provide the identity and contact information of a person who the member, veteran, employee or recruit believes would be an appropriate recruitment prospect using a form provided by the Wyoming national guard, which includes the person's name, contact information and any other information required by the military department;

(ii) The military department shall keep a record of all forms submitted under paragraph (i) of this subsection. Upon the completed accession of a referred person and to the extent sufficient funds are available, the military department shall distribute a referral bonus to the member, veteran, employee or recruit who provided the successful referral. The military department shall not distribute a referral bonus to a referring recruit until the referring recruit has completed accession into the Wyoming national guard;

(iv) As used in this subsection:

(B) "Referral bonus" means a monetary payment set each calendar year by the adjutant general not to exceed ~~five hundred dollars ($500.00)~~ one thousand dollars ($1,000.00);

(v) This subsection is repealed effective July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028.

Section 2. There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming military department for purposes of making referral bonus payments authorized by W.S. 19-9-403(e), as amended by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the standard budget for the Wyoming military department for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 28

KEEPING AMATEURISM IN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Original Senate File No. 53

AN ACT relating to education; requiring amateur status for participation in high school athletic activities; specifying requirements for amateur status; providing exceptions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-25-401 is created to read:

ARTICLE 4
AMATEUR STATUS REQUIRED FOR STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

21-25-401. Amateur status requirements.

(a) A student who represents a Wyoming high school in a sport or activity sanctioned by the Wyoming high school activities association shall be an amateur in that sport or activity as provided in this section.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, a student forfeits amateur status in a sport or activity by:

(i) Competing for or accepting money or other monetary compensation for competing in that sport or activity;

(ii) Receiving any award or prize of monetary value for competing in that sport or activity that exceeds the amount that has been approved by the Wyoming high school activities association;

(iii) Capitalizing on the student's athletic fame or the student's name, image or likeness by receiving money, gifts of monetary value, merchandise or other consideration related to competing in that sport or activity;

(iv) Signing a professional playing contract in that sport or activity. This paragraph shall not prohibit signing a letter of intent or similar document to commit to a college, provided that no compensation is paid in any manner while the student is participating in the sport or activity.

(c) The following activities do not forfeit amateur status under this section:

(i) Accepting money or other monetary compensation provided by a family member to a student to encourage the student to participate in the sport or activity;

(ii) Accepting money or other monetary compensation for the time required for participation in the sport or activity in a competition, camp or event that is not sanctioned by the Wyoming high school activities association if the amount of the payment does not exceed an amount specified by the Wyoming high school activities association. If prize money is available in the competition, the student or the student's parent or guardian shall complete a written declaration prior to the competition that specifies that the student, and the student's parent or guardian if applicable, will not accept any prize money and will only accept awards that do not exceed the awards amount authorized by the Wyoming high school activities association. This paragraph shall not authorize the payment of any money or monetary compensation that is contingent upon the student's or the team's finish or performance or that is given as an incentive to achieve a specific goal or performance. Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to authorize the payment of any money or monetary compensation for participating in events sanctioned by the Wyoming high school activities association or for competing for or on behalf of a Wyoming high school;

(iii) Accepting necessary meals, lodging and transportation to play in a competition for a sport or activity;

(iv) Accepting a nominal fee or salary for instructing, supervising or officiating in an organized youth sports program, recreation or playground activity;

(v) A school sponsored membership or fee that is paid for the student to participate in a youth serving agency, athletic club, community recreation center, instructional program, camp or similar program if the fee is paid directly to the program or agency;

(vi) Receiving an award, playing equipment, prize of monetary value or other consideration that does not exceed the awards amount authorized by the Wyoming high school activities association;

(vii) Receiving nonmonetary benefits or awards provided to members of an Olympic team or junior national team beyond actual and necessary expenses, including entertainment, equipment, clothing, long distance telephone service, internet access and any other item or service for which it can be demonstrated that the same benefit is available to all members of the nation's Olympic or junior national team or the specific Olympic or junior national team in question;

(viii) Accepting funds that are administered by the United States Olympic committee pursuant to its operation gold program;

(ix) Participating in member school, charitable or educational promotions or fund raising activities that involve the use of athletic ability by student-athletes to obtain funds from donors, including swim-a-thons, lift-a-thons, shoot-a-thons or other similar events, provided no compensation or prizes are given to the student-athletes based on their performance. Items that are provided to indicate participation in the activity including shirts, bags or other similar items shall not waive amateur status if the items are offered to every student-athlete involved;

(x) Accepting scholarship funds, provided the funds are paid directly to a postsecondary institution and the funds are not available until after the student has graduated from high school.

(d) Violation of this section shall result in the student becoming ineligible to participate in the sport or activity concerned.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 29

WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD REENLISTMENT BONUS PROGRAM

Original Senate File No. 12

AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; creating the Wyoming national guard member reenlistment and extension program as specified; requiring reporting; requiring rulemaking; providing an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-9-403 by creating a new subsection (g) is amended to read:

19-9-403. Pay and allowances of officers and enlisted persons in active state service and state active duty; worker's compensation coverage for national guard members; no pension denied by reason of service.

<u>(g) There is created the Wyoming national guard member reenlistment and extension program. The military department shall establish and administer this program for the purpose of providing reenlistment and extension bonuses to members of the Wyoming national guard to increase the Wyoming national guard's strength in accordance with the following:</u>

<u>(i) The military department may provide a reenlistment or extension bonus to a Wyoming national guard member meeting all of the following requirements:</u>

<u>(A) The Wyoming national guard member satisfies the Wyoming national guard's reenlistment or extension eligibility criteria;</u>

<u>(B) The Wyoming national guard member reenlists or extends with the Wyoming national guard for not less than three (3) years; and</u>

<u>(C) The Wyoming national guard member satisfies any other requirements specified by the military department.</u>

<u>(ii) Upon satisfaction of the requirements under paragraph (i) of</u>

this subsection and to the extent sufficient funds are available, the military department shall distribute a reenlistment or extension bonus of not more than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) to the reenlisting or extending Wyoming national guard member;

(iii) Beginning November 1, 2026 and annually every November 1 thereafter, the military department shall report to the joint transportation, highways and military affairs interim committee on the Wyoming national guard member reenlistment and extension program. The report shall include the following:

(A) The number of Wyoming national guard members who reenlisted or extended;

(B) The average number of years the Wyoming national guard members reenlisted or extended;

(C) The amounts of reenlistment and extension bonuses paid;

(D) The total number of members in the Wyoming national guard including the percentage of increase or decrease in the total number of members in the Wyoming national guard from the previous year;

(E) Any recommended legislation.

Section 2. There is appropriated one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming military department for purposes of funding the Wyoming national guard member reenlistment and extension program as created by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the standard budget for the Wyoming military department for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. The Wyoming military department shall promulgate rules necessary to administer the Wyoming national guard member reenlistment and extension program created by this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 3, 2026.

Chapter 30

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN-AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 28

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; amending the definition of explicit sexual conduct for the purposes of the crime of sexual exploitation of children; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-4-303(a)(iii) is amended to read:

6-4-303. Sexual exploitation of children; penalties; definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(iii) "Explicit sexual conduct" means actual or simulated sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital or oral-anal, between persons of the same or opposite sex, bestiality, masturbation, sadistic or masochistic abuse or lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area of any person <u>or the chest or breasts of a female person</u>;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 31

WYOMING'S TOMORROW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 25

AN ACT relating to Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship program; eliminating the continuous enrollment requirement to maintain scholarship eligibility; repealing a provision of law; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-16-1904(c)(iv) is repealed.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026

Chapter 32

REVIEW OF CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Original House Bill No. 24

AN ACT relating to review of charter school applications; amending the timeline for authorizers to review charter school applications; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-307(b) and 21-3-308(a) are amended to read:

21-3-307. Charter application; contents; phased-in application process.

(b) Upon submission of an application under W.S. 21-3-307(a), the authorizer shall notify the applicant ~~within thirty (30) days of submission~~ whether the application is complete. If the authorizer determines that the application is incomplete, the authorizer shall advise the applicant of the reasons for the determination in sufficient detail for the applicant to make changes for resubmission of the application to the authorizer.

21-3-308. Hearing by authorizer; prohibited actions by authorizer; criteria; compliance with state standards; contractual authority.

(a) ~~Not later than sixty (60) days~~ After receiving an application for any charter school which has been determined to be complete pursuant to W.S. 21-3-307(b), the authorizer shall hold a public hearing on the application, at which time the authorizer shall consider the level of community and parental support for the application if an application for a new charter school, or the level of teacher and parental support if an application for a converted charter school or charter school within a school. The application review process shall also include an in-person interview of the applicant or applicant group. Following review of the application and the public hearing, if applicable, and in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, the authorizer shall either approve or deny the application within ~~ninety (90)~~ one hundred twenty (120) days of receipt. In addition, the authorizer may approve an application for the operation of a converted charter school only if it determines teacher and parental support for the conversion are established at the levels required by W.S. 21-3-306(b). Prior to approving an application for a charter school under this section, the authorizer shall approve and adopt the content and terms of the charter as provided in W.S. 21-3-307.

Section 2. This act shall apply to new charter school applications submitted on or after the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 33

RIVERTON STATE OFFICE TASK FORCE-SUNSET

Original House Bill No. 112

AN ACT relating to state funded capital construction; terminating a task force; depositing unexpended funds as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 9(f) and (g) is amended to read:

Section 9.

(f) The task force shall terminate on ~~June 30, 2028~~ April 1, 2026.

(g) There is appropriated fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending ~~June 30, 2028~~ June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall only be for purposes of providing salary, mileage and per diem of legislative members of the task force. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation on June 30, 2026 shall ~~revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028~~ be deposited to the legislative stabilization reserve account.

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

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 34

SMOKEBUSTER MODULE LEADERS

Original House Bill No. 106

AN ACT relating to the state forester; authorizing positions; providing for an appropriation for the forestry conservation program inmate crew; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments is authorized two (2) full-time employee positions for purposes of this section. Of these positions, one (1) shall be effective April 1, 2026 and one (1) shall be effective April 1, 2027. The duties of the positions shall be set by the state forester and coordinated with the department of corrections, subject to W.S. 7-16-202. It is the intent of the legislature that the positions authorized in this subsection be included in the office of state lands and investments' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated four hundred ninety-nine thousand seven hundred nine dollars ($499,709.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for the purposes of the state forestry conservation inmate crew program as provided in this subsection. Funds appropriated in this subsection shall be for the positions authorized in subsection (a) of this section and associated costs including equipment, supplies, software, hardware and telecommunications services. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that, of this appropriation, one hundred twenty-nine thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars ($129,255.00) not be included in the office of state lands and investments' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium but that the balance of the appropriation, as adjusted by the state budget department for a twenty-four (24) month period, be included in the standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 2. This act is effective April 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 35

OMNIBUS WATER BILL-PLANNING

Original House Bill No. 87

AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing specified level I and level II studies; providing appropriations; requiring reports; providing for the reversion of unexpended funds; authorizing unobligated funds to be used to complete other designated projects as specified; providing an appropriation for the office of water programs; extending an existing level II study; and providing for an effective date.

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

[2026-2027 WATER PROGRAM]
[AUTHORIZED LEVEL I AND LEVEL II STUDIES]

Section 1. <u>LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT</u>.

The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2029 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2028 legislative session:

[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

PROJECT	LOCATION	APPROPRIATION
Grover Water Master Plan	Lincoln County	$165,000
Kemmerer-Diamondville Water Master Plan	Lincoln County	$292,000
Laramie Water Master Plan	Albany County	$276,000
Medicine Bow Water Master Plan	Carbon County	$174,000
Pine Bluffs Water Master Plan	Laramie County	$169,000
Superior Water Master Plan	Sweetwater County	$259,000
UW Water Research Program	Statewide	$374,997
Worland Water Master Plan	Washakie County	$263,000
Yoder Water Master Plan	Goshen County	$214,000
Total appropriation for Section 1		$2,186,997

Section 2. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT. The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2029 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2028 legislative session:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

PROJECT	LOCATION	APPROPRIATION
Bedford and Turnerville Regional Supply	Lincoln County	$327,000
Total appropriation for Section 2		$327,000

Section 3. LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES – REHABILITATION. The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account II, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2029 shall revert to water development account II. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2028 legislative session:

[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

PROJECT	LOCATION	APPROPRIATION
Shoshone Irrigation District		
Master Plan	Park County	$470,000
Total appropriation for Section 3		$470,000

Section 4. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – REHABILITATION. The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account II, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2029 shall revert to water development account II. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2028 legislative session:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - REHABILITATION]

PROJECT	LOCATION	APPROPRIATION
Casper Alcova Irrigation District		
Lateral Rehabilitation	Natrona County	$308,000
Wheatland Source and Transmission		
Evaluation	Platte County	$220,000
Total appropriation for Section 4		$528,000

Section 5. There is appropriated one hundred seventy five thousand dollars ($175,000.00) to the water development commission from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to fund the office of water programs established under W.S. 41-2-125 for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

Section 6. 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 11, Section 5, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 186, Section 7 is amended to read:

> **Section 5.** LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – DAMS AND RESERVOIRS. In the 2015 Omnibus water bill – planning, 2015 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 168, Section 5, the following sums of money are appropriated from water development account III, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(iii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. A three (3) year time extension is granted for the Shell Valley Storage – Leavitt Reservoir project and appropriated funds for that project not obligated prior to July 1, 2021 shall revert to water development account III. A six (6) year time extension is granted for the Clear Creek Storage project and funds appropriated for the project but not obligated prior to July 1, 2024 shall revert to water development account III. A ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) year time extension is granted for the Nowood River Storage – Alkali Cr. project and funds appropriated for the project but not obligated prior to ~~July 1, 2025~~ July 1, 2027 shall revert to water development account III. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature prior to the 2020 legislative session: on the Shell Valley Storage – Leavitt Reservoir project study; prior to the 2023 legislative session on the Clear Creek Storage study; and prior to the ~~2024~~ 2026 legislative session on the Nowood River Storage – Alkali Cr. study.

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – DAMS AND RESERVOIRS]

PROJECT	LOCATION	APPROPRIATION
Clear Creek Storage	Johnson County	$700,000
Nowood River Storage - Alkali Cr.	Big Horn, Washakie Counties	~~$4,420,000~~ $5,995,000
Shell Valley Storage - Leavitt Reservoir	Big Horn County	$4,500,000
Total 2015 appropriation for Section 5		$9,200,000
Total 2018 appropriation for Section 5		$0
Total 2021 appropriation for Section 5		$0
Total 2023 appropriation for Section 5		$420,000
Total 2026 appropriation for Section 5		$1,575,000

Section 7. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2026

Chapter 36

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY-COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS

Original House Bill No. 32

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; requiring operators of commercial motor vehicles to demonstrate proficiency in the English language; prohibiting operators of commercial motor vehicles who cannot demonstrate English language proficiency from operating commercial motor vehicles as specified; providing criminal penalties; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-18-608 is created to read:

31-18-608. English language proficiency for operators of commercial vehicles; penalties.

(a) As used in this section, “proficiency in the English language” means an operator of a commercial vehicle can demonstrate proficiency of the English language in accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 391.11(b)(2).

(b) No operator of a commercial vehicle shall operate a commercial vehicle within this state if the operator is unable to demonstrate proficiency in the English language. Any operator of a commercial vehicle who violates this subsection shall be fined one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) and shall be prohibited from operating a commercial vehicle within this state until the operator is able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language.

(c) Any operator of a commercial vehicle who operates a commercial vehicle within this state while under the prohibition imposed by subsection (b) of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by an additional fine of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00), by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or both.

Section 2. W.S. 31-18-701 by creating a new subsection (d) is amended to read:

31-18-701. Specific crimes and penalties; enforcement.

<u>(d) The highway patrol division, any other enforcement officers designated by the department and any peace officer of any county or municipality shall:</u>

<u>(i) Be charged with the duty of policing and enforcing the provisions of W.S. 31-18-608; and</u>

<u>(ii) Have the authority to issue citations for violations for any provisions of W.S. 31-18-608.</u>

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 37

STALKING OF MINORS

Original House Bill No. 8

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; providing for a felony penalty for stalking offenses committed against minors; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-2-506(e)(iii), (iv) and by creating a new paragraph (v) is amended to read:

6-2-506. Stalking; penalty.

(e) A person convicted of stalking under subsection (b) of this section is guilty of felony stalking punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, if:

(iii) The defendant committed the offense of stalking in violation of any condition of probation, parole or bail;~~ or~~

(iv) The defendant committed the offense of stalking in violation of a temporary or permanent order of protection issued pursuant to W.S. 7-3-508, 7-3-509, 35-21-104 or 35-21-105 or pursuant to a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction<u>; or</u>

<u>(v) The defendant committed the offense of stalking against a minor, and the defendant is not less than eighteen (18) years old</u>.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 38

VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES-TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Original House Bill No. 26

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; exempting motor vehicles owned by tribal governments from paying county and state registration fees; requiring the department of transportation to issue distinctive license plates for vehicles owned by tribal governments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-2-207 and 31-3-101(g)(i) are amended to read:

31-2-207. Publicly owned vehicles.

Upon application the department shall issue distinctive license plates indicating public ownership for vehicles owned by the United States, state of Wyoming, a county, city, town or political subdivision of Wyoming<u>, the tribal governments of the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation</u> or a joint powers board under W.S. 16-1-101 through 16-1-109. A distinctive license plate under this section may be issued to any public entity specified in this section, provided that the public entity or another public entity specified in this section owns the vehicle and the public entity applying for the distinctive license plate has the authority to possess and operate the vehicle in fulfillment of its public purpose. Upon presentation of proper credentials and identification of the applicant the department shall issue license plates not disclosing public ownership of a vehicle to investigative agencies of Wyoming and the criminal investigative agencies of the department of justice, department of defense and department of the treasury of the United States and the records of the department shall not disclose the public ownership of the vehicles.

31-3-101. Registration fees; exemptions.

(g) Owners of the following vehicles are exempt from the payment of fees provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this section:

(i) Vehicles owned by<u>:</u>

<u>(A) T</u>he United States, state of Wyoming, county, city, town or political subdivision of Wyoming or a joint powers board created under W.S. 16-1-101 through 16-1-109<u>;</u>~~, or~~

<u>(B) V</u>ehicles owned by an irrigation district created under W.S. 41-7-201 through 41-7-210<u>;</u>~~, or~~

<u>(C) V</u>ehicles owned by a weed and pest control district created under W.S. 11-5-101 et seq. provided the vehicles are essential to the operation and maintenance of the district and are used for no business or commercial activity unrelated to the operation and maintenance of the district<u>;</u>~~, or~~

<u>(D) V</u>ehicles owned by a senior citizen center that is providing services to senior citizens under W.S. 18-2-105;

(E) Vehicles owned by the tribal governments of the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

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

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 39

K-12 SCHOOL FACILITIES APPROPRIATIONS-2

Original House Bill No. 105

AN ACT relating to school buildings and facilities; providing appropriations for the fiscal biennium commencing July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028; providing for appropriations for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2026; providing an appropriation that shall not revert; specifying conditions for expenditures; requiring reports; establishing a grant program for school facility safety and security projects; specifying requirements for school districts to receive safety and security grant funds; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) This section shall consist of funds appropriated for K-12 school building and facility needs.

(b) As used in this section, a "priority" identified by an Arabic numeral means the project ranking as submitted by the school facilities commission within its budget recommendations provided under W.S. 21-15-119.

(c) Except as specifically provided in this subsection, subsection (d) of this section or as otherwise provided by law, the amounts appropriated from the public school foundation program account under subsection (j) of this section are for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending upon project completion. Appropriations for projects denoted with an asterisk (*) within subsection (j) of this section are effective immediately, and end upon project completion, unless otherwise provided by law. Upon completion of a project under this subsection, any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriation for the project shall revert to the public school foundation program account.

(d) The amounts appropriated from the public school foundation program account under paragraphs (j)(ii) and (iv) of this section are for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from any of these appropriations shall revert to the public school foundation program account on June 30, 2028, unless otherwise provided by law.

(e) As authorized under W.S. 21-15-119(a)(iii), the school facilities commission may submit a supplemental budget request for the period beginning July 1, 2027 and ending June 30, 2028, for any emergency or unanticipated need, or for any refinement or modification of a project funded under this section, subject to any constraints or other requirements imposed by the governor under W.S. 9-2-1013.

(f) An estimated schedule for deploying projects funded by amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this section, as adopted by the school facilities commission and as contained within the 2027-2028 biennial budget submitted by the commission under W.S. 21-15-119, shall be used by the state construction department to the extent practicable to guide expenditure of appropriated funds. The estimated schedule shall be based upon information, processes, events and expenditures and shall not be binding upon the state construction department or the school facilities commission.

(g) Amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this section shall not be construed to be an entitlement or guaranteed amount and shall be expended by the school facilities commission to ensure adequate, efficient and cost effective school buildings and facilities in accordance with W.S. 21-15-114(a)(vii).

(h) In addition to accounting and reporting requirements imposed under W.S. 28-11-301(c)(iv), the state construction department shall report at least one (1) time each year on the deployment of amounts to fund projects under this section in accordance with the deployment schedule, information on project progression and, if applicable, the rationale for any deviation from the estimated schedule. The reports, as approved by the commission, shall be submitted by the department to the select committee on school facilities, the joint appropriations committee and the governor.

(j) For K-12 school facility projects, the following amounts are appropriated from the public school foundation program account to the school facilities commission for the following purposes:

(i) For component level major maintenance projects, thirty-one million six hundred sixty-one thousand three hundred twenty-two dollars ($31,661,322.00). The school facilities commission may modify prioritization of projects contained in this paragraph to optimize efficiency or based on project readiness. Expenditure of funds appropriated by this paragraph shall be subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

Priority	School District	Project	Maximum Amount
04-01	Big Horn #3	High School	$828,878*
04-02	Johnson #1	High School	$3,137,677*
04-03	Sheridan #2	Junior High School	$2,593,497*
04-04	Laramie #2	Administration Building	$114,196*

04-05	Fremont #14	Middle School	$1,456,696*
04-06	Hot Springs #1	Elementary School	$948,168*
04-07	Converse #2	Junior High/High School	$1,756,228*
04-08	Big Horn #1	Elementary School	$173,963*
04-09	Crook #1	K-12 School	$610,461*
04-10	Carbon #1	Middle School	$1,880,657*
04-11	Sublette #1	High School	$1,878,241*
04-12	Weston #7	High School	$833,192*
04-13	Washakie #1	Middle School	$1,799,497*
04-14	Lincoln #1	Elementary School	$3,296,500*
04-15	Weston #1	High School	$4,703,382*
04-16	Big Horn #2	High School	$1,988,099*
04-17	Carbon #2	Junior High/High School	$808,866*
04-18	Fremont #6	Middle School	$244,378*
04-19	Park #16	K-12 School	$2,608,746*
04-20	Big Horn #3	Elementary School	$ 531,164*
04-21	Johnson #1	K-12 School	$ 1,428,703*
04-22	Fremont #14	Middle School	$ 1,287,903*

(ii) For charter school leases, six million three hundred thirty-two thousand nine hundred twenty-eight dollars ($6,332,928.00). The funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be distributed for charter school lease expenses for school year 2026-2027 and school year 2027-2028, are subject to W.S. 21-3-110(a)(x) and shall be subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

Priority	School District	Project	Maximum Amount
05-01	Albany #1	Elementary School	$347,799
05-02	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$830,585
05-03	Laramie #1	Secondary School	$916,645
05-04	Natrona #1	K-8 School	$1,823,257
05-05	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$1,253,600
05-06	Lincoln #2	Elementary School	$416,150
05-07	Platte #1	K-12 School	$744,892
Total			$ 6,332,928

(iii) Subject to the requirements of W.S. 21-3-110(a)(x), for future charter school leasing obligations (priority 07-01), one million seven hundred ninety-two thousand nine hundred seventy-six dollars ($1,792,976.00). The funds appropriated under this paragraph shall only be expended for leasing expenses for charter schools approved for operation pursuant to W.S. 21-3-301 et seq. The funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be separately accounted and the appropriation shall remain in effect and not lapse or revert at the end of the fiscal period except upon further legislative action. In addition to any other reporting requirements, not later than September 1, 2026 and each September

1 thereafter until all funds appropriated under this paragraph are expended, the state construction department shall report expenditures of funds under this paragraph to the select committee on school facilities, the joint appropriations committee and the governor;

(iv) For modular buildings and leases, fifty-two thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars ($52,125.00), subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

Priority	School District	Project	Maximum Amount
06-01	Laramie #1	Modular Lease	$17,375
06-02	Laramie #1	Modular Lease	$17,375
06-03	Laramie #1	Modular Lease	$17,375
Total			$52,125

(v) For design of school building and facility projects, fifteen million seven hundred thirty-nine thousand eight hundred fifty-five dollars ($15,739,855.00), subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

Priority	School District	Project	Maximum Amount
09-01	Teton #1	High School	$2,809,810*
09-02	Crook #1	Secondary School	$1,710,957
09-03	Laramie #1	High School	$4,346,602
09-04	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$3,675,736
09-05	Fremont #25	Elementary School	$3,196,750
Total			$15,739,855

(vi) For construction of school building and facility projects, seventy-seven million three hundred fifty-nine thousand seven hundred thirty-one dollars ($77,359,731.00), subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

Priority	School District	Project	Maximum Amount
10-01	Crook #1	Secondary School	$12,632,827
10-02	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$1,494,000
10-03	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$33,298,901
10-04	Fremont #25	Elementary School	$29,934,003
Total			$77,359,731

(vii) For demolition projects, two million six hundred twenty thousand six hundred seventy dollars ($2,620,670.00), subject to the following prescribed maximum amounts:

School Priority	District	Project	Maximum Amount
11-01	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$1,286,510*
11-02	Albany #1	Elementary School	$500,000
11-03	Laramie #1	Elementary School	$834,160
Total			$2,620,670

(viii) For unanticipated costs associated with the projects funded under paragraphs (j)(i) and (v) through (vii) of this section (priority 12-01), seven million six hundred forty-two thousand eight hundred ninety-five dollars ($7,642,895.00).

(ix) To supplement previous appropriations for the construction and demolition of a transportation facility ancillary building in Campbell county school district #1 authorized under 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 1(g)(ii)(A), two million six hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,650,000.00)*, effective immediately. The original scope and design of the project shall not be modified as a result of the additional funds appropriated under this paragraph. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation and previous appropriations for this project be prioritized by the school facilities commission to ensure the expenditures for this project result in an adequate, efficient and cost effective project in accordance with W.S. 21-15-114(a)(vii).

Section 2.

(a) For K-12 school facility safety and security projects, ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is appropriated to the school facilities commission, from the public school foundation program account, for design of security vestibules and vehicle barricades and approved prioritized school district safety and security remedies. The funds appropriated under this subsection shall remain in effect beginning July 1, 2026, until the project is completed, unless otherwise provided by law. Upon completion of a remedy under this section, any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation for the remedy shall revert to the public school foundation program account.

(b) The school facilities commission shall establish a prioritized list of K-12 school facility safety and security remedies utilizing national and regional best practices. The commission shall consider school safety and security needs identified by school districts in determining the prioritized list of remedies. Funds shall be distributed to school districts upon application to the state construction department, in the manner and form required by the commission, and as approved by the commission.

(c) Prior to the expenditure of funds appropriated by subsection (a) of this section, for each safety and security remedy, the commission shall include the remedy in the school district facility plan required pursuant to W.S. 21-15-116, ensure the remedy is a cost effective method to address the safety and security need and specify a maximum budget for each remedy.

(d) Not later than September 1, 2026, and each September 1 thereafter until the funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section are expended or have reverted upon completion of a remedy, in conjunction with the school facilities commission's annual budget recommendations required pursuant to W.S. 21-15-119, the commission and state construction department shall report to the select committee on school facilities, the joint appropriations committee and the governor any expenditures of funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section and shall include any request for funds necessary for the construction of security vestibules and vehicle barriers and to complete school district safety and security needs identified pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Section 3.

(a) There is appropriated two hundred thirty-seven million eight hundred sixty-five thousand one hundred twenty-three dollars ($237,865,123.00) from the public school foundation program account to the state construction department for major maintenance payments to school districts in accordance with W.S. 21-15-109. This appropriation shall be subject to the following:

(i) One million one hundred twenty-two thousand four hundred dollars ($1,122,400.00) shall be for the period beginning on the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2028;

(ii) Two hundred thirty-six million seven hundred forty-two thousand seven hundred twenty-three dollars ($236,742,723.00) shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028;

(iii) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

Section 4. To the extent that 2026 Senate File 0060 is enacted into law during the 2026 Budget Session, the provisions of this act shall control and supersede any conflicting provisions of 2026 Senate File 0060.

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

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 40

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTIONS

Original House Bill No. 107

AN ACT relating to local government funding; continuously distributing a portion of the state sales and use taxes collected and accrued each fiscal year for cities, towns and counties; creating a statutory funding formula; providing legislative intent; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-15-601 through 39-15-603 are created to read:

ARTICLE 6
LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTIONS

39-15-601. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Population" of a city, town or county shall be determined by resort to the most recently completed federal decennial census as reported by the economic analysis division within the department of administration and information.

39-15-602. Local government distributions of state sales and use taxes; supplemental funding formula; revenue challenged formula.

(a) An amount equal to eight percent (8%) of all sales taxes imposed under W.S. 39-15-104(a) and (b) and use taxes imposed under W.S. 39-16-104(a) and (b) that are collected and accrued for the immediately preceding fiscal year, as determined by the department of revenue, shall be transferred from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for distribution to cities, towns and counties to be allocated as follows and as further provided in this section:

(i) Two-thirds (2/3) of eighty-nine percent (89%) of the total amount for direct distribution to cities and towns provided that five percent (5%) of the amount available under this paragraph shall only be distributed for direct distributions to cities and towns using the revenue challenged formula as provided in paragraph (b)(ii) of this section;

(ii) One-third (1/3) of eighty-nine percent (89%) of the total amount for direct distribution to counties;

(iii) Five and one-half percent (5.5%) of the total amount for direct distribution to cities and towns provided that five percent (5%) of the amount available under this paragraph shall only be distributed for direct distributions to cities and towns using the revenue challenged formula as provided in paragraph (b)(ii) of this section;

(iv) Five and one-half percent (5.5%) of the total amount for direct distribution to counties.

(b) Funds distributed in paragraphs (a)(i) and (iii) of this section shall be distributed to cities and towns each fiscal year. Distributions shall be made in equal amounts on October 15 and March 15 of each fiscal year as calculated from revenues collected and accrued in the immediately preceding fiscal year prior to the October 15 distribution, subject to the following:

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection, from these distributions each municipality with a population of thirty-five (35) or less shall first receive fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00) and each municipality with a population over thirty-five (35) shall first receive thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00). From the remainder, each municipality shall receive amounts in accordance with a municipal supplemental funding formula as provided in this paragraph. The municipal supplemental funding formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) Calculate the per capita sales and use tax revenues available to each municipality using the sales and use tax distributions to the county where each municipality is located attributable to the most recently completed fiscal year, including distributions to each municipality within that county under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111 but excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-15-104 and excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-16-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-16-104;

(B) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita sales and use tax numbers determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph for each municipality;

(C) Calculate the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph for the municipality by the total of all inverse per capita sales and use tax numbers calculated under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

(D) Multiply the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each municipality by seventy-five percent (75%);

(E) Calculate the per capita assessed value for the prior tax year corresponding to the most recently completed calendar year for each municipality by dividing the total assessed valuation within the municipality by the population of the municipality;

(F) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita assessed value determined under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph for each municipality;

(G) Calculate the normalized per capita assessed value number for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph for the municipality by the total of all inverse per capita assessed value numbers calculated under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph;

(H) Multiply the normalized per capita assessed value number for each municipality by twenty-five percent (25%);

(J) Multiply the sum of subparagraphs (D) and (H) of this paragraph for each municipality by the population of the municipality;

(K) Calculate the normalized index for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph for the municipality by the sum of all numbers calculated under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph;

(M) Determine the amount to distribute to each municipality by multiplying the normalized index number determined under subparagraph (K) of this paragraph by the amount remaining available for distribution under this paragraph.

(ii) From the funds distributed in paragraphs (a)(i) and (iii) of this section, each city or town shall receive amounts in accordance with a city and town revenue challenged formula as provided in this paragraph. The revenue challenged formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) Calculate the lowest quartile amount received by cities and towns on a per capita basis using amounts received under this section plus amounts distributed to each city and town using the sales and use tax distributions to the county where each municipality is located attributable to the most recently completed fiscal year under this paragraph, including distributions to each municipality within that county under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111 but excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-15-104 and excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-16-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-16-104;

(B) Determine each city or town that received a per capita amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(C) For each city or town that received a per capita amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, determine the amount that would be necessary to increase the per capita amount distributed to that city or town to the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(D) Determine the amount to distribute to each city or town that received an amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph by distributing the amount available under this paragraph on a pro rata basis, up to the lowest quartile amount, based on the amounts determined under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(c) Funds distributed in paragraphs (a)(ii) and (iv) of this section are to be distributed to counties each fiscal year. Distributions shall be made in equal amounts on October 15 and March 15 of each fiscal year as calculated from revenues collected and accrued for the immediately preceding fiscal year prior to the October 15 distribution. From these distributions each county shall receive the following:

(i) Each county with an assessed value for the tax year prior to the most recently completed calendar year of less than three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000.00) per mill shall first receive an amount equal to three (3) times the difference between three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000.00) and the actual value of one (1) mill within the county. From the remainder, each county shall receive amounts in accordance with a county supplemental funding formula as provided in this paragraph. The county supplemental funding formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) Calculate the per capita sales and use tax revenues available to each county using the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to the most recently completed fiscal year, excluding distributions to each municipality within that county under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111;

(B) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita sales and use tax number determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph for each county;

(C) Calculate the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all inverse per capita sales and use tax numbers calculated under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

(D) Multiply the normalized per capita sales and use tax number determined under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph for each county by twenty-four percent (24%);

(E) Calculate the per capita assessed value for each county by dividing the total assessed valuation within the county for the tax year prior to the most recently completed calendar year by the population of the county;

(F) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita assessed value determined under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph for each county;

(G) Calculate the normalized per capita assessed value number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all inverse per capita assessed value numbers calculated under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph;

(H) Multiply the normalized per capita assessed value number determined under subparagraph (G) of this paragraph for each county by seventy-six percent (76%);

(J) Calculate a cost of government index for each county, which shall be determined by multiplying six hundred twenty-eight (628) by the population of the county and then adding nine million nine hundred thousand (9,900,000) to the result;

(K) Calculate the normalized cost of government index number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all cost of government index numbers calculated under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph;

(M) Multiply the sum of subparagraphs (D) and (H) of this paragraph by the normalized cost of government index number determined in subparagraph (K) of this paragraph for each county;

(N) Calculate the normalized index for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (M) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all numbers calculated under subparagraph (M) of this paragraph;

(O) Determine the amount to distribute to each county by multiplying the normalized index number determined under subparagraph (N) of this paragraph by the amount remaining available for distribution under this paragraph.

39-15-603. Legislative intent.

(a) It is the intent of the legislature that the funds distributed under this article shall not be used for:

(i) Salary adjustments, additional personnel or increased personnel benefits;

(ii) Any compensation to the members of any board for which the board of county commissioners appoints members, unless compensation is otherwise required by law.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 41

GROOMING OF CHILDREN-OFFENSES AND AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 9

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; establishing the criminal offense of grooming of a minor for a sexual offense; specifying penalties; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-2-321 is created to read:

6-2-321. Grooming of minor for sexual offense; definitions; penalties.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Electronic communication" means a sign, signal, writing, image, sound, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted or created, in whole or in part, by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic or photo-optical system or on a social media platform, gaming platform or any other digital communication service;

(ii) "Grooming" means behavior, including sending an electronic communication, that seeks to prepare, induce or persuade a minor to engage in sexual conduct or exploitation, even if no meeting or sexual conduct is completed. "Grooming" includes:

(A) Deliberate acts that establish an emotional connection with a minor through manipulation, trust-building or influence to facilitate acts of sexual conduct, sexual abuse or exploitation;

(B) Online or in-person activities, the use of third parties or indirect methods to facilitate the manipulation of a minor.

(iii) "Sexual conduct" means:

(A) Actual or simulated:

(I) Sexual intercourse, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex;

(II) Penetration of the vagina or rectum by any object, except when done as part of a recognized medical procedure performed by a licensed medical professional;

(III) Bestiality;

(IV) Masturbation;

(V) Sadomasochistic abuse;

(VI) Lewd exhibition of the genitals, breasts, pubic or rectal area or other intimate parts of a person; or

(VII) Defecation or urination for the purpose of the sexual stimulation of the viewer.

(B) The depiction or observation of a child in the nude or in a state of partial undress with the purpose to:

(I) Abuse, humiliate, harass or degrade the child;

(II) To arouse or gratify the person's own sexual response or desire; or

(III) To arouse or gratify the sexual response or desire of another person.

(iv) "Simulated" means any depiction of the genitals or pubic or rectal area that gives the appearance of sexual conduct or incipient sexual conduct.

(b) A person commits the offense of grooming of a minor for a sexual offense if the person:

(i) Is eighteen (18) years of age or older and not less than four (4) years older than the minor; and

(ii) Purposely or knowingly engages in a pattern of grooming aimed at a minor with the intent to:

(A) Manipulate the minor into engaging in sexual conduct;

(B) Coerce or entice a minor to meet in person to engage in sexual conduct;

(C) Distribute or facilitate access to sexually explicit material; or

(D) Exploit a position of authority to develop an intimate or secretive relationship with a minor.

(c) Except as provided in subsections (d), (e) and (g) of this section, grooming of a minor for a sexual offense is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(d) A person who commits grooming of a minor for a sexual offense against a minor who is younger than sixteen (16) years of age but older than twelve (12) years of age shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(e) A person who is not less than eighteen (18) years of age who commits the offense of grooming of a minor for a sexual offense against a minor who is less than twelve (12) years of age shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than fifteen (15) years, a fine not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000.00), or both.

(f) A person guilty of grooming of a minor for a sexual offense under this section shall:

(i) Complete a sexual offender treatment program provided or approved by the department of corrections;

(ii) Be subject to probation for a period not to exceed ten (10) years.

(g) A person who occupies a position of authority in relation to the victim and who commits the offense of grooming of a minor for a sexual offense shall:

(i) Except as provided in paragraphs (ii) and (iii) of this subsection, be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both;

(ii) If the minor is between twelve (12) and sixteen (16) years of age, be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than twenty (20) years, a fine not to exceed twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00), or both;

(iii) If the minor is younger than twelve (12) years of age, be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) years, a fine not to exceed thirty thousand dollars ($30,000.00), or both.

Section 2. W.S. 6-2-301(a)(intro), 7-13-301(a)(intro) and 7-19-302(g) are amended to read:

6-2-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article, unless otherwise defined:

7-13-301. Placing person found guilty, but not convicted, on probation.

(a) If a person who has not previously been convicted of any felony is charged with or is found guilty of or pleads guilty or no contest to any misdemeanor except any second or subsequent violation of W.S. 31-5-233 or any similar provision of law, or any second or subsequent violation of W.S. 6-2-510(a) or 6-2-511(a) or any similar provision of law, or any felony except murder, sexual assault in the first or second degree, grooming of a minor for a sexual offense, aggravated assault and battery or arson in the first or second degree, the court may, with the consent of the defendant and the state and without entering a judgment of guilt or conviction, defer further proceedings and place the person on probation for a term not to exceed thirty-six (36) months upon terms and conditions set by the court. The terms of probation shall include that he:

7-19-302. Registration of offenders; procedure; verification; fees.

(g) For an offender convicted of a violation of W.S. 6-2-316(a)(i) and (iv), 6-2-321, 6-2-705, 6-4-303(b)(iv) or 6-4-304(b) if the victim was a minor, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252B, 2252C, 2424 and 2425, an offense in another jurisdiction containing the same or similar elements, or arising out of the same or similar facts or circumstances as a criminal offense specified in this subsection or an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses specified in this subsection, the division shall annually verify the accuracy of the offender's registered address, and the offender shall annually report, in person, his current address to the sheriff in the county in which the offender resides, during the period in which he is required to register. During the annual in-person verification, the sheriff shall photograph the offender. Confirmation of the in-person verification required under this subsection, along with the photograph of the offender, shall be transmitted by the sheriff to the division within three (3) working days. Any person under this subsection who has not established a residence or is transient, and who is reporting to the sheriff as required under subsection (e) of this section, shall be deemed in compliance with the address verification requirements of this section.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 42

FAST TRACK PERMITS ACT

Original House Bill No. 2

AN ACT relating to city, county, state and local powers; requiring local government entities to comply with deadlines for reviewing specified residential building permits; allowing deadlines to be suspended and extended as specified; requiring local government entities to provide notice; providing definitions; providing penalties; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 16-13-101 and 16-13-102 are created to read:

CHAPTER 13
BUILDING PERMIT TIMELINES

16-13-101. Applicability.

(a) The provisions of this chapter shall apply to:

(i) Any board of county commissioners that regulates and restricts the location and use of buildings and structures and the use, condition of use or occupancy of lands for residence pursuant to W.S. 18-5-201 and any board of county commissioners that has adopted a version of the International Residential Code; and

(ii) Any governing body of a city or town that regulates and restricts the location and use of buildings, structures and land for trade, industry, residence or other purposes, pursuant to W.S. 15-1-601 and that has adopted a version of the International Residential Code.

16-13-102. Permitting timeline for residential building permits.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Application" means a residential building permit application submitted by an applicant for the construction of a dwelling that:

(A) Is not more than three (3) stories above grade plane in height;

(B) Does not have accessory structures that are more than three (3) stories above grade plane in height;

(C) Has not more than three thousand (3,000) square feet of finished floor area per dwelling unit or townhouse unit; and

(D) Is regulated under the most recent version of the International Residential Code adopted by the local government entity.

(ii) "Delivered by electronic means" includes delivery to an electronic mail address at which an applicant has consented to receive notices, documents or information or through permitting software used by the local government entity;

(iii) "Dwelling" means a building that contains one (1) or two (2) dwelling units used, intended or designed to be built, used, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied or that are occupied for living purposes;

(iv) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one (1) or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation and that has a separate means of egress;

(v) "Local government entity" means a governing body of a city, town, county or other political subdivision of the state, including a planning commission or a planning and zoning commission;

(vi) "Means of egress" means a continuous and unobstructed path of vertical and horizontal egress travel from all portions of the dwelling unit to the required egress door without requiring travel through a garage.

(b) A local government entity shall provide written notice to the applicant not later than ten (10) business days after receipt of an application, notifying the applicant if the applicant's application is deemed complete or incomplete. A local government entity shall deem an applicant's application as incomplete if the application fails to contain all information required by law or an adopted ordinance, regulation or policy of the local government entity. The written notice required under this subsection shall explain what information is necessary for the local government entity to deem the applicant's application as complete. The written notice required under this subsection may be delivered by electronic means.

(c) A local government entity shall approve or deny an applicant's completed application not later than thirty (30) calendar days after the date the completed application is submitted. The thirty (30) calendar day deadline imposed under this subsection shall not include any period that the review of the completed application is suspended. A local government entity may suspend review of a completed application if one (1) or more of the following has occurred:

(i) The applicant or local government entity requests clarification or additional information regarding the applicant's completed application. The deadline shall be suspended under this paragraph until the clarification or information is received by the requesting party;

(ii) An applicant's completed application requires approval by a state or federal agency. The deadline shall be suspended under this paragraph until the completed application is approved by the state or federal agency. If approval is required from more than one (1) state or federal agency the deadline shall remain suspended under this paragraph until all approvals have been obtained.

(d) The thirty (30) day deadline imposed under subsection (c) of this section may be extended if an applicant and the local government entity agree in writing to an extension of the deadline.

(e) If the local government entity denies the applicant's completed application, the local government entity shall provide written notice to the applicant not later than seven (7) calendar days after the denial of the applicant's completed application stating the reasons why the local government entity denied the applicant's completed application. The written notice required under this subsection may be delivered by electronic means.

(f) Any requirements or conditions associated with an applicant's application that were not imposed by a local government entity during the initial review and approval of an applicant's application that are imposed on an applicant after the applicant's completed application has been approved shall result in a ten percent (10%) reduction in the fees charged by the local government entity for the application, unless the requirements are a result of unanticipated conditions of the subject property that require the applicant to implement mitigation measures.

(g) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, if a local government entity fails to comply with the deadline established under subsection (c) of this section the applicant's completed application shall be deemed approved as submitted on the day after the deadline has lapsed. A building constructed pursuant to a permit approved under this subsection shall remain subject to and shall pass all safety and code compliance inspections before a certificate of occupancy may be issued.

Section 2. This act shall apply to building permit applications for the construction of a dwelling as defined in this act filed on or after July 1, 2026.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 43

LEASHED DOGS FOR TRACKING-BLACK BEAR

Original Senate File No. 27

AN ACT relating to game and fish; allowing a person to use a leashed blood-trailing dog to track and recover a killed or wounded black bear; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 23-3-109(d)(intro) is amended to read:

23-3-109. Use of dogs; dogs injuring big or trophy game animals may be killed; citation of owners of dogs harassing game animals; penalties; leashed dogs for tracking.

(d) A person may use one (1) leashed blood-trailing dog to track a wounded or killed big game animal <u>or black bear</u> within seventy-two (72) hours of shooting the animal. A person using a dog in this manner:

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026

Chapter 44

GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Original Senate File No. 1

AN ACT to make appropriations for the fiscal biennium commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028; providing definitions; providing for appropriations and transfers of funds for the period of the budget and for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2026 as specified; providing for carryover of certain funds beyond the biennium as specified; providing for employee positions as specified; providing for duties, terms and conditions and other requirements relating to appropriations for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2026 and the period of the budget as specified; providing for position and other budgetary limitations; continuing an account; authorizing grants and loans; discharging interfund loans; funding a higher education program; requiring an audit of funds; making conforming amendments; amending and repealing prior appropriations; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. As used in this act:

(a) "Agency" means any governmental unit or branch of government receiving an appropriation under this act;

(b) "Appropriation" means the authorizations granted by the legislature under this act to make expenditures from and to incur obligations against the general and other funds as specified;

(c) "Approved budget" means as defined by W.S. 9-2-1002(a)(xxiii);

(d) "A4" means an agency trust account;

(e) "EF" means the agency's account within the enterprise fund;

(f) "FF" means federal funds;

(g) "IS" means the agency's account within the internal service fund;

(h) "PF" means the retirement account created by W.S. 9-3-407(a);

(j) "PR" means private funding sources;

(k) "P2" means the deferred compensation account referenced in W.S. 9-3-507;

(m) "SR" means an agency's account within the special revenue fund;

(n) "S1" means water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i);

(o) "S2" means water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii);

(p) "S4" means the local government capital construction account funded by W.S. 9-4-601(a)(vi) and (b)(i)(A) and 39-14-801(e)(ix);

(q) "S5" means the "school foundation program account" or "public school foundation program account" created by W.S. 21-13-306(a);

(r) "S7" means the highway fund;

(s) "S10" means the legislative stabilization reserve account;

(t) "S13" means the strategic investments and projects account;

(u) "S14" means the Wyoming tourism account;

(w) "S0" means other funds identified by footnote;

(y) "T2" means the miners' hospital permanent land income fund;

(z) "T3" means the state hospital account within the permanent land fund;

(aa) "T4" means the poor farm account within the permanent land fund as established by W.S. 9-4-310(a)(v);

(bb) "T0" means other expendable trust funds administered by an agency for specific functions within the agency's authority;

(cc) "TT" means the tobacco settlement trust income account;

(dd) "This appropriation," when used in a footnote, shall be construed as a reference to that portion of the appropriated funds identified in the footnote.

Section 2. The sums of money, or so much thereof as is necessary, appropriated in this act are to be expended during the two (2) years beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028, or as otherwise specified, for the purposes, programs [**and number of employees**] specified in this act and the approved budget of each agency. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the conditions, terms and other requirements on appropriations in this act are effective until June 30, 2028, subject to accrual accounting principles. [**BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026 – HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 6, 2026.**]

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 001. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROGRAM					
Administration [1., 2.]	9,112,786				9,112,786
Tribal Liaison	430,121				430,121
Commission on Uniform Laws	94,903				94,903
Special Contingency	1,000,000				1,000,000
Homeland Security	6,007,818	22,895,512	867,990	SR	29,771,320
Natural Resource Policy [3.]	1,000,000		850,000	SR	1,850,000
Endangered Species Admin.	675,000				675,000
Baseline Scientific Assess.	307,150				307,150
Asia Pacific Trade [4.]	400,000				400,000
TOTALS	19,027,778	22,895,512	1,717,990		43,641,280

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	42
Part Time	2
TOTAL	44

1. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000.00) shall only be available for expenditure if there is a change of governor as a result of the 2026 general election. This appropriation is for transition staff salaries, travel, expenses incurred in relocating to and from the governor's mansion and other related office expenses, except that up to twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00) of this appropriation may be expended for purposes of defraying moving expenses for gubernatorial appointees who are required to move to Cheyenne and, of this twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00), not more than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) shall be expended for any one (1) appointee. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included within the office of the governor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. (a) Authorization for up to two (2) at-will employee contract positions supported by funds originating from section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, shall remain effective until the latter of:

(i) December 31, 2026;

(ii) The date of completion of any federally required reporting and audits; or

(iii) The date of any extension of federal expenditure deadlines under section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, enacted into law.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

3. (a) This general fund appropriation shall be deposited into the federal natural resource policy account. All funds within the federal natural resource policy account are appropriated and available for expenditure by the governor in accordance with W.S. 9-4-218, including expenditure by the governor for litigation costs incurred by Wyoming counties involved in litigation related to any of the following:

(i) Federal land, water, air, mineral and other natural resource policies that may affect the state or counties pursuant to W.S. 9-4-218(a)(iii);

(ii) Treaties between the United States and a federally recognized Indian tribe.

4. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of the governor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation is effective immediately.

Section 002. SECRETARY OF STATE

PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]	9,042,792	290,809			9,333,601
Securities Enforcement			721,822	SR	721,822
Bucking Horse & Rider			50,000	SR	50,000
TOTALS	9,042,792	290,809	771,822		10,105,423

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	33
Part Time	0
TOTAL	33

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars ($125,000.00) is appropriated for the costs of publication required by W.S. 22-24-318 for any ballot proposition for an initiative appearing on the 2026 statewide election ballot. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the secretary of state's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law to the general fund on December 31, 2026.

Section 003. STATE AUDITOR

PROGRAM				
Administration	14,809,975			14,809,975
TOTALS	14,809,975	0	0	14,809,975

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	23
Part Time	0
TOTAL	23

Section 004. STATE TREASURER

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Treasurer's Operations	3,356,610		142,945	SR	3,499,555
Veterans' Tax Exemption	11,545,839				11,545,839
WyoSTAR			1,524,971	SR	1,524,971
Unclaimed Property			2,419,549	SR	2,419,549
Investments [1., 2.]			49,735,616	SR	49,735,616
Native American Exemption [3.]	918,975				918,975
TOTALS	15,821,424	0	53,823,081		69,644,505

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	51
Part Time	0
TOTAL	51

1. (a) The state treasurer's office, with the [~~**recommendation of the investment funds committee and**~~] approval of the human resources division of the department of administration and information, may: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(i) Approve reclassifications from investment analyst to senior investment analyst and senior investment analyst to investment officer;

(ii) Adjust compensation within the classifications specified in paragraph (i) of this footnote based on an assessment of an employee's education, certification, demonstrated performance and potential for increased responsibility.

(b) Nothing in this footnote should be construed to modify the maximum annual salary limits provided in W.S. 9-1-409(j).

2. A portion of this other funds appropriation may be expended to conduct the purposes of this footnote. In accordance with W.S. 9-1-205(a), the state treasurer's office shall annually provide a public accounting of the direct, indirect and total investment fees for all external investment managers in both absolute dollars and as a percentage of state investments under management.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred twenty-eight thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars ($128,652.00) is effective immediately.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 006. ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION

PROGRAM					
Director's Office	4,713,078		217,939	SR	4,931,017
Professional Licensing Bds.			2,155,448	SR	2,155,448
General Services [1., 2.]	74,874,129		21,998,877	IS	
			2,800,220	SR	99,673,226
Human Resources Division	23,132,836				23,132,836
Employees' Group Insurance			934,137,370	IS	
			8,000,000	SR	942,137,370
Economic Analysis	1,300,886				1,300,886
State Library	4,748,853	2,614,616	4,067,901	SR	11,431,370
TOTALS	108,769,782	2,614,616	973,377,755		1,084,762,153

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	293
Part Time	1
TOTAL	294

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one million twelve thousand two hundred thirty-three dollars ($1,012,233.00) shall be reduced by one dollar ($1.00) for each one dollar ($1.00) distributed to the trades management unit (unit 3055) to provide compensation adjustments up to, but not to exceed, the 2024 market pay tables under Section 329 of this act. Any unexpended, unobligated funds from this appropriation shall revert to the general fund not later than September 30, 2026.

2. (a) Of this general fund appropriation:

(i) Three hundred thirty-seven thousand one hundred thirty-three dollars ($337,133.00) is appropriated to provide for the salary and benefits of three (3) full-time equivalent positions for facility management for the Riverton state office building for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose; and

(ii) Eighty-seven thousand four hundred forty-six dollars ($87,446.00) is appropriated to pay for utilities at the Riverton state office building for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 007. WYOMING MILITARY DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM					
Military Dept. Operations	12,275,101				12,275,101
Air National Guard [1.]	914,768	15,084,396			15,999,164

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Camp Guernsey			1,317,755	SR	1,317,755
Army National Guard [2.]	62,866	42,442,215			42,505,081
Veterans' Services	4,236,762	1,292,387	8,945	SR	5,538,094
Oregon Trail Cemetery	873,017		23,857	SR	896,874
Military Support	78,640				78,640
Civil Air Patrol	99,600				99,600
TOTALS	18,540,754	58,818,998	1,350,557		78,710,309

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	196
Part Time	29
TOTAL	225

1. Pursuant to W.S. 19-7-103(b)(xxii), authority is granted to the military department to hire up to nine (9) full-time positions or at-will employee contract positions within this division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of each filled position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, as determined by the United States property and fiscal officer for Wyoming, the position shall be eliminated. The military department shall notify the joint appropriations committee on all positions created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

2. Pursuant to W.S. 19-7-103(b)(xxii), authority is granted to the military department to hire up to thirteen (13) full-time positions or at-will employee contract positions within this division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of each filled position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, as determined by the United States property and fiscal officer for Wyoming, the position shall be eliminated. The military department shall notify the joint appropriations committee on all positions created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

Section 008. OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]	26,210,752		4,618,306	SR	30,829,058
TOTALS	26,210,752	0	4,618,306		30,829,058

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	78
Part Time	14
TOTAL	92

1. Of this general fund appropriation, twenty-six million two hundred ten thousand seven hundred fifty-two dollars ($26,210,752.00) and of this other funds appropriation, four million six hundred eighteen thousand three hundred six dollars ($4,618,306.00)SR may be expended for contract trial attorneys, contract legal support or compensation of full-time and part-time employee positions authorized for the office of the public defender to address caseload work requirements and geographic distribution of workload demands across judicial districts in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the state public defender. This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.

Section 010. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PROGRAM					
Administration Div.	2,307,803		5,260	SR	2,313,063
Ag. Education and Info.	16,000		21,038	SR	37,038
Consumer Prot. Div. [~~4.~~]	12,725,303	1,402,937	1,772,971	SR	15,901,211
Natural Resources Div. 1.	4,151,760	8,306	690,051	S1	
			258,000	S5	5,108,117
Pesticide Registration	773,671				773,671
State Fair	2,724,287		1,697,188	SR	4,421,475
Weed & Pest Control [~~4.~~]			1,048,558	SR	1,048,558
Predator Management 2., 3.	10,012,400		1,000,000	SR	11,012,400
Wyoming Beef Council [~~4.~~]			2,517,929	SR	2,517,929
Wyo Wheat Mktg. Comm. [~~4.~~]			188,095	SR	188,095
Dry Bean Commission [~~4.~~]			316,302	SR	316,302
Leaf Cutter Bee [~~4.~~]			11,779	SR	11,779
TOTALS	32,711,224	1,411,243	9,527,171		43,649,638

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	74
Part Time	6
TOTAL	80

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

1. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000.00) is appropriated for Wyoming agriculture in the classroom. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

department of agriculture's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) is appropriated for expenditure in accordance with chapter 2 of the Wyoming animal damage management board rules and for gray wolf depredation compensation. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

3. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, one million six hundred thousand dollars ($1,600,000.00) is appropriated for:

(i) Special projects prioritized for preventing listing of a species as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq., as amended;

(ii) Projects that directly involve predator control that will have the greatest benefit to wildlife or reduce the cost to the department for animal damage payments.

(b) Of this other funds appropriation, one million dollars ($1,000,000.00)SR is appropriated from the game and fish fund. This other funds appropriation to the department of agriculture shall only be effective upon a majority vote of the game and fish commission and, if approved, shall be expended consistent with the priorities specified in subsection (a) of this footnote.

(c) The appropriations specified in this footnote shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

[~~**4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the period beginning on the effective date of this footnote and ending June 30, 2028, no funds shall be expended from the animal damage management program (unit 0317), weed and pest control division, Wyoming beef council division, Wyoming wheat marketing commission division, dry bean commission division or leaf cutter bee division for the purposes of cost allocation (300 series).**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

Section 011. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

PROGRAM					
Administration	6,767,770				6,767,770
Revenue Division	10,326,157		975,760	SR	11,301,917
Valuation Division [1.]	20,661,261				20,661,261
Liquor Division [2.]			12,492,176	EF	12,492,176
TOTALS	37,755,188	0	13,467,936		51,223,124

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	124
Part Time	0
TOTAL	124

1. Of this general fund appropriation, twelve million dollars ($12,000,000.00) is appropriated for the property tax refund program pursuant to W.S. 39-13-109(c)(v) for refunds to qualified applicants during the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026.

2. Pursuant to W.S. 9-4-205(d) and 12-2-302(b), expenditures necessary to defray the administrative expenses of the liquor division, including salaries, office expenses and general expenses for the enforcement of the duties of the division as well as sufficient funds to defray the cost of alcoholic liquor purchases and attendant expenses are authorized by the legislature for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

Section 014. MINERS' HOSPITAL BOARD

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Miners' Hospital Board			9,807,466	T2	9,807,466
TOTALS	0	0	9,807,466		9,807,466

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	3
Part Time	0
TOTAL	3

Section 015. ATTORNEY GENERAL

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Law Office [1., 4.]	28,142,505	682,899	2,494,578	S5	
			5,432,005	SR	
			734,314	TT	37,486,301
Criminal Investigations [2., 3.]	33,610,667	9,446,924	1,223,937	SR	44,281,528
Law Enforcement Academy	5,451,049		1,436,759	EF	
			11,908	IS	6,899,716
Peace Off. Stds. & Trng.	434,716		166,750	SR	601,466
Victim Services Division	9,126,755	13,462,214	5,781,471	SR	28,370,440
Governor's Council on DD	437,447	1,022,650	18,338	SR	1,478,435
TOTALS	77,203,139	24,614,687	17,300,060		119,117,886

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	235
Part Time	1
TOTAL	236

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

1. Of this general fund appropriation, forty-three thousand dollars ($43,000.00) is appropriated for employer-funded Wyoming state bar dues for attorneys employed within any division of the office of the attorney general. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred sixty-seven thousand three hundred thirty-five dollars ($167,335.00) is effective immediately.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, one million six hundred thousand dollars ($1,600,000.00) is appropriated for the internet crimes against children team (unit 0329). This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. This appropriation shall not be effective if 2026 Senate File 0085 is enacted into law.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) is appropriated for avoiding, preparing for or participating in water litigation within the law office unit (unit 0101) and shall be expended only for the purpose of resolving legal issues pertaining to protecting Wyoming interstate water rights and obligations, Wyoming water rights associated with the Colorado river compact of 1922 and the upper Colorado river compact of 1948. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. All [~~**proposed**~~] expenditures under this footnote shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee [~~**with a description of the desired actions and outcomes of the expenditure not less than ten (10) days before the expenditure**~~]. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

Section 020. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PROGRAM					
Administration	8,810,240				8,810,240
Air Quality	9,633,870	1,846,395	16,117,500	SR	27,597,765
Water Quality	14,432,422	10,248,574	1,198,071	SR	25,879,067
Land Quality	6,196,521	4,510,334			10,706,855
Industrial Siting	769,802				769,802
Solid Waste Management	3,471,212	3,989,311	4,828,710	SR	12,289,233
Uranium Recovery Program			2,698,200	SR	2,698,200
Source Material Program	1,110,000				1,110,000
Abandoned Mine Reclam.		73,607,733			73,607,733
Subsidence Loss Ins.			231,104	SR	231,104
TOTALS	44,424,067	94,202,347	25,073,585		163,699,999

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	276
Part Time	0
TOTAL	276

Section 021. DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Administration	425,205	368,476	368,192	SR	1,161,873
Banking			8,330,856	SR	8,330,856
Public Fund	6,534,314				6,534,314
Mineral	3,058,811	6,057,246	202,476	SR	9,318,533
Excise	4,364,441		91,527	S7	4,455,968
TOTALS	14,382,771	6,425,722	8,993,051		29,801,544

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	103
Part Time	0
TOTAL	103

Section 023. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Administration		800,408	10,652,833	SR	11,453,241
Consumer Advocate Div.			3,154,015	SR	3,154,015
Universal Service Fund			3,920,600	SR	3,920,600
TOTALS	0	800,408	17,727,448		18,527,856

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	42
Part Time	0
TOTAL	42

Section 024. STATE PARKS & CULTURAL RESOURCES

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Administration & Support	2,463,300				2,463,300
Cultural Resources [1.,2.,3.,4.]	10,286,460	4,423,314	211,647	EF	
			235,835	S14	
			6,825,690	SR	21,982,946
St. Parks & Hist. Sites	20,274,129	7,657,269	167,576	EF	
			802,409	S14	
			19,527,967	SR	48,429,350
TOTALS	33,023,889	12,080,583	27,771,124		72,875,596

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	151
Part Time	67
TOTAL	218

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred twenty thousand dollars ($120,000.00) is appropriated for the "We the People" educational program. No funds from this appropriation shall be expended to pay or reimburse the University of Wyoming for indirect cost recovery or overhead expenses for the administration of the "We the People" educational program. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) is appropriated to support the Wyoming centennial farm and ranch program. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred forty-one thousand three hundred forty dollars ($441,340.00) is appropriated for surveying, documenting and three-dimensional modeling all known petroglyphs and pictographs on state, school and institutional land in Wyoming. The department of state parks and cultural resources may contract for the completion of work specified in this footnote. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the standard budget of the department of state parks and cultural resources for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, ninety-six thousand five hundred eleven dollars ($96,511.00) may be expended for authorized full-time and part-time employee positions within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to ensure the state's archaeology work on human remains is completed in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the director of the department of state parks and cultural resources. This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.

Section 027. STATE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM					
Operations	2,842,865		5,612,541	S5	8,455,406
School Facilities Div.			4,430,405	S5	4,430,405
Construction Management	1,703,930				1,703,930
TOTALS	4,546,795	0	10,042,946		14,589,741

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	30
Part Time	0
TOTAL	30

Section 029. WYO WATER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Administration			9,444,380	S1	9,444,380
TOTALS	0	0	9,444,380		9,444,380

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	26
Part Time	0
TOTAL	26

Section 037. STATE ENGINEER

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Administration	3,853,853				3,853,853
Ground Water Div.	3,414,410				3,414,410
Surface Water Div.	2,399,426				2,399,426
Board of Control Div.	18,406,986				18,406,986
Support Services Div.	2,741,496				2,741,496
Board of Registration PE			1,238,495	SR	1,238,495
Interstate Streams Div.	1,946,519				1,946,519
North Platte Settlement	1,685,757				1,685,757
Well Drillers' Licensing			334,985	SR	334,985
TOTALS	34,448,447	0	1,573,480		36,021,927

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	111
Part Time	9
TOTAL	120

Section 039. WILDLIFE/NATURAL RESOURCE TRUST

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Encana Oil & Gas			35,000	SR	35,000
Administration [1., 2.]	27,404,785		16,830,315	SR	44,235,100
WYCM			3,800,000	SR	3,800,000
TOTALS	27,404,785	0	20,665,315		48,070,100

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

1. Of this general fund appropriation, eight million dollars ($8,000,000.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account. These funds are continuously appropriated from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board to provide grants for preventing the introduction and spread of invasive plants and grasses with a focus on private and state lands across Wyoming or for wildfire prevention measures. This appropriation shall not be subject to the requirements of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, nineteen million four hundred four thousand seven hundred eighty-five dollars ($19,404,785.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account. Funds subject to this footnote are continuously appropriated from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board to provide grants to Wyoming conservation districts, weed and pest districts and the game and fish commission for purposes of restoring grass, hay and other vegetation destroyed by wildfires on private and state lands, preventing the establishment of nonnative, invasive terrestrial vegetation on private and state lands affected by wildfires and replacing and restoring habitats on private and state lands destroyed by wildfires and for wildfire prevention measures. This appropriation shall not be subject to the requirements of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. This appropriation is effective immediately.

Section 041. FIRE PREVENTION & ELEC SAFETY

PROGRAM					
Administration	995,325				995,325
Fire Prevention Admin.	2,181,462				2,181,462
Electrical Safety Admin.	1,039,152		2,009,353	SR	3,048,505
Training	1,844,142				1,844,142
Fire Academy	569,284				569,284
TOTALS	6,629,365	0	2,009,353		8,638,718

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	32
Part Time	0
TOTAL	32

Section 042. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PROGRAM					
Geologic Program	5,020,368				5,020,368

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
WY Min. Resource [1.]	2,000,000				2,000,000
USGS Grants		218,611			218,611
TOTALS	7,020,368	218,611	0		7,238,979

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	20
Part Time	0
TOTAL	20

1. Of this general fund appropriation, two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) is appropriated for aerial geophysical surveys to analyze Wyoming's mineral resources. Funds from this general fund appropriation shall be expended by the geological survey only upon the agency's good-faith effort to secure matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source [**~~to the greatest extent possible~~**]. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the geological survey's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

Section 044. INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM					
Administration			7,249,451	SR	7,249,451
Health Insurance Pool	3,229,878		8,831,395	EF	12,061,273
TOTALS	3,229,878	0	16,080,846		19,310,724

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	27
Part Time	0
TOTAL	27

Section 045. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PROGRAM					
Administration			4,464,399	S7	4,464,399
Administrative Services		3,892,628	43,526,834	S7	
			15,141,597	SR	62,561,059
Law Enforcement [1., 2., 3.]		5,947,078	105,013,034	S7	
			260,000	SR	111,220,112
WyoLink	8,600,000		1,390,241	IS	
			1,874,690	S7	11,864,931
Aeronautics Admin.		178,728	5,290,355	S7	5,469,083
Operational Services [4.]			1,719,716	IS	1,719,716

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Aeronautics [5.]	5,409,342	44,993,801	131,628	IS	
			1,000,000	S0	
			12,000,000	S14	
			21,071,572		84,606,343
TOTALS	14,009,342	55,012,235	212,884,066		281,905,643

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	553
Part Time	0
TOTAL	553

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, two hundred sixty-seven thousand two hundred fourteen dollars ($267,214.00) S7 for the purchase of taser equipment not be included in the department of transportation's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

2. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, thirty-six thousand four hundred forty-four dollars ($36,444.00)S7 be included as an increase to the department of transportation's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium for global positioning system mapping maintenance contracts.

3. Of this other funds appropriation, up to five hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred seventy-seven dollars ($523,277.00)S7 may be expended for law enforcement personnel expenses within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to meet capitol complex security needs in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the director of the department of transportation. This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.

4. (a) Of this other funds appropriation, one million seven hundred nineteen thousand seven hundred sixteen dollars ($1,719,716.00)IS is appropriated for the operation and maintenance of [~~**one (1)**~~] state-owned Cessna citation encore jet [~~**and for cost**~~]s [~~**incurred by the division of operational services within the department to either:**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[~~**(i) Ground one (1) state-owned cessna citation encore jet airplane with the sole purpose of either using the airplane for parts or selling parts from the airplane; or**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[~~**(ii) Sell one (1) state-owned cessna citation encore jet airplane.**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

[~~**(b) Proceeds from the sale of the airplane or airplane parts under this footnote shall be deposited into the general fund**~~]. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

5. Of this other funds appropriation, one million dollars ($1,000,000.00)S0 is appropriated from the transportation enterprise fund.

Section 048. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH [1.]

PROGRAM					
Director's Office	13,206,084	2,526,171	312,136	SR	16,044,391
Health Care Financing [2., 3.]	684,214,756	1,093,284,275	5,000,000	S5	
			185,821,301	SR	
			1,450,000	TT	1,969,770,332
Public Health [4.]	39,429,028	70,491,070	835,094	A4	
			16,028,958	SR	
			10,623,046	TT	137,407,196
Behavioral Health [5., 6.]	290,420,555	22,268,333	791,794	A4	
			4,378,861	S5	
			56,802,815	SR	
			1,135,099	T3	
			12,072,512	TT	387,869,969
Aging [7.]	41,554,542	22,742,389	15,766,556	SR	80,063,487
TOTALS	1,068, 824, 965	1,211,312,238	311,018,172		2,591,155,375

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	1,343
Part Time	54
TOTAL	1,397

1. (a) For the period beginning on the effective date of this footnote and ending June 30, 2028, the department of health shall not expend any general funds, federal funds or other funds under its control for any of the following purposes:

(i) To pay for an elective abortion or a gender transition procedure, or to pay for facilities, equipment or training used to carry out an elective abortion or a gender transition procedure;

(ii) To enter into or fund any new contract or grant unless the contract or grant expressly requires that the contracting party or grant recipient not expend contract or grant funds to carry out an elective abortion or a gender transition procedure, or to operate or maintain facilities, equipment or training used to carry out an elective abortion or a gender transition procedure.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

2. In accordance with W.S. 42-2-103(d), the state supplemental security income monthly payment amount for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028 shall be the lowest amount required under federal law in order to remain eligible for funding under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, nine million nine hundred fifty thousand dollars ($9,950,000.00), and of this federal funds appropriation, nine million nine hundred fifty thousand dollars ($9,950,000.00), is appropriated for provider rates for all providers serving persons with developmental, intellectual or acquired brain injury related disabilities, including continuation of increased provider rates funded with time-limited funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

4. Of this other funds appropriation, nine hundred fifty-two thousand three hundred forty-three dollars ($952,343.00)TT is effective immediately.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) is appropriated to reimburse counties for holding and treating criminal pretrial detainees who are awaiting a mental-health evaluation, a determination of fitness to proceed in a criminal case or restoration to competency to advance with criminal proceedings.

6. Of this other funds appropriation, nine million five hundred seventy-two thousand nine hundred eighty-three dollars ($9,572,983.00)TT is effective immediately.

7. Of this general fund appropriation, one million six hundred sixty-six thousand six hundred fifty-three dollars ($1,666,653.00) is for senior services in the senior care (unit 5002), and of this general fund appropriation, one hundred fifty-one thousand one hundred ninety-five dollars ($151,195.00) is for the nutritional services unit (unit 5003). It is the intent of the legislature that this general fund appropriation be included in the standard budget of the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 049. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

PROGRAM					
Energy Assistance & WX		23,202,140			23,202,140
Institutions	24,907,105	33,830	3,804,346	S5	
			588,868	SR	29,334,149
Assistance & Services [1., 2.]	147,295,425	126,050,485	5,981,801	SR	
			3,722,070	TT	283,049,781
TOTALS	172,202,530	149,286,455	14,097,085		335,586,070

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	659
Part Time	1
TOTAL	660

1. It is the intent of the legislature that the department of family services' standard budget be increased by eight hundred fifty thousand six hundred seventeen dollars ($850,617.00) in general funds for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium for federally mandated supplemental nutrition assistance program administrative costs.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000.00) is appropriated for sign language interpreters. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of family services' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 051. LIVESTOCK BOARD

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration	1,828,262	38,858	309,106	SR	2,176,226
Animal Health [1.]	2,380,723		514,344	SR	2,895,067
Brucellosis	1,310,427	382,510			1,692,937
Cooperative Agreements		25,500			25,500
Estrays	38,750				38,750
Brand Inspection	1,075,901		11,560,095	SR	12,635,996
Predator Control Fees			2,255,212	SR	2,255,212
TOTALS	6,634,063	446,868	14,638,757		21,719,688

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	18
Part Time	0
TOTAL	18

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, one hundred thirty-one thousand forty dollars ($131,040.00) not be included in the livestock board's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 053. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration & Support	26,307,021	24,393,336	4,114,812	EF	
			7,967,402	SR	62,782,571
Vocational Rehab.	7,858,681	29,436,406	107,674	EF	
			1,266,267	SR	38,669,028

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Unemployment Insurance		23,012,037	2,936,263	EF	
			14,879,262	SR	40,827,562
Labor Standards	2,373,876	556	3,742	EF	2,378,174
Workers' Comp. & OSHA [1.]		2,888,477	66,749,756	EF	69,638,233
Disability Determination		7,734,620			7,734,620
TOTALS	36,539,578	87,465,432	98,025,178		222,030,188

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	561
Part Time	0
TOTAL	561

1. It is the intent of the legislature that the department of workforce services' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium not be reduced for one-time support costs (200 series) in the amount of twenty-one thousand dollars ($21,000.00)EF as presented in the department of workforce services' 2027-2028 biennial budget request.

Section 055. OIL AND GAS COMMISSION

PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]		275,074	11,378,768	SR	11,653,842
Orphan Wells			7,526,087	SR	7,526,087
TOTALS	0	275,074	18,904,855		19,179,929

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	40
Part Time	0
TOTAL	40

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, three hundred sixteen thousand nine hundred thirty-five dollars ($316,935.00)SR not be included in the oil and gas conservation commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium and that any request for appropriations for major maintenance be included as an exception request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 057. COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMISSION

PROGRAM					
Administration	7,922,961		781,351	SR	8,704,312
State Aid [1., 2., 3., 6., [~~7.~~]]	260,319,957				260,319,957
WY Works Program [4., 5.]	5,584,486				5,584,486
Adult Education	2,025,877	1,903,127			3,929,004
WYIN Loan & Grant Prgm	7,521,256				7,521,256

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Veterans' Tuition Waiver	481,250				481,250
Public Television	3,420,181		400,000	SR	3,820,181
TOTALS	287,275,968	1,903,127	1,181,351		290,360,446

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	12
Part Time	0
TOTAL	12

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

1. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred fifty thousand four hundred fifty dollars ($750,450.00) is appropriated **[~~for a competitive grant program~~]** to provide enhanced state funding to community colleges for purposes of dual enrollment education, subject to the following: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(i) **[~~Preference for grant~~]** funding shall be provided to community colleges offering dual enrollment programs to students who are not eligible to participate under a school district agreement entered into pursuant to W.S. 21-20-201; **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(ii) The community college commission and any community college receiving **[~~grant~~]** funding shall advertise the program and track expenditures, student participation and outcomes. Recommendations for continued funding or modifications to law shall be included in the community college commission's budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium; **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(iii) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose;

(iv) It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, seven million five hundred thousand dollars ($7,500,000.00) is appropriated for career and technical education programs, degrees and certifications requiring two (2) years of instruction or less for completion. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the Wyoming community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

3. Of this general fund appropriation, eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000.00) is appropriated to support competitive rodeo teams at Wyoming community colleges. This appropriation shall be equally distributed to all colleges with a competitive rodeo program. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming works program account and all funds within the Wyoming works program account are appropriated and available for expenditure by the Wyoming community college commission as provided by the Wyoming works program.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred eighty-four thousand four hundred eighty-six dollars ($584,486.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming works student grant account and all funds within the Wyoming works student grant account are appropriated for distribution by the Wyoming community college commission as provided by the Wyoming works program.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) is appropriated for distribution by the commission to qualifying community colleges as provided in W.S. 21-18-205.

[~~7. Of this general fund appropriation, no funds shall be expended to pay student athletes salaries or endorsement compensation for participation in athletic activities sponsored by a community college.~~] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

Section 060. STATE LANDS AND INVESTMENTS

PROGRAM					
Operations	13,796,025	53,407,335	2,596,063	S1	
			2,962,326	S4	
			314,240	S5	
			7,822,533	SR	80,898,522
Forestry [1.]	8,173,613	914,052	227,385	SR	9,315,050
County Emergency Suppr.	20,000,000		12,124,796	SR	32,124,796
Fire [2., 3.]	15,269,494	302,101			15,571,595
Forestry Performance Acct.			80,000	SR	80,000
Ranch A			16,000	SR	16,000
Mineral Royalty Grants [4.]			30,237,674	S4	30,237,674
Federal Forestry Grants		6,939,060			6,939,060
Fire Prot. Revolving Acct. [5.]			26,415,498	SR	26,415,498
Good Neighbor Authority		14,429,864			14,429,864
Transp. Enterprise Fund			3,024,046	SR	3,024,046

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
Farm Loan Reserve			5,000,000	SR	5,000,000
TOTALS	57,239,132	75,992,412	90,820,561		224,052,105

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES [2., 3.]

Full Time	108
Part Time	28
TOTAL	136

1. The office of state lands and investments is authorized to hire up to one (1) additional at-will employee contract position within the forestry division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of the position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, the position shall be eliminated. The office of state lands and investments shall notify the joint appropriations committee of any position created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

2. Of this general fund appropriation, four million six hundred eighty-one thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars ($4,681,166.00) is appropriated, and four (4) full-time employee positions and twenty (20) nine (9) month temporary full-time positions are authorized as seasonal, part-time positions for two (2) wildland fire module crews. This appropriation and the positions specified in this footnote are effective immediately. Of this general fund appropriation, four million six hundred eighty-one thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars ($4,681,166.00) shall be reduced by one dollar ($1.00) for every one dollar ($1.00) up to four million six hundred eighty-one thousand one hundred sixty-six dollars ($4,681,166.00) appropriated from any source to the office of state lands and investments in 2026 House Bill 0036, if enacted into law. One (1) full-time employee position or one (1) part-time employee position shall be reduced from the full-time employee positions and part-time employee positions specified in this footnote for each one (1) full-time employee position or one (1) part-time employee position authorized in 2026 House Bill 0036, if enacted into law.

3. Of these authorized part-time employees, four (4) positions shall be temporary full-time positions authorized as seasonal part-time positions related to the state's single engine air tanker program.

4. Of this other funds appropriation, eleven million two hundred thousand dollars ($11,200,000.00)S4, or as much thereof as may be available, shall only be effective upon a successful federal coal lease auction in Wyoming and receipt by the state treasurer of the first annual bonus payment from the successful bidder.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

5. The de minimis indirect cost rate the state of Wyoming charges the federal government for administrative overhead related to expenditures on wildland fires shall be adjusted to the federally approved de minimis rate of fifteen percent (15%), with the consent of the appropriate federal agency. All proceeds received from the difference between the previous rate and new rate shall be deposited into the fire protection revolving account.

Section 063. GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

PROGRAM				
Residence Operation	729,283			729,283
TOTALS	729,283	0	0	729,283

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 066. WYOMING TOURISM BOARD

PROGRAM					
Wyoming Tourism Board			40,102,837	S14	
			23,600	SR	40,126,437
TOTALS	0	0	40,126,437		40,126,437

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 067. UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING [1.]

PROGRAM				
State Aid [2., 3., 4., ~~[8.]~~, 9.]	369,785,349			369,785,349
School of Energy Res. [5., 6.]	33,197,808			33,197,808
Tier 1 Engineering	18,584,703			18,584,703
NCAR MOU	1,528,316			1,528,316
Endowments & Matching [7., 10.]	2,750,000			2,750,000
TOTALS	425,846,176	0	0	425,846,176

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

1. (a) For the period beginning on the effective date of this footnote and ending June 30, 2028, and in addition to the requirements of W.S. 21-16-1801(a), the University of Wyoming shall not expend any funds under its control for any of the following:

(i) Elective abortions for students;

(ii) Group health insurance that provides coverage of elective abortions for students.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00) is appropriated for an external financial and administrative audit and operational review by a qualified management consultant of expenditures of the center of innovation for flow through porous media and expenditures at the high bay research facility at the University of Wyoming. [~~**The qualified management consultant shall conduct the external financial and administrative audit and operational review required under this footnote in consultation with the management council.**~~] The University of Wyoming shall include a condensed summary of findings and recommendations from the audit and review in any budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013. [~~**It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

3. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred thousand dollars ($400,000.00) is appropriated to support the University of Wyoming rodeo team.

4. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is appropriated to provide a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming from athletic booster organizations and from persons donating funds to be used solely for athletic programs, subject to all of the following:

(i) The state treasurer shall retain this appropriation for distribution in accordance with the provisions of this footnote;

(ii) This appropriation shall be expended for the purposes of:

(A) Authorized recruitment of prospective student athletes to the University of Wyoming and expenses associated with participation in intercollegiate athletics including summer school attendance, nutrition, tutoring, team travel and costs directly related to participation in competition;

(B) Athletic training equipment.

(iii) No funds from this appropriation shall be expended for salaries or capital construction projects;

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

(iv) To the extent funds are available, this appropriation shall be matched on a quarterly basis by the state treasurer for each cash or cash equivalent contribution actually received by the University of Wyoming for the purposes specified in this footnote for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028 by distributing to the University of Wyoming an amount equal to the amount of qualifying contributions for the calendar quarter.

(b) The appropriation specified in subsection (a) of this footnote shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose not specified in this footnote and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, two million ninety thousand dollars ($2,090,000.00) is effective immediately.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is appropriated and conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source for support for the school of energy resources' Wyoming energy-focused instruction, outreach and research programs. All proposed matches shall be reported to the management council of the legislature **[~~with a description of the matching funds along with the purpose and anticipated outcomes not less than ten (10) days before acceptance of the funds~~]. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

7. Of this general fund appropriation, two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00) is appropriated for the purpose of providing a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming or donated funds to be used solely for support for excellence in research, education and extension in ranch and rangeland management, agronomy and soil science. Distribution of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source. This appropriation shall be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with W.S. 21-16-904. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated monies from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2032. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

[~~8. Of this general fund appropriation, no funds shall be expended to pay student athletes salaries or endorsement compensation for participation in athletic activities sponsored by the University of Wyoming.~~] [BRACKETED

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

9. (a) A portion of this general fund appropriation shall be expended by the University of Wyoming to conduct a comprehensive review of its organizational structure and staffing patterns across all divisions, colleges, administrative units, auxiliaries and support functions. The review under this footnote shall, at a minimum:

(i) Identify any positions or organizational units that are duplicative, overlapping or functionally redundant;

(ii) Assess opportunities to consolidate, streamline or otherwise restructure administrative and academic operations in order to improve efficiency;

(iii) Evaluate staffing levels relative to similarly situated postsecondary institutions and industry standards;

(iv) Develop recommendations to reduce the overall number of positions while simultaneously considering the operational needs, service levels and institutional priorities of the University of Wyoming;

(v) Identify any potential cost savings and reinvestment opportunities that result from any recommended staffing or structural changes;

(vi) Compile an inventory and recommend opportunities to eliminate degree programs with consideration of course participation and the number of recent graduates;

(vii) Compile an inventory and recommend opportunities to further restrict any diversity, equity and inclusion program, activity or function.

(b) The University of Wyoming board of trustees shall submit an operational plan to the governor and the joint appropriations committee not later than December 1, 2026. [**~~If the operational plan under this subsection does not identify at least five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) in cost savings for the University of Wyoming by December 1, 2026, of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) shall not be effective. If at least five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) in cost savings for the University of Wyoming is identified by December 1, 2026, of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is effective March~~** ~~15, 2027.~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

10. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000.00) shall be for the University of Wyoming family residency program to be expended only for purposes of a rural medicine training track program in a critical access hospital. This appropriation is conditioned upon matching

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 069. WICHE

PROGRAM					
Administration & Grants	5,432,417				5,432,417
TOTALS	5,432,417	0	0		5,432,417

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 070. ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY COMM

PROGRAM					
Commission & Support	1,000,792				1,000,792
Tech. Outreach & Research	4,154,737				4,154,737
TOTALS	5,155,529	0	0		5,155,529

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 072. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]			23,095,468	PF	23,095,468
Highway Patrol			15,301	SR	15,301
Game & Fish-Wardens			20,952	SR	20,952
Deferred Compensation			1,865,011	P2	1,865,011
TOTALS	0	0	24,996,732		24,996,732

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	50
Part Time	0
TOTAL	50

1. (a) The Wyoming retirement board, with the approval of the human resources division of the department of administration and information, may:

(i) Approve reclassifications from investment analyst to senior investment analyst and senior investment analyst to investment officer;

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

(ii) Adjust compensation within the classifications specified in paragraph (i) of this footnote based on an assessment of an employee's education, certification, demonstrated performance and potential for increased responsibility.

(b) Nothing in this footnote should be construed to modify the maximum annual salary limits provided in W.S. 9-3-406(f).

Section 077. ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Enterprise Operations [1., 2.]	86,172,033				86,172,033
IT Enhanced Services [3.]			37,769,156	IS	
			621,545	S0	38,390,701
WUN Infrastructure			15,991,931	S5	15,991,931
TOTALS	86,172,033	0	54,382,632		140,554,665

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	237
Part Time	1
TOTAL	238

1. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred forty-three thousand five hundred twenty-four dollars ($743,524.00) is effective immediately.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, five million two hundred sixty-one thousand nine hundred thirty-four dollars ($5,261,934.00) is appropriated for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, P.L. 101-336 as amended, to ensure all citizen-facing websites and web applications are accessible. The department of enterprise technology services shall seek grant funding from federal and other sources **[~~to the greatest extent possible~~]**. This appropriation shall be reduced in an amount equal to one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds for each one dollar ($1.00) in grant funding received for the purposes of this footnote. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

3. Of this other funds appropriation, six hundred twenty-one thousand five hundred forty-five dollars ($621,545.00)S0 or as much thereof as is available is appropriated from the depreciation reserve account for procurement of cloud services. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of enterprise technology services› standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 080. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

PROGRAM					
Administration Services [1.,2.,3.]	22,771,377	198,932	5,344,661	EF	
			1,552,829	SR	29,867,799
Field Services [4.]	36,648,353	173,482	5,004,763	TT	41,826,598
Support Services [5.,6.,7.]	87,541,728	100,000	1,398,146	SR	
			4,263,454	TT	93,303,328
Prison Division [8.,9.]	178,424,258		174,207	EF	
			1,656,765	IS	
			362,594	SR	180,617,824
TOTALS	325,385,716	472,414	19,757,419		345,615,549

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	1,048
Part Time	3
TOTAL	1,051

1. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) is for recruitment and retention efforts within the department of corrections, including moving expenses, housing costs at the law enforcement academy, career fairs, sign-on bonuses, accelerated background checks and site specific staff retention efforts. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, nine million three hundred twelve thousand three hundred seventy-four dollars ($9,312,374.00) is effective immediately.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred seventy-three thousand four hundred thirty-six dollars ($773,436.00) is effective immediately.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred fifty thousand dollars ($250,000.00) is appropriated for increased daily rates for placement of felony offenders in county jails.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred seventy-nine thousand four hundred fourteen dollars ($779,414.00) is effective immediately.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, three million dollars ($3,000,000.00) is effective immediately.

7. Of this general fund appropriation, one million four hundred fifteen thousand one hundred forty-four dollars ($1,415,144.00) is effective immediately.

8. Of this general fund appropriation, seven million five hundred fifty-nine thousand ninety-four dollars ($7,559,094.00) is effective immediately.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

9. Of this general fund appropriation, one million three hundred fifty-nine thousand three hundred eleven dollars ($1,359,311.00) is effective immediately.

Section 081. BOARD OF PAROLE

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
Administration	1,766,697			1,766,697
TOTALS	1,766,697	0	0	1,766,697

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

Section 085. WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL

PROGRAM	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		TOTAL APPROPRIATION
Wyoming Business Council [1.]	6,931,832		145,002	SR	7,076,834
Economic Divers. [2.]	7,027,270	157,787	846,741	SR	8,031,798
TOTALS	13,959,102	157,787	991,743		15,108,632

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. [~~**Of this general fund appropriation, six million nine hundred thirty-one thousand eight hundred thirty-two dollars ($6,931,832.00) and of this other funds appropriation one hundred forty-five thousand two dollars ($145,002.00) SR, shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027.**~~] It is the intent of the legislature that the Wyoming business council include any requested amount for the Wyoming business council and any of its programs for the period beginning July 1, 2027 and ending June 30, 2028 in any budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

2. Of this general fund appropriation, not less than one million four hundred thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars ($1,413,800.00) is appropriated for strategic partnership with manufacturing works, not less than one million two hundred eighty-eight thousand seven hundred sixty dollars ($1,288,760.00) is appropriated for strategic partnership with the Wyoming small business development center network, and not less than six hundred thousand dollars ($600,000.00) is appropriated for strategic partnership with the Wyoming women's business center. Of the remaining general fund appropriations, three million seven hundred twenty-four thousand seven hundred ten dollars ($3,724,710.00) shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

30, 2027 and any reductions to funding for strategic partners from this amount shall be proportionately applied to all strategic partners.

Section 090. WYOMING ENERGY AUTHORITY

PROGRAM				
Administration	5,226,199			5,226,199
TOTALS	5,226,199	0	0	5,226,199

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 091. WYOMING STABLE TOKEN COMMISSION

PROGRAM				
Administration [1., 2.]	4,000,000			4,000,000
TOTALS	4,000,000	0	0	4,000,000

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. The legislature authorizes six (6) at-will employee contract positions in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(VI) for the Wyoming stable token commission for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

2. It is the intent of the legislature that, of this general fund appropriation, four million dollars ($4,000,000.00) shall not be included in the Wyoming stable token commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium, and that any budget request for the Wyoming stable token commission be included as an exception budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 096. STATE BUDGET DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM				
Administration [1.]	3,420,688			3,420,688
Grants Management Office [2.]	4,551,086			4,551,086
TOTALS	7,971,774	0	0	7,971,774

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time [2.]	10
Part Time	0
TOTAL	10

1. (a) Authorization for at-will employee contract positions supported by funds originating from section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, shall remain effective until the latter of:

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

(i) December 31, 2026;

(ii) The date of completion of any federally required reporting and audits; or

(iii) The date of any extension of federal expenditure deadlines under section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, enacted into law.

2. Of these full-time employees, two (2) full-time employees are transferred from the department of corrections.

Section 098. OFFICE OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

PROGRAM					
Guardian Ad Litem	4,304,653		1,081,920	SR	5,386,573
TOTALS	4,304,653	0	1,081,920		5,386,573

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	9
Part Time	0
TOTAL	9

Section 101. SUPREME COURT

PROGRAM					
Administration	14,052,880	754,096	4,287,729	SR	19,094,705
Judicial Nominating Comm.	34,942				34,942
Chancery Court	1,293,369				1,293,369
Law Library	1,232,179				1,232,179
Circuit Courts [1.]	38,496,198				38,496,198
Court Automation	8,524,151		9,406,007	SR	17,930,158
Judicial Retirement	1,750,598				1,750,598
Treatment Court	3,139,513		1,400,000	SR	
			2,398,072	TT	6,937,585
Branchwide Resources	1,153,923				1,153,923
TOTALS	69,677,753	754,096	17,491,808		87,923,657

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	217
Part Time	21
TOTAL	238

1. Of this general fund appropriation, the supreme court may transfer up to eighty-three thousand five hundred dollars ($83,500.00) to district courts for replacement of aging copiers. Any transfers of this appropriation shall not be subject to the maximum thresholds or reporting requirements prescribed in Section 306 of this act.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 102. BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS

PROGRAM					
Administration			243,037	SR	243,037
TOTALS	0	0	243,037		243,037

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 103. COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT & ETHICS

PROGRAM				
Administration	371,171			371,171
TOTALS	371,171	0	0	371,171

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	1
Part Time	0
TOTAL	1

Section 120. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,425,926			1,425,926
TOTALS	1,425,926	0	0	1,425,926

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 121. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,317,869			1,317,869
TOTALS	1,317,869	0	0	1,317,869

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 122. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 2A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,402,302			1,402,302
TOTALS	1,402,302	0	0	1,402,302

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 123. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 2B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,325,681			1,325,681
TOTALS	1,325,681	0	0	1,325,681

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 124. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,385,512			1,385,512
TOTALS	1,385,512	0	0	1,385,512

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 125. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,399,822			1,399,822
TOTALS	1,399,822	0	0	1,399,822

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 126. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 4A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,354,584			1,354,584
TOTALS	1,354,584	0	0	1,354,584

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 127. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 5A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,355,115			1,355,115
TOTALS	1,355,115	0	0	1,355,115

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 128. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 5B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,361,557			1,361,557
TOTALS	1,361,557	0	0	1,361,557

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 129. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,356,096			1,356,096
TOTALS	1,356,096	0	0	1,356,096

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 130. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,452,401			1,452,401
TOTALS	1,452,401	0	0	1,452,401

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	1
TOTAL	5

Section 131. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,532,143			1,532,143
TOTALS	1,532,143	0	0	1,532,143

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	1
TOTAL	5

Section 132. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,371,526			1,371,526
TOTALS	1,371,526	0	0	1,371,526

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 133. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 8A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,349,427			1,349,427
TOTALS	1,349,427	0	0	1,349,427

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 134. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,616,810			1,616,810
TOTALS	1,616,810	0	0	1,616,810

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 135. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,322,372			1,322,372
TOTALS	1,322,372	0	0	1,322,372

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 136. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 8B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,335,901			1,335,901
TOTALS	1,335,901	0	0	1,335,901

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 137. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,555,804			1,555,804
TOTALS	1,555,804	0	0	1,555,804

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	5
Part Time	0
TOTAL	5

Section 138. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,371,626			1,371,626
TOTALS	1,371,626	0	0	1,371,626

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 139. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,392,906			1,392,906
TOTALS	1,392,906	0	0	1,392,906

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 140. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,381,128			1,381,128
TOTALS	1,381,128	0	0	1,381,128

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 141. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,307,284			1,307,284
TOTALS	1,307,284	0	0	1,307,284

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 142. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 4B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,250,514			1,250,514
TOTALS	1,250,514	0	0	1,250,514

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 143. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,326,803			1,326,803
TOTALS	1,326,803	0	0	1,326,803

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 144. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,333,903			1,333,903
TOTALS	1,333,903	0	0	1,333,903

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 145. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,343,842			1,343,842
TOTALS	1,343,842	0	0	1,343,842

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 146. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,374,252			1,374,252
TOTALS	1,374,252	0	0	1,374,252

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 151. DISTRICT ATTORNEY/JUD DIST #1

PROGRAM				
Administration	5,918,081			5,918,081
TOTALS	5,918,081	0	0	5,918,081

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	24
Part Time	0
TOTAL	24

Section 157. DISTRICT ATTORNEY/JUD DIST #7

PROGRAM				
Administration	6,369,152			6,369,152
TOTALS	6,369,152	0	0	6,369,152

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	24
Part Time	0
TOTAL	24

Section 160. COUNTY & PROS ATTORNEYS

PROGRAM				
Administration [1.]	9,780,000			9,780,000
TOTALS	9,780,000	0	0	9,780,000

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, in addition to amounts specified under W.S. 18-3-107(f):

(i) Four hundred sixty-four thousand six hundred two dollars ($464,602.00) is appropriated for each fiscal year for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028 to provide increased state contributions to counties for compensation of elected county and prosecuting attorneys and shall be distributed proportionally among each of the twenty-one (21) participating counties;

(ii) One million thirty-five thousand three hundred ninety-eight dollars ($1,035,398.00) is appropriated for each fiscal year for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028 to provide increased state contributions to counties for compensation of assistant county and prosecuting attorneys and shall be distributed in proportion to the state payments specified in W.S. 18-3-107(f) for assistant county and prosecuting attorneys.

Section 205. EDUCATION-SCHOOL FINANCE

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
School Foundation Program [1.]			2,187,278,262	S5	2,187,278,262
Court Ordered Placements			17,183,639	S5	17,183,639
Foundation-Specials			5,765,000	S5	5,765,000
TOTALS	0	0	2,210,226,901		2,210,226,901

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. Of this other funds appropriation, twenty-one million nine hundred thousand dollars ($21,900,000.00)S5 is appropriated for school district entitlement payments paid in accordance with W.S. 21-13-313(c). This appropriation shall only be effective if 2026 House Bill 0045 or 2026 Senate File 0039 is enacted into law.

Section 206. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Education Boards [1.]	205,261		719,112	S5	
			507,043	SR	1,431,416
Leadership, Finance & IT	11,041,428	17,179	5,703,651	S5	

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
			400,000	SR	17,162,258
Accountability & Commun.	901,271	32,799,740	9,587,551	S5	
			210,894	SR	
			1,000	T0	43,500,456
School Support [2., 3.]	5,123,514	317,025,857	2,280,086	S5	
			5,692,747	SR	
			468,495	T0	330,590,699
TOTALS	17,271,474	349,842,776	25,570,579		392,684,829

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	116
Part Time	2
TOTAL	118

1. Of this other funds appropriation, four hundred seven thousand one hundred fifteen dollars ($407,115.00)SR is provided for compensation for the position of executive director for the Wyoming charter school authorizing board. [**Upon the next vacancy of the position of executive director for the Wyoming charter school authorizing board, the Wyoming charter school authorizing board shall request a reclassification of the position by the human resources division of the department of administration and information to align the compensation and pay bands commensurate with the duties of the position and comparable executive level positions within the department of education with similar roles and responsibilities.**] This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [**BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026 – HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 6, 2026.**]

2. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000.00) is appropriated for state-funded farm to school grants to increase local food procurement. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of education's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, fifty thousand dollars ($50,000.00) is appropriated to pay for processing costs for Wyoming poultry, lamb, pork, beef or bison donated to a school district to be used in school meals. Expenditures authorized in this footnote shall be made only if an equal amount of funding has been contributed by a local school district for the processing costs of the donated Wyoming poultry, lamb, pork, beef or bison. The department shall endeavor to provide funding to as many school districts as possible under this footnote and participation in the federal school lunch program shall not be used as a limiting criterion for the distribution of these funds. To the extent

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

all funds from this appropriation are expended, the department of education shall identify and expend any additional funds appropriated in this section for continuation of the expenditures under this footnote.

Section 211. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

PROGRAM				
Equalization/Tax Appeals	1,795,310			1,795,310
TOTALS	1,795,310	0	0	1,795,310

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	5
Part Time	0
TOTAL	5

Section 220. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

PROGRAM				
Administration	610,603			610,603
TOTALS	610,603	0	0	610,603

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 270. OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

PROGRAM					
Administration			4,691,869	SR	4,691,869
TOTALS	0	0	4,691,869		4,691,869

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	12
Part Time	0
TOTAL	12

Section 012. BOARD OF ARCHITECTS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

PROGRAM					
Administration			243,349	SR	243,349
TOTALS	0	0	243,349		243,349

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 016. BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

PROGRAM					
Administration			57,711	SR	57,711
TOTALS	0	0	57,711		57,711

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 017. BOARD OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS EXAMINERS

PROGRAM					
Administration			101,905	SR	101,905
TOTALS	0	0	101,905		101,905

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 018. REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

PROGRAM					
Administration			1,474,948	SR	1,474,948
Real Estate Recovery			10,047	SR	10,047
Real Estate Education			81,771	SR	81,771
Real Estate Appraiser			314,360	SR	314,360
Appraiser Education			29,133	SR	29,133
Appraisal Management			429,914	SR	429,914
TOTALS	0	0	2,340,173		2,340,173

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

Section 019. PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

PROGRAM					
Prof. Teaching Stds. Board			2,341,039	SR	2,341,039
TOTALS	0	0	2,341,039		2,341,039

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	8
Part Time	0
TOTAL	8

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 022. BOARD FOR RESPIRATORY CARE

PROGRAM					
Administration			79,528	SR	79,528
TOTALS	0	0	79,528		79,528

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 028. BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PODIATRY

PROGRAM					
Administration			33,957	SR	33,957
TOTALS	0	0	33,957		33,957

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 030. BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

PROGRAM					
Administration			165,430	SR	165,430
TOTALS	0	0	165,430		165,430

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 031. COLLECTION AGENCY BOARD

PROGRAM					
Administration			235,071	SR	235,071
TOTALS	0	0	235,071		235,071

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 033. BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

PROGRAM					
Administration			1,215,685	SR	1,215,685
TOTALS	0	0	1,215,685		1,215,685

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 034. BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			392,180	SR	392,180
TOTALS	0	0	392,180		392,180

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 035. BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE PRACTITIONERS

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			100,598	SR	100,598
TOTALS	0	0	100,598		100,598

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 036. BOARD OF MIDWIFERY

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			34,877	SR	34,877
TOTALS	0	0	34,877		34,877

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 038. WYOMING GAMING COMMISSION

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]			6,087,915	SR	6,087,915
TOTALS	0	0	6,087,915		6,087,915

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	15
Part Time	2
TOTAL	17

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

1. Pursuant to W.S. 11-25-201(j), Wyoming gaming commission expenditures for breeder awards are authorized by the legislature for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

Section 043. DIETETICS LICENSING BOARD

PROGRAM					
Administration			51,188	SR	51,188
TOTALS	0	0	51,188		51,188

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 046. WYOMING COMBAT SPORTS COMMISSION

PROGRAM					
Administration			68,618	SR	68,618
TOTALS	0	0	68,618		68,618

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 052. BOARD OF MEDICINE

PROGRAM					
Administration [1.]			3,743,513	SR	3,743,513
TOTALS	0	0	3,743,513		3,743,513

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	7
Part Time	0
TOTAL	7

1. Of this other funds appropriation, seven hundred ten thousand twenty-four dollars ($710,024.00)SR is effective immediately.

Section 054. BOARD OF NURSING

PROGRAM					
Administration			3,494,590	SR	3,494,590
TOTALS	0	0	3,494,590		3,494,590

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	10
Part Time	0
TOTAL	10

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 056. BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

PROGRAM					
Administration			115,633	SR	115,633
TOTALS	0	0	115,633		115,633

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 058. BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY

PROGRAM					
Administration			126,217	SR	126,217
TOTALS	0	0	126,217		126,217

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 059. BOARD OF PHARMACY

PROGRAM					
Licensing Board			2,194,817	SR	2,194,817
TOTALS	0	0	2,194,817		2,194,817

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

Section 061. BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PROGRAM					
Administration			837,375	SR	837,375
TOTALS	0	0	837,375		837,375

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 062. BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

PROGRAM					
Administration			177,607	SR	177,607
TOTALS	0	0	177,607		177,607

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

Section 064. BOARD OF HEARING AID SPECIALISTS

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			38,175	SR	38,175
TOTALS	0	0	38,175		38,175
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

Section 065. BOARD OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			31,812	SR	31,812
TOTALS	0	0	31,812		31,812
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

Section 068. BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			197,527	SR	197,527
TOTALS	0	0	197,527		197,527
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

Section 075. BOARD OF OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			993,240	SR	993,240
TOTALS	0	0	993,240		993,240
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	3				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	3				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

Section 078. MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

PROGRAM					
Administration			713,169	SR	713,169
TOTALS	0	0	713,169		713,169

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 079. BOARD OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

PROGRAM					
Administration			64,685	SR	64,685
TOTALS	0	0	64,685		64,685

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 083. BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PROGRAM					
Administration			149,051	SR	149,051
TOTALS	0	0	149,051		149,051

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 084. BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

PROGRAM					
Administration			234,438	SR	234,438
TOTALS	0	0	234,438		234,438

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 251. BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

PROGRAM					
Administration			152,072	SR	152,072
TOTALS	0	0	152,072		152,072

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

Section 252. BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Administration			51,812	SR	51,812
TOTALS	0	0	51,812		51,812
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES					
Full Time	0				
Part Time	0				
TOTAL	0				

[BUDGET BALANCERS - TRANSFERS]

Section 300.

(a) The state auditor shall transfer any unappropriated funds in the general fund on June 30, 2026 in excess of one hundred ninety-two million seven hundred sixty-five thousand dollars ($192,765,000.00) to the legislative stabilization reserve account.

(b) The state auditor shall transfer a total of one hundred thirty-eight million nine hundred seventy-four thousand six hundred eighty-eight dollars ($138,974,688.00) from the strategic investments and projects account to the general fund in one (1) or more transfers. Any amounts transferred to the general fund under this subsection prior to June 30, 2026 shall be subtracted from the calculation of the transfer of funds from the budget reserve account to the legislative stabilization reserve account as required by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 300(b). This subsection is effective immediately.

(c) The state auditor shall transfer forty-four million three hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred thirty-one dollars ($44,348,131.00) from the general fund to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund.

(d) The state auditor shall transfer eighty-eight million seven hundred forty-two thousand one hundred seventy-six dollars ($88,742,176.00) from the school foundation program reserve account to the public school foundation program account.

(e) The state auditor shall transfer two hundred twenty-eight million six hundred thousand dollars ($228,600,000.00), or as much thereof as is available from the unexpended, unobligated balance of the strategic investments and projects account to the general fund. This subsection shall not be effective if Senate File 0119 is enacted into law.

[BORROWING AUTHORITY - CASH FLOW AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS]

Section 301.

(a) The state auditor is authorized to borrow from the legislative stabilization reserve account amounts necessary to assist the state's general fund cash flow. The amounts borrowed shall be repaid when sufficient general fund revenue is available. The auditor shall borrow funds under this subsection only to assist the month-to-month cash flow of the general fund and shall not borrow funds under this subsection when total appropriations together with outstanding encumbrances and obligations for the biennium exceed projected revenues for the biennium.

(b) The governor is authorized to borrow from the legislative stabilization reserve account up to thirty million dollars ($30,000,000.00) as necessary to meet funding requirements to fight wildfires in the event reserve funds in the office of state lands and investments' forestry division have been exhausted. The governor shall report to the joint appropriations committee, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives immediately upon exercise of this authority.

[STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT LANDS – FIRE SUPPRESSION]

Section 302.

(a) The governor is authorized to reimburse the costs of suppressing fires that burn on, have burned on, originate on or have originated on any state lands managed by the military department, subject to the requirements of this section.

(b) No reimbursement shall be made under this section except upon the written approval of the state forester. The governor and the state forester may consult with the adjutant general as necessary to implement this section.

(c) The governor shall, for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028, reimburse fire suppression costs under this section in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The governor shall reimburse costs from the fire protection revolving account created by W.S. 36-2-109;

(ii) If insufficient funds are available in the fire protection revolving account for reimbursement, the governor may reimburse costs from the amount appropriated to the governor for public welfare emergencies under W.S. 9-2-1014.3;

(iii) If insufficient funds are available in the fire protection revolving account and from the appropriation for public welfare emergencies under W.S. 9-2-1014.3 for reimbursement, the governor may borrow funds from the legislative stabilization reserve account in an amount not to exceed twenty million dollars ($20,000,000.00);

(iv) No entity receiving a reimbursement for fire suppression costs under another provision of law or from another source of funds shall receive a reimbursement under this section.

(d) Reimbursements under this section shall be made only for the purposes specified in this section and shall not exceed the actual costs of suppressing fires as specified in this section.

[CARRYOVER APPROPRIATIONS]

Section 303.

[WILD HORSE AND BURRO MANAGEMENT]

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the governor's office under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 001 for wild horse and burro management (unit 0128), up to seven hundred thousand dollars ($700,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the governor's office for wild horse and burro management **[~~on the Wind River Indian Reservation~~]**. Of this general fund reappropriation, any funds expended for wild horse or burro management on the Wind River Indian Reservation are conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any funds provided by the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe or the cooperative tribal governing body. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[DISASTER CONTINGENCY]

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated or reappropriated from the general fund to the governor's office under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 001, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 001 and 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 001 for disaster contingency, up to one million two hundred sixty-three thousand nine hundred sixty-six dollars ($1,263,966.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the governor's office for disaster contingency.

[STATE CAPITOL - WEEKENDS AND SPECIAL EVENTS]

(c) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the department of administration and information under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 006 in the original amount of three hundred fifty thousand dollars ($350,000.00), up to two hundred seven thousand dollars

($207,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the capitol square preservation account for expenditures subject to W.S. 9-4-225. This appropriation to the capitol square preservation account is to ensure that the Wyoming capitol building is open to the public for special events and during the summer on Saturdays and for extended weekday hours. This reappropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

[WYOMING STABLE TOKEN COMMISSION]

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the Wyoming stable token commission under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 185, Section 4 and 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 091 for operations of the Wyoming stable token commission, up to three million eight hundred thousand dollars ($3,800,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the Wyoming stable token commission. The Wyoming stable token commission shall endeavor to contract with Wyoming domiciled entities when conducting business funded by the reappropriation to the Wyoming stable token commission in this section.

[ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY COMMISSION]

(e) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the enhanced oil recovery commission under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 070, up to one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the enhanced oil recovery commission solely for purposes of projects.

[SECTION EFFECTIVE DATE]

(f) This section is effective immediately.

[EMPLOYEE BENEFITS]

Section 304.

(a) The state's contribution to the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan under W.S. 9-3-210 for each qualifying executive, judicial and legislative branch employee, including employees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, shall be paid from amounts appropriated in agency budgets in the following amounts for the specified time periods:

(i) For the period beginning December 1, 2026 and ending November 30, 2027, an amount to be determined by the employees' group insurance section of the department of administration and information but not to exceed:

(A) One thousand two hundred twenty-one dollars ($1,221.00) per month for an employee electing single coverage;

(B) Two thousand four hundred forty-three dollars ($2,443.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent spouse coverage;

(C) One thousand eight hundred sixty dollars ($1,860.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent children coverage;

(D) Two thousand eight hundred dollars ($2,800.00) per month for an employee electing family coverage;

(E) One thousand four hundred ten dollars ($1,410.00) per month for employees who elect family coverage when both spouses are employees of covered entities creating a split family coverage.

(ii) For the period beginning December 1, 2027 and ending November 30, 2028, an amount to be determined by the employees' group insurance section of the department of administration and information but not to exceed:

(A) One thousand three hundred twenty-three dollars ($1,323.00) per month for an employee electing single coverage;

(B) Two thousand six hundred forty-eight dollars ($2,648.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent spouse coverage;

(C) Two thousand fifteen dollars ($2,015.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent children coverage;

(D) Three thousand thirty-six dollars ($3,036.00) per month for an employee electing family coverage;

(E) One thousand five hundred twenty-eight dollars ($1,528.00) per month for employees who elect family coverage when both spouses are employees of covered entities creating a split family coverage.

(b) There is appropriated two million one hundred eighty-eight thousand five hundred twenty-four dollars ($2,188,524.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028 to be expended only for health insurance benefits for executive, legislative and judicial branch agency retirees, including retirees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, who participate in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan, and whose date of retirement was prior to July 1, 2008. Payments to the plan on behalf of eligible retirees shall be made monthly at the rate of eleven dollars and fifty cents ($11.50) per year of service up to a maximum of thirty (30) years of service for those retirees who are not Medicare eligible, and at the rate of five dollars and seventy-five cents ($5.75) per year of service up to a maximum of thirty (30) years of service for those retirees who are Medicare eligible.

(c) Sufficient monies in the retirees prefunded health insurance trust (fund 561) are appropriated to the state auditor and shall be used for the purpose of funding the benefits in the same manner and amounts as provided in subsection

(b) of this section for retirees whose effective date of retirement is July 1, 2008 or later. All investment earnings on the retirees prefunded health insurance trust (fund 561) shall remain in the fund.

(d) Provided sufficient funds are available, employees whose benefits are paid from nongeneral fund sources shall receive the same benefits as provided in this section.

(e) If sufficient funds are not available for obligations under subsections (b) through (d) of this section, payments to eligible retirees shall be reduced proportionally.

(f) The appropriations in this section shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

(g) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriation in subsection (b) of this section, adjusted by the number of eligible participants, shall be included in the state auditor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. All state agencies, including the University of Wyoming, the community colleges and the legislative and judicial branches, shall include in standard budget requests for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium sufficient amounts to be deposited into the retiree health insurance benefits account created by 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 303. Amounts to include in the standard budget requests shall be equal to up to one percent (1%) of each benefit eligible employee's salary for each pay period sufficient to continue benefits in subsections (c) and (d) of this section for fiscal years 2027 and 2028, as established by the department of administration and information.

[FLEX - EXECUTIVE]

Section 305.

(a) Excluding appropriations to the University of Wyoming and authorization of University of Wyoming positions and notwithstanding any provision of W.S. 9-2-1005(a) to the contrary, the governor is authorized to transfer:

(i) Between programs within any executive branch agency, excluding the department of environmental quality, department of health and department of corrections, ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation for the agency;

(ii) Between programs within the department of environmental quality, department of health and department of corrections, one hundred percent (100%) of the total appropriation for the agency;

(iii) Between executive branch agencies, five percent (5%) of the total appropriation for the agency from which the funds are transferred;

(iv) Between programs within any executive branch agency, or between executive branch agencies, legislatively authorized full-time or part-time positions.

(b) All transfers authorized under this section shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(c) The authority granted under this section is effective for the period beginning on the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2028.

(d) Any provision of this act or any other legislation enacted that specifies that an appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose, or containing language of like effect, or specifying a position within an agency shall prevail over this section and no such funds so appropriated or positions so specified shall be subject to subsection (a) of this section.

[FLEX – JUDICIARY]

Section 306.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the supreme court may transfer up to five percent (5%) of the total general fund appropriation between programs within the supreme court. With the approval of the district court budget committee, up to five percent (5%) of the general fund appropriation to each district court may be transferred to one (1) or more other district courts. Authority pursuant to this section includes transfers of associated legislatively authorized full-time or part-time positions and shall be effective for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. Any transfers pursuant to this section shall be reported annually by the supreme court to the joint appropriations committee. The report shall specify the appropriations and authorized positions transferred including transfers between expenditure series, programs and courts.

(b) Any provision of this act or any other legislation enacted that specifies that an appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose, or containing language of like effect, shall prevail over this section and no such funds so appropriated or positions so specified shall be subject to subsection (a) of this section.

[[PERSONAL SERVICES TRANSFERS]

Section 307.

(a) Unless otherwise specifically provided, nonfederal fund appropriations for personal services (100 series) contained in this act shall not be transferred to any other series or expended for any purpose other than personal services. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) or any other provision of this act, nonfederal fund appropriations for contractual services (900 series) contained in this act shall not be transferred to the personal services (100 series).

(b) The following appropriations and agencies are exempt from this

section:

(i) Section 2, Section 020 of this act to the department of environmental quality;

(ii) Section 2, Section 048 of this act to the department of health;

(iii) Section 2, Section 080 of this act to the department of corrections;

(iv) Any other appropriation in this act that specifies that the appropriation shall not be subject to this section.

(c) The judicial branch is exempt from this section for transfers in a total amount not to exceed four hundred thousand dollars ($400,000.00).]

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026 – HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 6, 2026.]

[ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY COMMISSION - REAPPROPRIATION]

Section 308. 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 317(a) is amended to read:

Section 317.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the enhanced oil recovery commission under 2006 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 35, Section 2, Section 070; 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 2, Section 070; 2010 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 39, Section 2, Section 070; 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 26, Section 2, Section 070 as amended by 2013 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 73, Section 2, Section 070; 2014 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 26, Section 2, Section 070; 2016 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 2, Section 070 as amended by 2017 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 120, Section 2, Section 070; 2018 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 134, Section 2, Section 070; 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 070 as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 070, up to one million nine hundred six thousand seven hundred eighty-two dollars ($1,906,782.00) or as much thereof as is available that was not reverted as provided by law shall be deemed reverted for accounting purposes on June 30, 2022 and is reappropriated to the enhanced oil recovery commission <u>for purposes of projects only</u>. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, the reappropriation in this section shall not revert until June 30, ~~2026~~ <u>2028</u>. It is the intent of the legislature that this reappropriation not be included in the enhanced oil recovery commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARRYOVERS]

Section 309.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 048, up to twenty-five million dollars ($25,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2026 and are hereby reappropriated to the department of health for the following purposes:

(i) Unanticipated Medicaid expenditures, including increased enrollment;

(ii) Costs associated with the implementation of Title 25, Chapter 10 of the Wyoming statutes;

(iii) State facility staffing needs.

(b) The transfer or expenditure of funds under this section shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(c) No funds from the reappropriations in this section shall be expended by the department of health if the expenditure would result in an increase to maintenance of effort, maintenance of financial support or a similar federal requirement to expend additional state funds in future budget periods.

(d) It is the intent of the legislature that the carryover appropriations in this section not be included in the department of health's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(e) This section is effective immediately.

[[LIMITATION ON SALARY INCREASE]

Section 310.

(a) The 2029-2030 biennial general fund standard budget for personal services (100 series) for each agency shall be less than or equal to the 2027-2028 biennial appropriations for personal services (100 series) for each agency in all enacted laws including any calculated amount to continue legislatively approved compensation increases throughout the 2027-2028 biennium and excluding benefit adjustments and allowable personal services transfers pursuant to Section 307 of this act and documented through the report required by W.S. 9-2-1011(c).

(b) Any salary increase for an executive branch state position, including those of the game and fish department, department of transportation

and boards and commissions and excluding positions of the University of Wyoming or community colleges, during the 2027-2028 biennium for which the compensation increase has not been approved by the legislature shall be reviewed and approved by the governor or his designee.

(c) Any salary increase for a judicial branch position during the 2027-2028 biennium for which the compensation increase has not been approved by the legislature shall be reviewed and approved by either the district court judge, chief justice or the board of judicial policy and administration.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026 – HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 6, 2026.]

[CONCURRENCE WITH GOVERNOR'S BIENNIAL BUDGET DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS]

Section 311.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in this act, it is the intent of the legislature to concur with the recommendations contained in the governor's 2027-2028 biennial budget for one-time funding, sustained funding or expenditures anticipated to increase or decrease and be included in the standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) It is the intent of the legislature that continuation of at-will employee contract positions not explicitly denied by this act shall continue as requested throughout the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028 and be included in the standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(c) Authorization for at-will employee contract positions within the office of state lands and investments, department of health and department of workforce services supported by funds originating from section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, shall remain effective until the latter of:

(i) December 31, 2026;

(ii) The date of completion of any federally required reporting and audits; or

(iii) The date of any extension of federal expenditure deadlines under section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, enacted into law.

[ENERGY MATCHING FUND GRANT]

Section 312.

(a) Upon favorable recommendation of the Wyoming energy authority and approval by the governor, the state treasurer shall provide funds for grants for energy matching projects related to rare earth resources totaling not more than sixteen million dollars ($16,000,000.00) in the aggregate from the legislative stabilization reserve account, subject to all of the following:

(i) The Wyoming energy authority shall solicit applications for grants under this section and reject or recommend approval of applications for final action by the governor;

(ii) The grants under this section are for purposes of providing matching funds for private or federal funding for construction or operation of commercial deployment projects related to the processing or separation of rare earth resources located in Wyoming;

(iii) Expenditure of funds granted under this section shall be conditioned upon receipt of matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of granted funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from nonstate sources;

(iv) The Wyoming energy authority and the state treasurer shall recommend other terms and conditions for grants awarded under this section. The governor shall determine all terms and conditions for grants under this section;

(v) No grant shall be made without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith;

(vi) The governor shall approve an applicant's proposed construction or operation of commercial deployment projects related to the processing or separation of rare earth resources located in Wyoming only upon a determination that the proposed construction or operation will result in substantial benefit to the public.

(b) All **[~~proposed~~]** grants under this section, including the terms, conditions and the purposes and goals of each grant shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee **[~~not less than ten (10) days prior to execution of the grant~~]. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[RESERVED]

Section 313. [Reserved.]

[RESERVED]

Section 314. [Reserved.]

[RESERVED]

Section 315. [Reserved.]

[RESERVED]

Section 316. [Reserved.]

[DEAPPROPRIATION – BUSINESS READY COMMUNITY ACCOUNT]

Section 317.

[~~**(a) The Wyoming business council shall revert all unexpended, unobligated funds held in the business ready community account to the general fund.**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[~~**(b)**~~] Any amounts reverted to the general fund under this section prior to June 30, 2026 shall be subtracted from the calculation of the transfer of funds from the budget reserve account to the legislative stabilization reserve account as required by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 300(b). **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[~~**(c) This section is effective immediately.**~~] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[REVISIONS TO PRIOR APPROPRIATIONS]

Section 318.

(a) 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 321, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, and as further amended by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 318, by creating a new subsection (g) and 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 325, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, and as further amended by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 318, by creating a new subsection (g) are amended to read:

[ENERGY MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 321.

(g) All [~~**proposed**~~] expenditures under this section shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee with a description of the [~~**desired**~~] actions and outcomes [~~**not less than ten (10) days before use of the funds is approved by the governor through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b)**~~]. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

[APPROPRIATION TO MATCH FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS]

Section 325.

(g) All [~~**proposed**~~] expenditures under this section shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee with a description of the

[~~desired~~] actions and outcomes **[~~not less than ten (10) days before use of the funds are approved by the governor through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b)~~]**. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(b) This section is effective immediately.

[RESERVED]

Section 319. [Reserved.]

[OFFICE OF TOURISM PROJECT AND CONTRACTS]

Section 320.

(a) There is appropriated fifteen million dollars ($15,000,000.00) from the Wyoming tourism reserve and projects account to the Wyoming office of tourism to contract with a rodeo and cowboy museum and hall of fame project to promote tourism and preserve Wyoming's cowboy heritage and western history. This appropriation shall be distributed to the office of tourism in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of tourism's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from the appropriation in this section shall not revert until June 30, 2036.

(b) The appropriation in subsection (b) of this section shall be distributed to the office of tourism, subject to all of the following:

(i) Three million dollars ($3,000,000.00) shall be effective immediately and shall be distributed not later than April 15, 2026;

(ii) Two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) is effective and shall be distributed on July 1, 2026;

(iii) Ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is effective and shall be distributed as soon as funds are available on or after July 1, 2027;

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

(v) The Wyoming tourism board shall solicit requests for qualifications under subsection (b) of this section and reject or recommend approval of request for qualifications for final action by the governor;

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

(vii) Expenditure of funds contracted for a project under subsection (b) of this section shall be conditioned upon expenditure of matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of project funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source;

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

(ix) No contract shall be made without the written opinion of the attorney general certifying the legality of the transaction and all documents connected therewith;

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

[COURT SECURITY GRANTS]

Section 321. There is appropriated three million two hundred eighty-four thousand eight hundred twenty dollars ($3,284,820.00) from the general fund to the supreme court to be matched by a total of three hundred sixty-four thousand nine hundred eighty dollars ($364,980.00) of local matching funds to provide funding for court security improvements. Funds shall only be expended upon recommendation by the Wyoming court security commission for direct purchase by the state or grants to counties for security equipment within courthouses or the construction or modification of facilities containing a state court. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the standard budget of the judicial branch for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Any unawarded, unexpended or unobligated funds remaining from the appropriation in this section shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028.

[ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER PROJECT ACCOUNT]

Section 322. In accordance with W.S. 9-4-214(a) and 9-4-217(d), the state auditor shall continue the rocky mountain power project account created under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 322 and continued under 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 322. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer, and all investment earnings from the account shall be credited to the account. Any funds deposited to this account shall be continuously appropriated to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board to provide oversight and distribute funds in accordance with the United States bureau of land management stipulations for this funding.

[UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION LOAN]

Section 323.

(a) 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 11(b) is amended to read:

> **Section 11.**
>
> (b) Before July 1, 2026, the state treasurer and the state auditor shall ~~utilize~~ advance funds in the form of interfund loans from the legislative stabilization reserve account for deposit to the University of Wyoming 2023 capital projects account as necessary to meet appropriations from that account and contract obligations of the University of Wyoming incurred for purposes of this section. ~~No interfund loans authorized under this section shall be made after completion of the projects specified in subsection (a) of this section.~~ On and after July 1, 2026, the legislature authorizes the discharge of up to seventy-five million dollars ($75,000,000.00) in outstanding interfund loans from the legislative stabilization reserve account under this section.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

[~~**[MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND WYOMING STATE PENITENTIARY CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT]**~~

~~**Section 324.**~~

~~**(a) 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 161, Section 7 is amended to read:**~~

> ~~**Section 7. On the effective date of this section, the state auditor shall transfer There is appropriated nine million dollars ($9,000,000.00) from the Wyoming state penitentiary capital construction account within the strategic investments and project account to the department of corrections for purposes of the department's security system. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Any funds in excess of nine million dollars ($9,000,000.00) transferred to the department of corrections from the Wyoming state penitentiary capital construction account within the strategic investments and project account prior to April 1, 2026 for these purposes shall be restored by the department of corrections to the Wyoming state penitentiary capital construction account within the strategic investments and projects account not later than April 15, 2026.**~~

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

~~(b) This section is effective immediately.~~]

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

[RESERVED]

Section 325. [Reserved.]

[RESERVED]

Section 326. [Reserved.]

[NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AIR RACES - REPEAL]

Section 327.

(a) 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 2, Section 066 is amended to read:

Section 066. WYOMING TOURISM BOARD

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $		TOTAL APPROPRIATION $
PROGRAM					
Wyoming Tourism Board [1,~~2~~]			41,539,082	S14	
			~~2,500,000~~	~~S0~~	
			23,600	SR	~~44,062,682~~
					41,562,682
TOTALS	0	0	~~44,062,682~~		~~44,062,682~~
			41,562,682		41,562,682

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. Of this other funds appropriation, two million dollars ($2,000,000.00)S14 is for purposes of planning and providing grants for initiatives recognizing the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of independence. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming tourism board's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

~~2. Of this other funds appropriation, two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00)S0 is appropriated from the Wyoming tourism reserve and projects account. In the event any public Wyoming airport is selected as the site of the national championship air races, the Wyoming tourism board~~

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND $	FEDERAL FUNDS $	OTHER FUNDS $	TOTAL APPROPRIATION $

~~shall distribute this appropriation to the public entity operating the selected airport for purposes of economic development and community assistance conditioned only upon the public entity's good-faith effort to secure matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated other funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate sources to the greatest extent possible. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming tourism board's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.~~

(b) Funds deappropriated as a result of the appropriations repealed in subsection (a) of this section shall be credited to the account from which they were appropriated.

(c) This section is effective immediately.

[GOVERNOR'S BIENNIAL BUDGET DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS – RESTORATION]

Section 328.

(a) For the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028, there is appropriated from the accounts and funds specified in this section one hundred seventy-two million two hundred twenty-one thousand three hundred fifty-four dollars ($172,221,354.00) to the state auditor to restore the governor's biennial budget recommendations to the departments specified in this section:

DEPARTMENT	GF	FF	OF		Total
001 Office of the Governor [1.]	5,795,794	20,702			5,816,496
004 State Treasurer	4,882		353,658	SR	358,540
006 Administration and Information [2.]	1,305,753		4,517,814	IS	
			33,276	SR	5,856,843
007 Wyoming Military Department	45,813				45,813
008 Office of the Public Defender	39,355		6,945	SR	46,300
010 Department of Agriculture	368,774				368,774
011 Department of Revenue	321,820		15,589	EF	337,409
014 Miners' Hospital Board			4,930	T2	4,930
015 Attorney General	1,308,447	1,642	2,190	S5	
			4,380	SR	
			730	TT	1,317,389

016 Board of Barber Examiners			3,000	SR	3,000
018 Real Estate Commission			7,009	SR	7,009
019 Professional Teaching Standards Board			11,120	SR	11,120
020 Department of Environmental Quality	1,277,083		500,000	SR	1,777,083
021 Department of Audit	47,034	12,117	577,109	SR	636,260
023 Public Service Commission			600,000	SR	600,000
024 State Parks & Cultural Resources	141,190		15,966	SR	157,156
027 State Construction Department	11,054		388,580	S5	399,634
033 Board of Cosmetology			4,840	SR	4,840
037 State Engineer	51,100				51,100
038 Wyoming Gaming Commission			14,709	SR	14,709
039 Wildlife/Natural Resource Trust [3.]	9,000,000		2,421	SR	9,002,421
041 Fire Prevention & Elec Safety	21,857				21,857
042 Geological Survey	48,517				48,517
045 Department of Transportation			161,740	S7	161,740
048 Department of Health [4.]	38,836,481	30,094,123			68,930,604
049 Department of Family Services [5.]	3,185,487	562,145			3,747,632
051 Livestock Board	15,344		36,622	SR	51,966
052 Board of Medicine			6,185	SR	6,185
053 Department of Workforce Services	114,212	161,326	84,610	EF	360,148
054 Board of Nursing			5,237	SR	5,237
055 Oil and Gas Commission			16,289	SR	16,289
057 Community College Commission [6., [~~7.~~]]	3,019,517				3,019,517
060 State Lands and Investments	475,500				475,500
066 Wyoming Tourism Board			11,310		11,310
067 University of Wyoming [[~~7.~~], 8.]	60,933,867				60,933,867
070 Enhanced Oil Recovery Comm.	152,802				152,802
072 Retirement System			735,823	PF	735,823
075 Board of Outfitters and Guides			18,552	SR	18,552
077 Enterprise Technology Services [9.]	4,105,392		1,926,261	IS	
			3,770	S5	6,035,423

080 Department of Corrections	461,930				461,930
096 State Budget Department	12,161				12,161
098 Office of Guardian ad Litem	4,472		1,118	SR	5,590
102 Board of Law Examiners			23,000	SR	23,000
103 Comm. on Judicial Conduct & Ethics	1,259				1,259
151 District Attorney/Jud Dist #1	54,500				54,500
157 District Attorney/Jud Dist #7	17,735				17,735
206 Department of Education	47,450				47,450
220 Environmental Quality Council	36,135				36,135
270 Office of Administrative Hearings	-	-	11,799	SR	11,799
	131,262,717	30,852,055	10,106,582		172,221,354

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred eight thousand one hundred ninety dollars ($108,190.00) is appropriated for local cybersecurity grant program matching. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of the governor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, eighteen thousand two hundred sixty-two dollars ($18,262.00) is appropriated for stormwater fees in Cheyenne. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of administration and information's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. This appropriation is effective immediately.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, nine million dollars ($9,000,000.00) is continuously appropriated from the general fund for deposit into the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account and continuously appropriated from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account board to provide grants for preventing the introduction and spread of invasive plants and grasses with a focus on private and state lands across Wyoming, wildfire prevention measures, or to Wyoming conservation districts, weed and pest districts and the game and fish commission for purposes of restoring grass, hay and other vegetation destroyed by wildfires on private and state lands, preventing the establishment of nonnative, invasive terrestrial vegetation on private and state lands affected by wildfires and replacing and restoring habitats

on private and state lands destroyed by wildfires. This appropriation shall not be subject to the requirements of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, six hundred seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars ($607,227.00) is appropriated for public laboratory services and operations. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of health's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, three million one hundred forty-five thousand dollars ($3,145,000.00) and of this federal funds appropriation, five hundred fifty-five thousand dollars ($555,000.00), is appropriated for information technology system modernization, licenses and product support.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, three million dollars ($3,000,000.00) is appropriated for Wyoming public television operations and nineteen thousand five hundred seventeen dollars ($19,517.00) is appropriated for expenditures under the technology replacement program.

[~~7. Of this general fund appropriation, no funds shall be expended to pay student athletes salaries or endorsement compensation for participation in athletic activities sponsored by a community college or the University of Wyoming.~~] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

8. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, twelve million five hundred thousand dollars ($12,500,000.00) is appropriated to provide a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming or donated funds in accordance with all of the following:

(i) Ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) is conditioned upon a match for a permanent endowment under W.S. 21-16-901 through 21-16-904. All state matching distributions from the challenge account created in W.S. 21-16-903 are appropriated solely to support endowments for priorities identified and approved by the University of Wyoming board of trustees;

(ii) Two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00) is conditioned upon a match for purposes of expenditures for the college of agriculture governor's agriculture initiative.

(b) Distribution of the appropriation specified in subsection (a) of this footnote is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source. This appropriation shall be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with W.S. 21-16-904, regardless of whether the match is for purposes of a permanent endowment under paragraph (a)(i) of this footnote or for expenditure by the University of Wyoming under paragraph (a)(ii) of this footnote.

9. Of this other funds appropriation, eight hundred seventy-five thousand nine hundred twenty-nine dollars ($875,929.00)IS is appropriated for cloud services.

(b) In addition to the appropriations in subsection (a) of this section, there is authorized fifteen (15) full-time employee positions to restore the governor's biennial budget development recommendations to the departments specified in this subsection:

(i) Three (3) full-time employee positions to the department of administration and information for facility management;

(ii) Two (2) full-time employee positions to the department of agriculture for the state fair;

(iii) One (1) full-time employee position to the office of the attorney general for a federal natural resource policy account attorney;

(iv) Three (3) full-time employee positions to the department of audit for entry-level bank examiners;

(v) One (1) full-time employee position to the state construction department for a senior policy and planning analyst;

(vi) Two (2) full-time employee positions to the department of health for long-term care eligibility workers;

(vii) One (1) full-time employee position to the office of state lands and investments for a fire business assistant;

(viii) One (1) full-time employee position to the office of state lands and investments for a public information officer;

(ix) One (1) full-time employee position to the Wyoming retirement system for an investment analyst.

(c) The appropriations in subsection (a) of this section shall be exempt from the limitations on the transfer of funds under Section 305 of this act in a total amount not to exceed one hundred seventy-two million two hundred twenty-one thousand three hundred fifty-four dollars ($172,221,354.00).

(d) The appropriations in subsection (a) of this section, and the full-time employee positions and part-time employee positions authorized in subsection (b) of this section, are subject to Section 311 of this act.

[EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION]

Section 329.

(a) There is appropriated one hundred eleven million seven hundred eighty-nine thousand six hundred seventy dollars ($111,789,670.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for salary adjustments of generally funded employees whose salary is not prescribed by law for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028, as specified in this section. From this appropriation, the state auditor shall distribute the following amounts:

(i) Sixty-four million one hundred ninety-one thousand one hundred fifty-three dollars ($64,191,153.00) for distribution among the executive branch agencies, including statewide elected officials, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the executive branch, including the Wyoming community college commission but not including any agency or entity specified in paragraphs (ii) through (ix) of this subsection;

(ii) Seven hundred forty-eight thousand six hundred forty-two dollars ($748,642.00) to the Wyoming business council pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the Wyoming business council;

(iii) Twenty-one thousand seven hundred eighty-three dollars ($21,783.00) to the commission on judicial conduct and ethics pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the commission on judicial conduct and ethics;

(iv) Forty-eight thousand seven hundred twenty-six dollars ($48,726.00) to the Wyoming energy authority pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the Wyoming energy authority;

(v) Twenty-seven million six hundred ninety-nine thousand six hundred thirty-one dollars ($27,699,631.00) to the University of Wyoming, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, for employees of the University of Wyoming, the University of Wyoming medical education program and school of energy resources;

(vi) Three hundred seventy-seven thousand eight hundred seventy-two dollars ($377,872.00) to the University of Wyoming pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the enhanced oil recovery commission;

(vii) Fourteen million five hundred eighty-five thousand three hundred thirty-seven dollars ($14,585,337.00) to the community college commission to be allocated among the community colleges in proportion to the state funded payroll of each college relative to the total state funded payroll as submitted by the colleges to the state budget department and further distributed within each college pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the community colleges for employees of the community colleges;

(viii) Two hundred eighty-three thousand five hundred ninety-eight dollars ($283,598.00) to the community college commission, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, for employees of Wyoming public television;

(ix) Three million eight hundred thirty-two thousand nine hundred twenty-eight dollars ($3,832,928.00) to the supreme court to be further distributed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the employees of the supreme court, district courts, circuit courts and related subdivisions.

(b) Funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section shall be distributed to employees of entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (ix) of this section in accordance with an occupational market analysis.

(c) For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is paid from nongeneral fund sources, to the extent funds are available, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds amounts necessary to provide payment of comparable salary increases and employer paid benefits as that which is distributed to employees of entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (ix) of this section and subject to the same distribution methodology that is applied by the entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (ix) of this section. For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is partially funded by general funds, general funds shall be expended for compensation increases in the same proportion as the employee's budgeted salary is paid by state general funds.

(d) In accordance with Section 310 of this act, it is the intent of the legislature that the total appropriation in subsection (a) of this section to each recipient agency be included as a cumulative total of the sum of the amounts within each of the recipient agencies' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[OUTDOOR TRAILS – MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 330.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 39-15-111(p)(i)(A), there is appropriated eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000.00)S14 from the Wyoming tourism account to the department of state parks and cultural resources for purposes of entering into a contract with a trail organization with demonstrated professional trail construction experience and capacity to serve as a project manager and fiscal agent for the construction or operation of one (1) or more trails, subject to all of the following:

(i) The department of state parks and cultural resources shall solicit applications for grants under this section and shall approve or deny the applications;

(ii) The funds expended under this section shall be matched at a ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of nonstate funds;

(iii) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose;

(iv) It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[RURAL VETERINARY MEDICINE EDUCATION PROGRAM]

Section 331.

(a) There is appropriated five hundred fifty thousand dollars ($550,000.00) from the general fund to the University of Wyoming to provide veterinary medicine education and training for the first cohort of five (5) students under an agreement with Kansas State University, or any other accredited college of veterinary medicine, subject to the following:

(i) The board of trustees of the University of Wyoming shall enter into a contract with Kansas State University, or any other accredited college of veterinary medicine, pursuant to W.S. 21-17-109. The contract shall focus on veterinary medicine education and training with an emphasis on rural and large animal veterinary practice;

(ii) The board of trustees of the University of Wyoming shall obtain an agreement with any student receiving veterinary medicine education and training under this section as specified in W.S. 21-17-109(d); and

(iii) All other provisions of W.S. 21-17-109 shall be satisfied.

(b) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget in the amount of two million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($2,750,000.00) to continue funding for this cohort and two (2) future cohorts for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[WYOMING STATE SHOOTING COMPLEX]

Section 332.

(a) As used in this section, "Wyoming state shooting complex" means a facility located in Park county, near Cody, that is described in the state shooting complex development and oversight task force final recommendation that was submitted to the governor, the joint appropriations committee and the joint travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim committee, dated August 8, 2024.

(b) From the unexpended, unobligated balance of the state shooting complex account appropriated under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a)(ii) and the expenditure of which requires additional action of the legislature, up to two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, is hereby authorized for expenditure in accordance with this section.

(c) From the unexpended, unobligated balance of the state shooting complex account appropriated under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a)(iii) and the expenditure of which requires additional action of the legislature, up to two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, is hereby authorized for expenditure in accordance with this section.

(d) Notwithstanding 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(b), funds authorized for expenditure under this section shall be expended, without delay and as directed by the Wyoming state shooting complex joint powers board through the department of state parks and cultural resources, for costs related to the Wyoming state shooting complex that are described in and subject to the terms of a memorandum of understanding between the Wyoming state shooting complex joint powers board and the department of state parks and cultural resources executed on September 3, 2025.

(e) Funds authorized for expenditure under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, the authority to expend funds under this section shall remain in effect and not lapse at the end of the fiscal period except upon further legislative action.

(f) Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining in the state shooting complex account from appropriations under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a) and not otherwise authorized for expenditure under this section shall revert to the accounts from which they were appropriated.

(g) This section is effective immediately.

(h) It is the intent of the legislature that no general funds, legislative stabilization reserve account funds or strategic investments and projects account funds be appropriated, expended or obligated for the construction of the Wyoming state shooting complex in excess of any of those funds already appropriated, expended or obligated for that purpose.

[1893 YELLOWSTONE FOREST RESERVE SURVEY PARTY TREE]

Section 333. Notwithstanding W.S. 39-15-111(p)(i)(A), thirty thousand dollars ($30,000.00)S14 is appropriated to the department of state parks and cultural resources from the Wyoming tourism account for the purpose of retrieving, developing and curating a display for the 1893 Yellowstone Forest Reserve Survey Party Tree Inscription from the Shoshone national forest. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation shall not be included in the standard budget of the department of state parks and cultural resources for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL-[**~~FORENSIC~~**] AUDIT]

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]

Section 334.

(a) There is appropriated one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00) from the general fund to the department of audit to complete or cause to be completed a [**~~forensic~~**] audit of the Wyoming business council. The [**~~forensic~~**]

audit shall commence and be completed as soon as possible after the effective date of this section. Upon the completion of the audit, the department shall publicly disseminate and distribute any findings, recommendations and outcomes to the joint appropriations committee, the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee and the governor. If the audit cannot be completed by July 1, 2026, the department of audit shall advise the joint appropriations committee, the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee and the governor not later than May 29, 2026 of that fact and the reasons the audit cannot be completed by the date specified. The [**~~forensic~~**] audit shall include, at a minimum: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 5, 2026.]**

(i) A list or accounting of all funds currently held as of the effective date of this section and a list of funds received and expended by the Wyoming business council since July 1, 2025;

(ii) A list or accounting of all accounts used to hold funds appropriated to, held by or expended by the Wyoming business council, including all accounts associated with the Wyoming business council that are specified by law, any account created by the Wyoming business council and any account created by the state auditor or any other state agency or entity on behalf of the Wyoming business council for the period beginning July 1, 2019 and ending with the effective date of this section;

(iii) A list or accounting of all funds from private sources donated to or otherwise provided to the Wyoming business council that are held or maintained by the Wyoming business council as of the effective date of this section;

(iv) A review of whether the Wyoming business council has administered, held, expended and distributed funds in accordance with all applicable laws for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending on the effective of this section;

(v) A review of whether the Wyoming business council has accounted for, held and expended funds in conformance with generally accepted accounting principles except for deviations authorized by law.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

[STATE PARKS CONCESSIONAIRES]

Section 335.

(a) Of the other funds appropriation specified in 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140, Section 3, Section 027, capital construction projects, footnote 1, not more than three million dollars ($3,000,000.00)SR from the department of state parks and cultural resources' account within the special revenue fund or as much thereof as is available is reappropriated for the purposes of this section.

(b) The department of state parks and cultural resources shall conduct a full appraisal of the value as of the date of enactment of this section of the capital investment and ongoing concern of the business, less any value attributed to the land and location for any concessionaire not selected or pending to be selected as the winner of a subsequent, long-term contract awarded pursuant to Chapter 10, Section 1(c)(ii) of the department of state parks and cultural resources rules.

(c) The department of state parks and cultural resources shall expend funds up to the lesser of the amount reappropriated in subsection (a) of this section or the value of appraisal determined in subsection (b) of this section for purposes of reimbursement of a concessionaire's appraised value identified in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) No expenditure shall be made under this section without the review and written approval of the attorney general.

(e) The reappropriation under this section shall not be expended or transferred for any other purpose.

(f) This section is effective immediately.

[BUDGET BALANCERS – TRANSFERS II]

Section 398.

(a) The state auditor shall transfer one hundred million dollars ($100,000,000.00), or as much thereof as is necessary, from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the general fund to ensure the unobligated, unencumbered fund balance of the general fund on June 30, 2028 is not less than one hundred ninety-two million seven hundred sixty-five thousand dollars ($192,765,000.00).

(b) The state auditor shall transfer up to three hundred twenty-five million dollars ($325,000,000.00) from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the general fund at times and in amounts as the state auditor determines necessary.

[REPEALED SECTIONS]

Section 399.

(a) 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 11(c), 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 321(e) and 325(d), as amended by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 318, and 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 334 are repealed.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

[EFFECTIVE DATE]

Section 400.

(a) As used in this act, "effective immediately" means effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution. Any appropriation contained in this act that is effective immediately shall not lapse until June 30, 2028, unless otherwise specified.

(b) Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 5, 2026.

Chapter 45

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Original House Bill No. 23

AN ACT relating to public school cocurricular and extracurricular activities; requiring school districts to allow children not enrolled in the district to participate in cocurricular and extracurricular activities; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-4-506(a)(intro) is amended to read:

21-4-506. Participation in activities by students not enrolled in the district; limitation on fees.

(a) Any school age child who is a resident of a school district, who is not under suspension or expulsion by a Wyoming school district and who is not enrolled as a full-time student in the district in which he resides, shall be permitted by the district to participate in any activities offered by the district, including, but not limited to, activities which are sanctioned by the Wyoming high school activities association ~~and which are offered by the district~~ subject to the following:

Section 2. W.S. 21-4-506(a)(intro) as amended by section 1 of this act, shall apply school year 2026-2027 and each school year thereafter.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 46

ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY-SEVERANCE TAX EXEMPTION

Original House Bill No. 128

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; providing a severance tax exemption for tertiary oil production as specified; requiring reports; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-14-205 by creating a new subsection (q) is amended to read:

39-14-205. Exemptions.

(q) Tertiary production resulting from projects certified by the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission after July 1, 2026 and before July 1, 2031 is exempt from the severance taxes imposed by W.S. 39-14-204(a)(iii) for a period of five (5) years from the date of first tertiary production. Not later than November 1, 2026 and each November 1 thereafter until November 1, 2036, the oil and gas conservation commission and the department shall report on the tertiary production qualifying for the exemption under this subsection. The report shall include the amount of production, the number of operators qualifying for the exemption, the number of wells, the amount of severance taxes paid on that production, the amount of severance taxes exempted under this subsection and the ad valorem and sales taxes paid in connection with that production.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 47

WYOMING STATE GUARD-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 67

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming state guard; removing activation of the national guard of Wyoming into service of the United States as a prerequisite for the organization of the Wyoming state guard; removing federal involvement in the Wyoming state guard; allowing the governor to organize and maintain the Wyoming state guard; making conforming amendments; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-10-101(a) and (b) is amended to read:

19-10-101. Organization by governor; appointment of council; removal; control.

(a) ~~If the national guard of Wyoming is ordered into the service of the United States,~~ The governor may organize and maintain within this state ~~during that period, under such regulations as the secretary of defense may prescribe,~~ such military forces ~~as may be authorized by the secretary of defense or~~ as the governor deems necessary ~~for the defense~~ to preserve the public peace, to execute the laws of the state, to suppress tumult, riot, mob or invasion, to respond to either natural or manmade emergencies within the state, to support national wildland fire response or to perform other duties as the governor may require. The forces shall be known as the Wyoming state guard. Insofar as practicable, the existing laws, rules and regulations governing the national guard shall be ~~applied to~~ used as a model for the control and governance of the Wyoming state guard. ~~The force shall be of such strength as directed by the secretary of defense, with such expansion in the future as may be authorized.~~ The Wyoming state guard shall be of such strength and shall be armed, trained and equipped in such manner as may be prescribed by ~~the secretary of defense or~~ the governor of Wyoming.

(b) For the purpose of coordinating desirable ~~national~~ state defense activities, the governor shall appoint a Wyoming state council of defense. The council, subject to the approval of the governor, may organize necessary subordinate branches and establish rules and regulations for the operation of the council and subordinate branches, and assist in all matters pertaining to the Wyoming state guard and other state or national~~-~~defense activities not otherwise covered by law. Appointment to the council of defense is not limited by any requirements as to prior military or naval service. The governor may remove any member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

Section 2. There is appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000.00) from the general fund to the office of the governor for purposes of appointing and convening a Wyoming state council of defense and for establishing and equipping the Wyoming state guard as the governor deems necessary. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of the governor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 48

DATA PRIVACY-GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

Original Senate File No. 20

AN ACT relating to the administration of the government; requiring government entities to adopt policies for the collection, access, security and use of personal data as specified; requiring specific personal data policies; providing definitions; specifying applicability; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-21-201 and 9-21-202 are created to read:

ARTICLE 2
DATA PRIVACY-GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

9-21-201. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Deidentified data" means data that cannot reasonably be used to infer information about, or otherwise be linked to, an identified or identifiable natural person or personal digital identity or a device linked to a natural person or personal digital identity;

(ii) "Government entity" means the state and all its political subdivisions, agencies, instrumentalities and institutions and any local government entity. "Government entity" shall not include the judicial branch of government or any law enforcement agency in Wyoming;

(iii) "Identified or identifiable natural person" means a natural person who can be readily identified, directly or indirectly, by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, specific geolocation data or an online identifier;

(iv) "Law enforcement agency" means a county, municipal, college or university police force, Wyoming highway patrol, the division of criminal investigation, the department of corrections, the game and fish department when acting within its law enforcement capacity or any state or local agency or political subdivision or part of an agency or political subdivision to the extent that the primary purpose of the agency or political subdivision, or part thereof, is the prevention or investigation of crime or the enforcement of penal, traffic, regulatory or criminal laws. "Law enforcement agency" shall not include the office of any city, county or district attorney or other division of the attorney general;

(v) "Personal data" means information that is linked or reasonably linkable to an identified or identifiable natural person or personal digital identity and does not include deidentified data;

(vi) "Personal digital identity" means as defined in W.S. 8-1-102(a)(xviii).

9-21-202. Limitations on personal data by government entities; conflict of laws.

(a) No government entity shall purchase, sell, trade or transfer personal data without the express written consent of the natural person whom the personal data references except as otherwise expressly provided by law and except that:

(i) A government entity may transfer personal data to another government entity provided that the other government entity complies with this article;

(ii) A government entity may transfer personal data to a nongovernment entity contracted by the government entity to provide or assist with government services provided by the government entity. Any contract for services with a nongovernment entity shall include requirements for the protection of personal data consistent with this article. Any personal data transferred pursuant to this paragraph shall be returned or destroyed by the nongovernment entity once the personal data is no longer necessary for the provision of the government service. No nongovernment entity shall maintain, sell, transfer, process or otherwise use the personal data in any manner except as necessary to provide the contracted service;

(iii) A government entity may petition the elected governing person or body with authority over the government entity for an exception to this subsection on a case by case basis. The elected governing person or body, in the elected governing person's or body's discretion, may publicly approve in writing an exception to this subsection not to exceed a term of two (2) years per petition; and

(iv) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the transfer of personal data that is transferrable pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act or the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

(b) Any current or former Wyoming resident or the resident's legally authorized representative may request a copy of their personal data from any government entity maintaining it. The government entity may charge a fee for production of the requested personal data consistent with fees authorized to be charged under the Wyoming Public Records Act, W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

(c) A current or former Wyoming resident or the resident's legally authorized representative who objects to the accuracy, completeness, pertinence, timeliness, relevance, retention, dissemination or denial of access to the resident's own personal data that is maintained by a government entity may, individually or through a duly authorized representative, file an objection with the government entity that maintains the data. The government entity maintaining the personal data shall, within sixty (60) days of the receipt of an objection:

(i) Verify the identity of the current or former Wyoming resident or the resident's legally authorized representative who filed the objection with the government entity;

(ii) Review the validity of the objection;

(iii) If the objection is found to be meritorious after review, alter the contents of, or the methods for holding, or the dissemination or use of the personal data, or delete or grant access to it;

(iv) If the objection is found to lack merit after review, provide the resident the opportunity to have a statement reflecting the resident's views maintained with the personal data in question;

(v) Notify the resident in writing of any decision regarding the resident's objection.

(d) To the extent that a provision of this article conflicts with another provision of state or federal law, the other provision shall control. Nothing in this article shall be construed to abrogate any disclosure of data or public records under the Wyoming Public Records Act, W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

Section 2. W.S. 9-21-203 is created to read:

9-21-203. Personal data collection and retention by government entities.

(a) In addition to the policies required under W.S. 9-21-101, if applicable, each government entity that collects or retains personal data shall adopt, enforce and maintain a policy regarding the collection, access, retention, security and use of personal data consistent with all applicable federal and state laws, including this article.

(b) No government entity shall collect or maintain more personal data than is reasonably necessary for the performance of the government entity's lawful functions. All personal data collected and maintained by government entities shall be necessary for a specific purpose identified in the adopted policies of the government entity.

(c) No government entity shall maintain personal data for longer than three (3) years without a written policy identifying the extended retention period and providing a reasonable justification for the extended retention period. Statutory retention requirements provided for in W.S. 9-2-405 through 9-2-413 constitute a reasonable justification.

(d) A government entity to which the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act or the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act applies that is compliant with a written data collection and retention policy that meets the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act or the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act shall be deemed compliant with this section.

Section 3. Not later than January 1, 2027, the state chief information officer in consultation with the state archivist shall develop sample policies for use by all government entities as defined by W.S. 9-21-201(a)(ii).

Section 4. W.S. 9-21-203 as created by section 2 of this act shall be effective as to counties, cities, public institutions of higher education or towns on July 1, 2028 and as to each political subdivision of the state other than state agencies, counties, cities, public institutions of higher education or towns on July 1, 2029. All government entities as defined by W.S. 9-21-201(a)(ii) shall adopt any necessary policies and procedures to meet the requirements of this act.

Section 5.

(a) Section 2 of this act is effective July 1, 2027.

(b) Sections 1, 3, 4 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 49

GAME AND FISH PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 26

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; exempting specified real property owned by the Wyoming game and fish commission from property taxation; amending a special tax on real property owned by the Wyoming game and fish commission that is used for other purposes; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xxxvi) and 39-13-103(b)(xii)(A)(intro) and (II) are amended to read:

39-11-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following property is exempt from property taxation:

(xxxvi) Real property owned by the Wyoming game and fish commission,~~.~~ ~~Nothing in this exemption affects~~ except for real property that is subject to the special tax levied under W.S. 39-13-103(b)(xii) and that is:

(A) Used for wildlife management purposes, in accordance with W.S. 39-13-103(b)(xii)(A)(I); or

(B) Furnished by the commission to employees as a place of residence, in accordance with W.S. 39-13-103(b)(xii)(A)(II).

39-13-103. Imposition.

(b) Basis of tax. The following shall apply:

(xii) The following shall apply to special tax imposed on property owned by the game and fish commission:

(A) There is imposed upon all real property owned by the Wyoming game and fish commission <u>and used for wildlife management purposes or employee residences</u> a special tax computed as provided in this paragraph which shall be in lieu of ad valorem property tax. The special tax shall be determined as follows:

(II) For property used for ~~any other purpose~~ <u>employee residences</u>, the tax shall be equal to the amount of the ad valorem tax for that property had it been levied and assessed based upon the taxable value of similar property valued at fair market value as provided by paragraph (b)(ii) of this section.

Section 2. Nothing in this act shall be deemed to affect any tax assessment or collection before January 1, 2027.

Section 3. This act is effective January 1, 2027.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 50

REAL ESTATE BROKERS-DUTIES AND DISCLOSURE AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 105

AN ACT relating to real estate brokers and salespersons; amending the definition of "customer" for purposes of real estate transactions and licensing provisions; amending the disclosures that are required when establishing a broker relationship; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 33-28-102(b)(xiii) and 33-28-306(a)(intro) and (vii) and (b)(i) are amended to read:

33-28-102. Definitions.

(b) As used in this act:

(xiii) "Customer" means <u>a person who has expressed an interest in buying, selling or leasing real estate or who attends a showing of real estate without any agency relationship or</u> a party to a real estate transaction who has established no intermediary or agency relationship with any licensee involved in the transaction;

33-28-306. Relationship disclosures.

(a) For purposes of this section, open house showings, preliminary conversations and requests for factual information do not constitute discussions or arrangements incidental to a sale, purchase, exchange or lease of real estate. Prior to engaging in any discussion or arrangement incidental to a sale, purchase, exchange or lease of real estate~~,~~ and, prior to entering into any written agreement with a buyer or seller, a licensee shall make a written disclosure of applicable agency, intermediary or customer relationships ~~which~~ <u>that</u> shall contain<u>,</u> at a minimum<u>, all of</u> the following:

(vii) A statement that a customer shall not<u>:</u>

<u>(A) Be required to sign any legal written agency agreement to view or tour real estate during house showings;</u>

<u>(B) B</u>e afforded any confidentiality in any communication to or with the licensee.

(b) The written disclosure shall contain a signature line for the buyer or seller to acknowledge receipt of the disclosure. The disclosure and acknowledgment, by itself, shall not constitute a contract or agreement with the licensee. Until the buyer or seller executes such acknowledgment, no representation agreement shall be executed or valid except, provided if a buyer or seller refuses to sign the disclosure after presentation by the licensee:

(i) The licensee may document the refusal with a signed acknowledgement by the licensee and continue with the transaction <u>or with providing services to a customer</u>; and

Section 2. Nothing in this act shall be construed to alter, amend or impair any contract or other agreement for the establishment of an agency, broker or other relationship between a real estate licensee or broker and a customer, buyer or seller entered into before the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 51

GAMBLING AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 44

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; amending exceptions to the offense of gambling; amending and creating definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-7-101(a)(iii)(intro), (E), (H) and (ix) and by creating a new paragraph (xiv) is amended to read:

6-7-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iii) "Gambling" means risking any property for gain contingent in whole or in part upon lot~~,~~ or chance~~,~~ ~~the operation of a~~ in any game played with cards, dice, balls or on any gambling device or contingent on the happening or outcome of an event, including a sporting event, over which the person taking a risk has no control, but does not include any of the following:

(E) Any game, wager or transaction: ~~which is~~

(I) Incidental to a bona fide social relationship; ~~, is~~

(II) Participated in by natural persons only; ~~, and~~

(III) Conducted in a private manner, at a private place or at a business or fraternal organization for which the primary source of revenue of the business or fraternal organization is not derived from any activity involving risking property for gain;

(IV) Not advertised or otherwise open to public participation; and

(V) In which no person ~~is participating, directly or indirectly, in professional gambling;~~ receives any remuneration from facilitating, participating in, hosting or organizing the game, wager or transaction other than the direct realization of winnings.

(H) Raffles or drawings conducted for charitable purposes in which one hundred percent (100%) of the net proceeds remaining after payment of all costs, supplies and winnings are used for charitable purposes;

(ix) "Profit" means ~~benefit other than a gain, which is realized or unrealized and direct, including benefits from unequal advantage in a series of transactions but does not include benefits of proprietorship or management of a business wherein a game, wager or transaction described in W.S. 6-7-101(a)(iii)(E) occurs~~ any financial gain;

(xiv) "Bona fide social relationship" means a genuine social relationship between two (2) or more persons wherein each person has an established knowledge of the other. "Bona fide social relationship" shall not include a social relationship which has arisen for the purpose of gambling.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 52

SKILL BASED AMUSEMENT GAMES-LICENSED LIQUOR ESTABLISHMENTS

Original Senate File No. 46

AN ACT relating to gaming; limiting the licensed liquor establishments where skill based amusement games may be located; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-25-102(a)(xvi) and 11-25-303(d) and (e) are amended to read:

11-25-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xvi) "Establishment" means a single physical place of business that operates as a truck stop, smoke shop or that is licensed or permitted to sell alcoholic liquor or malt beverages for consumption on the licensed or permitted premises under W.S. 12-2-203(g), 12-4-201, 12-4-301, 12-4-401, 12-4-407, 12-4-413, 12-4-414 or 12-4-415;

11-25-303. Restrictions on operation of skill based amusement games.

(d) Skill based amusement games shall only be located for play at an establishment, except as provided in this subsection and subsection (e) of this section. For establishments that are licensed or permitted to sell alcoholic liquor or malt beverages, skill based amusement games shall only be located in the physical area in which alcoholic liquor or malt beverages are offered for sale. An operator shall not locate a skill based amusement game in an area of the establishment into which a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years may enter. An operator shall conspicuously mark each area of the establishment containing a skill based amusement game as an age restricted area. The operator shall not allow a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years to play a skill based amusement game.

(e) The following shall apply to establishments lawfully operating under prior law:

(i) Any operator who, before September 14, 2022 had a skill based amusement game located at a place of business that does not meet the definition of "establishment" in W.S. 11-25-102(a)(xvi) on April 1, 2023 shall be authorized to continue operating skill based amusement games if the operator otherwise meets the requirements to operate a skill based amusement game;~~.~~

(ii) Any operator who, before April 1, 2026, had a skill based amusement game located at a place of business that does not meet the definition of "establishment" in W.S. 11-25-102(a)(xvi) on April 1, 2026 shall be authorized to continue operating the skill based amusement game subject to the conditions of the existing permit until the term of the permit expires. Except as provided in paragraph (i) of this subsection, on and after April 1, 2026, a place of business that does not meet the definition of "establishment" under W.S. 11-25-102(a)(xvi) shall not be eligible for permit renewal.

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

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 53

LITERACY POSITION FOR K-3 READING PROGRAM

Original Senate File No. 14

AN ACT relating to authorization of a full-time literacy position for the department of education; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. There is appropriated two hundred forty thousand dollars ($240,000.00) from the public school foundation program account to the department of education to employ one (1) full-time employee position to assist school districts in implementing a reading assessment and intervention program and language and literacy programs as required by Wyoming statutes for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. Of this appropriation, not more than one hundred twenty thousand dollars ($120,000.00) shall be expended each fiscal year. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that the department of education include this appropriation and the full-time position authorized by this subsection in its standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 54

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND PLATE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Original Senate File No. 107

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; creating a motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system; requiring the department of transportation to implement and administer the system; requiring county treasurers to use the system; providing definitions; specifying that development of the system is part of the replacement of the revenue information system; requiring rulemaking; making conforming amendments; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-2-236 is created to read:

31-2-236. Motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system.

(a) As used in this section, "motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system" means a statewide electronic motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system implemented and administered by the department that supports all functions necessary to register motor vehicles and issue license plates under this title.

(b) The department shall implement and administer a motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system not later than July 1, 2028. The motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system shall, at a minimum:

(i) Record and process all motor vehicle registration transactions, including initial registrations, renewals, transfers, corrections, replacements and any other transactions as authorized by the department;

(ii) Facilitate the issuance, replacement and renewal of license plates, validation stickers, decals, temporary permits and any other related items as determined by the department;

(iii) Calculate, accept payment for and document motor vehicle registration fees under W.S. 31-3-101 and 31-3-102;

(iv) Calculate, accept payment for and document specialty license plate fees and donations related to specialty license plates;

(v) Calculate, accept payment for and document sales and use taxes pursuant to W.S. 39-15-107(b) or 39-16-107(b);

(vi) Possess the capacity to exchange information and operate in a manner that is compatible with the county treasurers' systems to enable the reconciliation, balancing and distribution of all fees and taxes collected through the system in accordance with the law.

(c) The department may contract with one (1) or more vendors to develop, implement and provide ongoing administration of the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system required under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The department may charge a transaction fee of not more than five dollars ($5.00) for each transaction processed through the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system to recover the department's costs associated with the maintenance and ongoing administration of the system. No transaction fee shall be charged under this subsection to the counties. Before establishing a transaction fee or changing an existing transaction fee under this subsection, the department shall provide written notice to each county treasurer of the amount of the transaction fee and the date the transaction fee will take effect. No transaction fee charged under this subsection shall be reduced or deducted from any fees, taxes or distributions owed to other persons under the law.

(e) Upon activation of the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system, all county treasurers shall use the system to carry out the county treasurers' duties under this title related to motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance.

Section 2. W.S. 31-1-202(c) and (d) as amended by 2025 Wyoming Session Laws Chapter 35, Section 2 and effective July 1, 2027, is amended to read:

31-1-202. Records.

(c) Within three (3) business days after issuance of a vehicle registration or certificate of title, county treasurers and county clerks shall forward a record thereof to the department. County clerks shall forward a record of certificate of title electronically through the electronic lien and title system established under W.S. 31-2-113. County treasurers shall forward records of vehicle registration electronically through the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system established under W.S. 31-2-236. County treasurers shall notify the department and sheriff of his county of loss or mutilation of license plates.

(d) The department shall maintain records of vehicle registrations in the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system established under W.S. 31-2-236 from all counties indexed by distinctive vehicle numbers assigned by the department, the name of the registered owner and vehicle identification numbers. The department shall maintain a record of all vehicle certificates of title from all counties in the electronic lien and title system established under W.S. 31-2-113. Records are public and open to inspection by the public during reasonable office hours. The department shall maintain a vehicle identification number index of all vehicles for which certificates of title have been issued. Upon receipt of a notice of issuance of a certificate of title from any county clerk the department may destroy all records relating to former transfers of title to the vehicle and shall retain only the notice of issuance of the certificate of title in effect at any time. The department may annually compile and publish a list of all registered vehicles and supplements thereto which shall be furnished to Wyoming peace officers and the Wyoming office of homeland security without charge.

Section 3. The development and implementation of the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system as required under section 1 of this act shall be considered part of the replacement of the revenue information system and shall be eligible for funding under W.S. 31-1-204.

Section 4.

(a) The department of transportation shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

(b) The department of transportation may contract with one (1) or more vendors to develop and implement the motor vehicle registration and license plate issuance system as authorized and required under section 1 of this act.

Section 5.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2028.

(b) Sections 3 through 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 55

WYOMING STABLE TOKEN-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 21

AN ACT relating to trade and commerce; authorizing gifts, donations and bequests to be deposited into the Wyoming stable token trust account; amending the Wyoming stable token commission's authorized investments; amending the trust account's reserve requirement; amending the distribution of funds within the Wyoming stable token administration account; creating a Wyoming stable token liquidity account; authorizing the Wyoming stable token commission to enter into agreements as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 40-31-103(a) and 40-31-106(a), (b), (c)(i), by creating a new paragraph (ii), by amending and renumbering (ii) and (iii) as (iii) and (iv) and by creating new subsections (d) and (e) are amended to read:

40-31-103. Wyoming stable token commission.

(a) There is created the Wyoming stable token commission, which is a body politic and corporate operating as an instrumentality of the state of Wyoming, with authority to adopt an official seal and to sue and be sued. <u>The commission may enter into agreements with other states for the purposes of consulting, coordinating and facilitating the use of Wyoming stable tokens issued by the commission under this act.</u>

40-31-106. Wyoming stable token accounts.

(a) The Wyoming stable token trust account is created. The commission shall deposit all funds received for the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens into the account. Funds within the account received from the sale of Wyoming stable tokens shall be held in trust to support the redemption of Wyoming stable tokens, and shall not be expended for any other purpose but shall be expended to redeem Wyoming stable tokens. The commission shall invest funds within the account exclusively in cash, United States treasury securities with a maturity of three hundred sixty-five (365) days or less, ~~or~~ United States treasury security repurchase agreements with a term of thirty (30) days or less <u>or in compliance with 17 C.F.R. part 270.2a-7</u>. By creation of this trust, the state does not create any fiduciary duty to token holders. Investment earnings generated by the funds in the account may be deposited in the Wyoming stable token administration account as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens shall be maintained in the Wyoming stable token trust account. All earnings paid on funds and investments in the account shall be deposited in the account. Investment earnings on funds in the account in excess of ~~one hundred two percent (102%)~~ <u>one hundred percent (100%)</u> of the notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens shall be transferred to the Wyoming stable token administration account.

(c) The Wyoming stable token administration account is created. Funds received into the account from any source shall be retained, expended or transferred and are continuously appropriated ~~according to~~ <u>for</u> the following<u>:</u> ~~priority:~~

(i) To pay for the operational costs of this act <u>until all operational costs of this act are fully paid</u>;

<u>(ii) After payment of operational costs, to be transferred to the Wyoming stable token liquidity account created in subsection (d) of this section in amounts necessary to maintain in the liquidity account an amount equal to two percent (2%) of the notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens;</u>

~~(ii)~~<u>(iii)</u> ~~Retention of~~ <u>From any funds remaining after the expenditures and transfers required by paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection, funds in the administration account shall be retained in the administration account for</u> savings in an amount consistent with rules set by the commission to provide for future expenditures under paragraph (i) of this subsection;

~~(iii)~~<u>(iv)</u> ~~Any remainder~~ <u>Amounts remaining in the administration account after the application of paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this subsection</u> shall be distributed on a quarterly basis~~,~~ into the public school foundation program account created by W.S. 21-13-306(a).

(d) The Wyoming stable token liquidity account is created. The commission shall maintain in the liquidity account an amount equal to two percent (2%) of the notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens as a reserve amount. Funds in the liquidity account are continuously appropriated to the commission for the purpose of maintaining a reserve amount as required by this subsection and for transferring funds to the Wyoming stable token trust account to mitigate losses incurred in the liquidation of assets held in the trust account and to support the redemption of Wyoming stable tokens as provided by this act. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the commission from transferring funds from the liquidity account to the Wyoming stable token trust account for redemption support. For purposes of this act, funds in the Wyoming stable token liquidity account shall not be treated as part of the Wyoming stable token trust account.

(e) The commission may, subject to rules promulgated by the commission, accept federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations from any source for deposit into any account created in this section, provided that funds deposited into an account under this section shall be subject to the requirements of that account.

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

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 56

SCHOOL DISTRICT-CELL PHONE AND SMART WATCH POLICIES

Original Senate File No. 35

AN ACT relating to education; requiring school districts to adopt policies governing students' possession and use of cell phones and smart devices in schools; requiring the adopted policies to be submitted to the state superintendent of public instruction; providing definitions; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-110(a) by creating a new paragraph (xlv) is amended to read:

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xlv) Adopt policies governing student possession and use of cellular telephones and smart devices in schools. Each district shall submit a copy of the policy adopted under this paragraph to the state superintendent as soon as practicable after the initial adoption of the policy and any time thereafter that the policy is substantially revised. A smart device shall not include a wearable device that can only tell time, monitor a person's health information or track a person's location.

Section 2. Not later than July 1, 2026, each school district board of trustees shall establish policies required by W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xlv) as created by section 1 of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 57

WYOMING INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT SUNSET REPEAL

Original Senate File No. 58

AN ACT relating to Indian child welfare; repealing the Wyoming Indian Child Welfare Act sunset date; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 14-6-715(b) is repealed.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 58

WYOMING ENERGY TRANSMISSION STUDY

Original Senate File No. 102

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming energy authority; requiring the completion of a transmission study; specifying requirements of the study; requiring reports; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The Wyoming energy authority shall complete a transmission planning study in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The study shall be completed in two (2) phases, in accordance with this subsection;

(ii) Phase one (1) of the study shall, at a minimum, be an analysis of the impacts of three (3) potential load growth scenarios on Wyoming's current transmission system and shall include all of the following:

(A) A model of Wyoming's transmission needs with an assessment of the three (3) potential load growth scenarios identified in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph to identify potential deliverability and congestion constraints;

(B) Consideration of advanced transmission technologies and electricity storage to meet the need for expanded transmission capacity in Wyoming from 2026 to 2046 under each of the three (3) potential load growth scenarios identified in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph;

(C) The consideration of three (3) load growth scenarios in completing this phase of the study, which are:

(I) Low growth;

(II) Moderate growth;

(III) High demand.

(D) A gap analysis identifying transmission needs to meet various load growth scenarios, including those identified in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(iii) Phase two (2) of the study shall, at a minimum, develop a qualitative summary and narrative of Wyoming's public utilities' participation, if any, in regional transmission organizations, independent system operators and real-time and extended day ahead markets.

(b) The Wyoming energy authority shall report to the joint corporations, election and political subdivisions interim committee and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee:

(i) Not later than November 1, 2027 on the results of phase one (1) of the study;

(ii) Not later than September 1, 2028 on the results of phase two (2) of the study.

(c) The Wyoming energy authority shall establish an advisory working group to provide input on the methodology, assumptions and findings of the study required under this section. The advisory working group shall, at a minimum, include representatives of:

(i) Rural electric cooperatives serving Wyoming;

(ii) Investor-owned electric utilities serving Wyoming;

(iii) Municipal electric utilities serving Wyoming;

(iv) The Wyoming public service commission;

(v) The office of consumer advocate.

(d) The advisory working group established under subsection (c) of this section shall be consulted throughout both phases of the study, including during the development of study methodology and scenario assumptions, review of preliminary findings and formulation of recommendations.

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

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 59

SEX OFFENDERS-RESIDENCE NEAR CHILD CARE FACILITIES

Original Senate File No. 88

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; prohibiting sex offenders from residing near child care facilities as specified; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-2-320(a) by creating a new paragraph (v) and (e) by creating a new paragraph (iii), 7-19-302 by creating a new subsection (w) and 7-19-303(c)(ii) are amended to read:

6-2-320. Prohibited access to school facilities and child care facilities by adult sex offenders; exceptions; penalties; definitions.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to W.S. 7-19-302 shall:

(v) Reside within one thousand (1,000) feet of the property where a child care facility is located, measured from the nearest point on the exterior wall of the registered offender's dwelling unit to the child care facility's property line, except that this paragraph shall not apply if the registered offender's residence was established before July 1, 2026 or before the date when the child care facility was established at the location.

(e) As used in this section:

(iii) "Child care facility" means one (1) or more of the following:

(A) A facility licensed as a child care provider by the department of family services;

(B) A facility that is administered, owned or supervised by a governmental entity, including the state, local governments and school districts, and that provides care for children in exchange for consideration at the request of the parents, legal guardians or an agency responsible for the children. A facility under this subparagraph shall not include an elementary, middle or high school.

7-19-302. Registration of offenders; procedure; verification; fees.

(w) Upon receiving information from an offender under this section, the division shall verify the residential address of the offender to determine whether the offender lives near a child care facility as defined by W.S. 6-2-320(e)(iii) and whether any of the exceptions in W.S. 6-2-320(a)(v) apply. Upon request by an offender, the sheriff or the division shall determine whether an address provided by the offender is within one thousand (1,000) feet of a child care facility as defined by W.S. 6-2-320(e)(iii).

7-19-303. Offenders central registry; dissemination of information.

(c) The division shall provide notification of registration under this act, including all registration information, to the district attorney of the county where the registered offender is residing at the time of registration or to which the offender moves. In addition, the following shall apply:

(ii) If the offender was convicted of an offense specified in W.S. 7-19-302(h) or (j), notification shall be provided by mail, personally or by any other means reasonably calculated to ensure delivery of the notice to residential neighbors within at least seven hundred fifty (750) feet of the offender's residence, organizations in the community, including schools, religious and youth organizations by the sheriff or his designee. The division shall provide notice to each child care facility as defined by W.S. 6-2-320(e)(iii) within at least one thousand (1,000) feet of the offender's residence. In addition, notification regarding an offender employed by or attending school at any educational institution shall be provided upon request by the educational institution to a member of the institution's campus community as defined by subsection (h) of this section;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 60

VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSKS

Original House Bill No. 75

AN ACT relating to trade and commerce; providing for the operation of virtual currency kiosks as specified; providing definitions; providing penalties; specifying applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 40-32-101 through 40-32-103 are created to read:

CHAPTER 32
VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSKS

40-32-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Commissioner" means the state banking commissioner;

(ii) "Financial institution" means as defined in W.S. 13-1-101(a)(ix);

(iii) "Virtual currency" means as defined in W.S. 34-29-101(a)(iv);

(iv) "Virtual currency kiosk" means a publicly accessible electronic terminal acting as a mechanical agent of a person to enable members of the public to facilitate the exchange of virtual currency for money, bank credit or other virtual currency, including by:

(A) Connecting directly to a separate virtual currency exchange that performs the actual virtual currency transmission; or

(B) Drawing upon the virtual currency in the possession of the electronic terminal's operator.

40-32-102. Virtual currency kiosks authorized; regulation; penalty.

(a) No person shall own, operate or manage a virtual currency kiosk in this state unless the person:

(i) Has been issued a license under the Wyoming Money Transmitters Act, W.S. 40-22-101 through 40-22-129; or

(ii) Is a financial institution and has been granted a charter under title 13 of the Wyoming statutes.

(b) Any person who knowingly violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years, a fine of not less than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(c) The commissioner shall adopt rules regulating the operation of virtual currency kiosks by persons authorized under this section.

40-32-103. Confidentiality of records; exception.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, all information or reports obtained by the commissioner relating to the operation of a virtual currency kiosk from a person who has been issued a license under the Wyoming Money Transmitters Act, W.S. 40-22-101 through 40-22-129, a financial institution that has been granted a charter under title 13 of the Wyoming statutes or a person acting on behalf thereof, shall be confidential.

(b) The commissioner may disclose confidential information to officials and examiners of other states, federal regulatory authorities, appropriate prosecuting attorneys or as required by court order.

Section 2. Any person owning, operating or managing a virtual currency kiosk in this state on the effective date of this act shall comply with this act beginning on the effective date of this act.

Section 3. The banking commissioner shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

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

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 61

WYOMING RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

Original House Bill No. 122

AN ACT relating to the federal rural health transformation program funds; establishing the Wyoming rural health transformation program; creating an advisory committee; creating a perpetuity fund; authorizing investments as specified; creating an expenditure account; continuously appropriating an annually required distribution; providing for governance, fiscal controls, accountability and reporting requirements; authorizing expenditures, initiatives, grants and awards; providing for deposits and appropriations; requiring rulemaking; directing studies; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-25-701 through 35-25-709 are created to read:

ARTICLE 7
WYOMING RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

35-25-701. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Rural Health Transformation Sustainability, Accountability and Fiscal Protection Act."

35-25-702. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Advisory committee" means the Wyoming rural health transformation advisory committee created in W.S. 35-25-703;

(ii) "Annual required distribution" means:

(A) Beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2036, the greater of:

(I) The total program income, as defined in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1, earned during the previous fiscal year that is required to be expended under federal statutes, federal regulations or the terms and conditions of the Wyoming rural health transformation plan; or

(II) Four percent (4%) of the cumulative total of funds deposited into the perpetuity fund since inception, as calculated on the first day of each fiscal year.

(B) Beginning July 1, 2036 and each fiscal year thereafter, four percent (4%) of the previous five (5) year average market value of the perpetuity fund, as calculated on the first day of each fiscal year.

(iii) "Department" means the department of health;

(iv) "Perpetuity fund" means the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund created in W.S. 35-25-704;

(v) "Purpose-dedicated share" means a discrete fractional interest of the annual required distribution allocated to a specific allowable perpetuity fund expenditure authorized in W.S. 35-25-706;

(vi) "Rural health transformation funds" means federal funds awarded to the state of Wyoming under the federal rural health transformation program established by section 71401 of the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act, P.L. 11921;

(vii) "Wyoming rural health transformation plan" means the rural health transformation program application submitted to and approved by the federal government pursuant to section 71401 of the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act, P.L. 119-21, and shall include any terms and conditions specified in any associated notice of award, cooperative agreement or similar federal instrument governing the receipt or use of funds, and any amendments thereto;

(viii) "Wyoming rural health transformation program" means the program established in W.S. 35-25-705.

35-25-703. Wyoming rural health transformation advisory committee; legislative liaisons.

(a) There is created the Wyoming rural health transformation advisory committee. The advisory committee shall be composed of nine (9) voting members, each of whom shall serve for a term of four (4) years. The governor shall make appointments and fill any vacancies for unexpired terms. Members are eligible for reappointment. The governor may remove any member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) The director of the department or the director's designee and the director of the state budget department or the director's designee shall serve as ex officio members of the advisory committee, having the right to speak but not to vote.

(c) One (1) senator appointed by the president of the senate and one (1) representative appointed by the speaker of the house shall serve as nonvoting legislative liaisons to the advisory committee.

(d) The advisory committee shall select one (1) of its voting members to serve as chairman.

(e) The advisory committee shall meet not less than two (2) times per year.

(f) Voting members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in the manner and amounts provided by law for state employees. Legislative liaisons shall be paid salary, per diem and mileage as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 when attending meetings of the advisory council.

(g) The advisory committee shall review the operations of the perpetuity fund and provide formal written recommendations to the department regarding the annual required distribution and allowable perpetuity fund expenditures. The department shall review any recommendations from the advisory committee and provide a written response.

(h) The advisory committee shall review and approve each grant, award or expenditure of rural health transformation funds in excess of five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00), excluding deposits into the perpetuity fund.

35-25-704. Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund; investment; distributions.

(a) There is created the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund. The perpetuity fund shall consist of monies designated to the fund by law and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations made to the fund.

(b) The state treasurer, or the treasurer's designee, who shall be registered under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940, as amended, if required to be registered by the terms of that act, as amended, shall invest the unobligated, unencumbered balance of the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund as authorized by law. Investments of the perpetuity fund shall be in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, if effective, and W.S. 9-4-715(a) and (c) through (e) and 9-4-716. All investment earnings shall be deposited to the perpetuity fund. In adopting investment policy statements for the perpetuity fund, the state loan and investment board, in consultation with the investment funds committee, shall seek to preserve the balance of the fund in a manner that strives for the highest possible risk-adjusted total net return consistent with an appropriate level of safety and liquidity to maintain a consistent annual required distribution.

(c) If this article is enacted by the legislature pursuant to the voting requirements of article 16, section 6(a)(ii)(B) of the Wyoming constitution, the state treasurer may invest the unobligated, unencumbered balance of the perpetuity fund in equities, including stocks of corporations.

(d) All monies deposited to the perpetuity fund, including investment earnings, shall be expended only for the allowable perpetuity fund expenditures authorized under the Wyoming rural health transformation program and in accordance with the terms and conditions under which the monies are received. Rural health transformation funds, and investment earnings thereon, expended in violation of the terms and conditions under which the monies are received shall be returned by the state to the federal source from which the monies originated.

(e) Each one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) of principal deposited to the perpetuity fund shall be allocated to one (1) purpose-dedicated share by the department, or fractional value thereof if a deposit is less than one million dollars ($1,000,000.00).

(f) The annual required distribution is continuously appropriated to the Wyoming rural health transformation expenditure account, which is hereby created. The state treasurer shall annually credit the annual required distribution to the expenditure account not later than September 30 of each year. Monies in the expenditure account shall only be expended by the department for allowable perpetuity fund expenditures under W.S. 35-25-706, the Wyoming rural health transformation plan and all other requirements and limitations specified in this article. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from an annual required distribution, after a reasonable period for expenditure for which the funds were continuously appropriated, as recommended by the advisory committee and determined by the department, shall revert to the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund.

(g) Subject to W.S. 35-25-706(a), the total amount of the annual required distribution expended on each allowable perpetuity fund expenditure shall reasonably reflect the total number of purpose-dedicated shares initially allocated to that expenditure, divided by the total number of all purpose-dedicated shares in the perpetuity fund.

35-25-705. Wyoming rural health transformation program.

There is established the Wyoming rural health transformation program within the department. The department shall administer the program. The program shall be implemented in accordance with the Wyoming rural health transformation plan and shall be limited to the allowable perpetuity fund expenditures authorized in W.S. 35-25-706 and the time-limited initiatives authorized in W.S. 35-25-707. The department shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this section and the program.

35-25-706. Wyoming rural health transformation program; allowable perpetuity fund expenditures.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, the department shall expend the annual required distribution solely for the allowable perpetuity fund expenditures authorized under this section. The allocation of purpose-dedicated shares and annually required distribution expenditures shall seek to achieve the percentage targets for support, grants and awards specified in this section. Upon a written recommendation of the advisory committee, the department may materially deviate from the percentage targets specified in this section to the extent necessary to meet documented need and demonstrated demand for the support, grants and awards specified in this section.

(b) Forty and seven-tenths percent (40.7%) of the annual required distribution shall be allocated for the critical access hospital basic incentive (CAHB) program. Under this program, the department shall provide incentive payments to hospitals that elect to participate and that meet service delivery requirements, subject to all of the following:

(i) A participating hospital shall operate a staffed twenty-four (24) hour emergency department with stroke and trauma imaging capability, provide or operate ground ambulance services within its service area, provide basic labor and delivery services if annual births exceed a threshold established by the department and participate in the statewide health information exchange;

(ii) Incentive payments under this subsection may include tiered payments, one (1) time grants, medical debt relief for Wyoming residents and ongoing payments to offset fixed costs.

(c) Twenty-six and nine-tenths percent (26.9%) of the annual required distribution shall be allocated for emergency medical service regionalization. After the submission of a statewide emergency medical services response time model to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee as provided in paragraph (i) of this subsection, the department shall provide incentive payments to emergency medical service providers that elect to participate and that meet regionalization requirements established by rule of the department, subject to the following:

(i) The department shall not require or implement emergency medical service regionalization under this subsection unless it first submits to the joint labor, health and human services interim committee a statewide emergency medical service response time model demonstrating no increase in emergency response times, staffing projections including volunteer impacts, inter-county governance and authority agreements and full cost estimates of regionalization, including long-term maintenance costs;

(ii) Eligibility for incentive payments under this subsection shall be limited to joint applications submitted by two (2) or more ground ambulance providers serving a contiguous rural or frontier region;

(iii) Joint applicants shall submit a regionalization plan to the department demonstrating maximization of revenue sources, integration with public safety answering points, use of interoperable equipment and technology, reduction of administrative overhead and commitment to community emergency medical services and tele-crisis stabilization services;

(iv) Incentive payments under this subsection shall include ongoing payments to offset fixed readiness costs and grants for ambulances, interoperability equipment and implementation of regional medical dispatch.

(d) Twenty-one and six-tenths percent (21.6%) of the annual required distribution shall be allocated for workforce education individual support. The department shall administer awards to individual persons for health care workforce education and training costs, including tuition, fees and stipends, subject to the following:

(i) Awards under this subsection shall be used to pay allowable education and training costs for eligible applicants pursuing credentials in one (1) or more of the following fields:

(A) Nursing, including certified nursing assistant, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse and advanced practice registered nurse programs;

(B) Emergency medical services, including emergency department technician, emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician and paramedic programs;

(C) Clinical behavioral health professions;

(D) Physician education, including undergraduate medical education.

(ii) As a condition of receiving an award under this subsection, an applicant shall agree to provide health care services in Wyoming for a minimum of five (5) years following completion of the approved program, under terms and conditions established by the department;

(iii) An applicant who fails to satisfy the service obligation required under paragraph (ii) of this subsection shall be required to repay to the department all or a prorated portion of the award, together with any applicable interest, as determined by rule of the department.

(e) Ten and eight-tenths percent (10.8%) of the annual required distribution shall be allocated for physician post-graduate medical education (GME) individual support. The department shall administer awards to individuals for physician medical education, including residency and fellowship training costs, subject to the following:

(i) In awarding funds under this subsection, the department shall prioritize awards to applicants in programs that will increase the supply of family medicine physicians and that provide training in obstetrics or other high-demand specialties, as determined by the department;

(ii) As a condition of receiving an award under this subsection, an applicant shall agree to provide health care services for a minimum of five (5) years in one (1) or more underserved counties within the state, under terms and conditions established by rule of the department.

35-25-707. Wyoming rural health transformation program; time-limited initiatives; sunset.

(a) Subject to the availability of rural health transformation funds and subsection (b) of this section, the department is authorized to expend funds for time-limited initiatives in amounts that seek to achieve the following percentage targets:

(i) Thirty-six and four-tenths percent (36.4%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for integrated primary care. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for competitive grants to expand the number and geographical reach of federally qualified health centers in the state through conversion of existing facilities and practices for the integration of primary care delivery models that coordinate primary medical care with behavioral health services, obstetric and gynecological care, dental services and preventive health services;

(ii) Fifteen and one-tenths percent (15.1%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for a technology adoption challenge program. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for competitive grants for health care technology procurement. Grants under this paragraph shall be awarded only to joint applications submitted by two (2) or more health care providers and shall be limited to projects that improve care delivery closer to patients' homes, enhance interoperability and coordination among providers and reduce administrative activity;

(iii) Nine and eight-tenths percent (9.8%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for exercise and diet programs. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for competitive grants to Wyoming-based entities to promote physical activity and healthy nutrition. Projects that demonstrate measurable increases in participation in exercise, outdoor recreation or evidence-based nutrition practices shall be prioritized for the grants under this paragraph;

(iv) Eight and two-tenths percent (8.2%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for a statewide tele-specialist platform. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for the procurement and operation of a centralized tele-specialty platform to deliver physician-level specialty consultations to health care providers statewide;

(v) Eight and two-tenths percent (8.2%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for workforce education startup costs. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for competitive grants to support health care workforce training programs operated by educational institutions within the state. Grants under this paragraph shall be awarded to recipients that commit to establishing and maintaining a specified number of training positions for nurses, emergency medical service personnel, physicians, clinical behavioral health providers and other health care professionals;

(vi) Eight and two-tenths percent (8.2%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for care coordination. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for competitive grants to hospitals, health care providers and rural health facilities to propose clinically integrated care coordination models for one (1) or more counties to improve the management of chronic disease among persons who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid and who are identified as high risk. Funding awarded under this paragraph may include capped start-up costs, a per-member, per-month care coordination payment for assigned persons and performance-based payments tied to demonstrated cost savings;

(vii) Four and nine-tenths percent (4.9%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for centralized billing capacity. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for centralized billing and revenue collection services for voluntarily participating emergency medical services agencies. This centralized billing capacity initiative may be expanded to other health care providers if the initiative demonstrates effectiveness and financial sustainability;

(viii) Two percent (2.0%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for a nonemergency transportation coordination platform. Expenditures under this paragraph shall be for the procurement and operation of a centralized nonemergency medical transportation coordination platform to improve access to health care appointments for seniors, persons with disabilities and other eligible populations. The platform shall facilitate the scheduling, coordination and billing of nonemergency transportation;

(ix) Two and six-tenths percent (2.6%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives for administration. Expenditures under this paragraph include any administrative costs necessary to implement the rural health transformation program, including expenses of the advisory committee;

(x) Four and six-tenths percent (4.6%) of amounts available for time-limited initiatives included in the Wyoming rural health transformation plan that are not specifically authorized in this subsection shall be redistributed for expenditure on the initiatives authorized under this subsection.

(b) Upon a written recommendation of the advisory committee, the department may materially deviate from the percentage targets specified in subsection (a) of this section to the extent necessary to meet documented need and demonstrated demand for the time-limited initiatives specified in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The authority to administer the time-limited initiatives and any funds for the initiatives under subsection (a) of this section shall terminate upon exhaustion of all rural health transformation funds appropriated or otherwise made available for the initiatives specified in subsection (a) of this section.

35-25-708. Prohibited uses; legislative notice; reporting.

(a) In addition to any other limitations imposed by state or federal law, no expenditure of rural health transformation funds shall be made for abortions or for specified sex-trait modification procedures, as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 156.400.

(b) Each grant, award or expenditure of rural health transformation funds in excess of five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) shall require written approval of the advisory committee and notice to the legislature not less than ten (10) days prior to authorization of the grant, award or expenditure. For authorized perpetuity fund expenditures, the notice shall identify the proposed recipient, amount, purpose and material terms of the grant, award or expenditure. For time-limited initiatives, legislative notice shall be satisfied by the department providing written notice to the joint appropriations committee in a manner similar to the process specified in W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and 9-2-1013(b).

(c) The state budget department, in consultation with the department, shall develop and maintain an electronic reporting portal to provide current information on expenditures and program activity of rural health transformation funds.

35-25-709. Recipient reporting; performance and accountability agreements; repayment.

(a) The department shall require each recipient of funds under the Wyoming rural health transformation program to submit reports sufficient to demonstrate compliance with applicable state and federal requirements. At a minimum, required reporting shall include detailed expenditure information, performance measures and documentation demonstrating the authorized use of funds.

(b) The department shall require each recipient hospital, clinic, emergency medical service provider or other health care-related organization receiving funds under the programs authorized in W.S. 35-25-706 to enter into a written performance and accountability agreement with the department. At a minimum, the agreement shall include requirements relating to:

(i) Operating margin targets;

(ii) Days cash on hand;

(iii) Liquidity ratio benchmarks;

(iv) The adoption of modernization and efficiency practices, including improved revenue cycle management systems;

(v) The development and implementation of a plan to reduce unprofitable, duplicative or nonessential service lines;

(vi) Participation in shared services, regional collaboration or other cost-containment arrangements where feasible; and

(vii) Submission of independent financial audits to the department for annual collection and transmittal to the joint appropriations committee.

(c) A recipient of funds under the Wyoming rural health transformation program that fails to comply with a requirement, condition or obligation imposed by statute, rule or performance and accountability agreement, or that fails to meet required performance targets, misuses funds, expends funds for purposes not authorized under state or federal law or fails or refuses to implement required operational reforms, shall repay to the department all or a prorated portion of the funds received, as determined by the department. The department may recover amounts owed under this subsection by any means authorized by law.

Section 2. The department of health shall adopt all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3. During the 2026 interim, the joint labor, health and social services interim committee shall study policy issues identified in the Wyoming rural health transformation plan, as defined in W.S. 35-25-702(a)(vii) created in this act, and may prepare any legislation it deems necessary for consideration by the legislature.

Section 4.

(a) Federal funds awarded to the state of Wyoming under the federal rural health transformation program established by section 71401 of the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act, P.L. 119-21, are appropriated to the department of health, subject to the following:

(i) In federal fiscal year 2026, eighty percent (80%) of funds awarded for that fiscal year shall be deposited into the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund, as defined in W.S. 35-25-702(a)(iv) created in this act. Thereafter, in each subsequent federal fiscal year, sixty-nine and five-tenths percent (69.5%) of funds awarded in that fiscal year shall be deposited into the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity fund;

(ii) In federal fiscal year 2026, twenty percent (20%) of funds awarded for that fiscal year are appropriated for the time-limited initiatives authorized in W.S. 35-25-707, as created in this act. Thereafter, in each subsequent federal fiscal year, thirty and five-tenths percent (30.5%) of the funds awarded in that fiscal year are appropriated for the time-limited initiatives.

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

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 62

WYOMING PREGNANCY CENTERS-AUTONOMY AND RIGHTS

Original House Bill No. 3

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing legislative findings; prohibiting the state and specified governmental entities from adopting any law, rule or policy that targets pregnancy centers for oversight or regulation based on the centers' stance against abortion; providing definitions; providing penalties; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The legislature finds that:

(i) Pregnancy centers have a considerable and growing life-affirming impact on the people and communities that they serve;

(ii) Pregnancy centers serve people in Wyoming and across the United States with integrity and compassion;

(iii) Pregnancy centers provide comprehensive care to people facing unexpected pregnancies, including resources to meet their physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs;

(iv) Pregnancy centers offer women free, confidential and compassionate services, including pregnancy tests, peer counseling, twenty-four (24) hour telephone hotlines, childbirth and parenting classes, referrals to community health care, adoption referrals and other support services;

(v) Many medical pregnancy centers offer ultrasounds and other medical services;

(vi) Pregnancy centers encourage women to make positive life choices by equipping them with complete and accurate information regarding their pregnancy options and the development of their unborn children;

(vii) Pregnancy centers provide important support and resources for women who choose childbirth over abortion;

(viii) Pregnancy centers have faced unprecedented attacks since the United States Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, which overturned Roe v. Wade and the federal constitutional right to abortion;

(ix) Since 2022, at least one-third (1/3) of the states have introduced legislation seeking to undermine pregnancy centers' freedom of speech and association, or legislation to interfere with their hiring and staffing decisions, while numerous municipalities have considered similar ordinances.

Section 2. W.S. 35-4-1101 through 35-4-1104 are created to read:

ARTICLE 11

PREGNANCY CENTERS – PROTECTION

35-4-1101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Pregnancy Center Autonomy and Rights of Expression (CARE) Act."

35-4-1102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Abortion" means the act of using or prescribing any instrument, medicine, drug or any other substance, device or means with the intent to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman and for the purpose of ensuring the death of the unborn child. "Abortion" shall not include any use, prescription or means specified in this paragraph if the use, prescription or means are done with the intent to:

(A) Save the life or preserve the health of the unborn child;

(B) Remove a dead unborn child caused by miscarriage or stillbirth;

(C) Remove an ectopic pregnancy; or

(D) Perform a procedure, based on reasonable medical judgment, that is necessary to save the life of or prevent serious physical injury to the pregnant woman.

(ii) "Abortion-inducing drug" means any medicine, drug or any other substance prescribed or dispensed with the intent of terminating the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman and for the purpose of ensuring the death of an unborn child. "Abortion-inducing drug" includes the off-label use of any substance intended to induce an abortion. "Abortion-inducing drug" does not include drugs that may be known to cause an abortion but are prescribed for other medical indications;

(iii) "Contraception" means the use of any natural or artificial means to prevent the fertilization of a human ovum;

(iv) "Ectopic pregnancy" means the state of carrying an unborn child outside of the uterine cavity;

(v) "Miscarriage" or "stillbirth" means a spontaneous loss of an unborn child;

(vi) "Pregnancy center" means a private nonprofit organization that promotes childbirth and alternatives to abortion and provides people with resources, counseling, classes, referrals and information related to pregnancy, childbearing, adoption and parenting. A medical pregnancy center may provide medical testing, counseling and pregnancy-related care;

(vii) "This act" means W.S. 35-4-1101 through 35-4-1104.

35-4-1103. Interference with pregnancy centers prohibited.

(a) The state and any of its political subdivisions, counties, cities, towns, special districts and agencies shall not, through the adoption or enactment of any law, ordinance, resolution, policy or similar measure:

(i) Require a pregnancy center to offer or perform abortions;

(ii) Require a pregnancy center to offer, provide or distribute abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(iii) Require a pregnancy center to refer any person for abortion, an abortion-inducing drug or contraception;

(iv) Require a pregnancy center to counsel in favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(v) Require a pregnancy center to post any advertisement, sign, flyer or other similar material that promotes or provides any information about obtaining an abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(vi) Prohibit a pregnancy center from providing information, care, counseling, classes or other services related to pregnancy, childbirth or parenting because the pregnancy center does not perform, refer or counsel in favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(vii) Prohibit a pregnancy center from providing prenatal and postnatal resources, including diapers, baby clothes, baby furniture, formula and similar items because the pregnancy center does not perform, refer or counsel in favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(viii) Prohibit a medical pregnancy center from providing medical testing, counseling and care related to pregnancy or childbirth because the pregnancy center does not perform, refer or counsel in favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

(ix) Prohibit a medical pregnancy center from counseling a woman on any pregnancy-related care or treatment, including care or treatment that may reverse the effects of abortion-inducing drugs;

(x) Interfere with the pregnancy center's staffing or hiring decisions by requiring the center to interview, hire or continue to employ any person who does not affirm the center's mission statement or agree to comply with the center's pro-life ethic and operating procedure.

35-4-1104. Legal remedies.

(a) A pregnancy center or any person aggrieved by a violation of this act may commence a civil action for injunctive, equitable or declaratory relief permitted by law. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit any other remedies that may be available under any other federal, state or municipal law.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 63

PORTABLE BENEFIT ACCOUNTS

Original Senate File No. 41

AN ACT relating to labor and employment; authorizing the creation and use of portable benefit accounts; specifying requirements and conditions for portable benefit accounts; providing definitions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 27-1-117 is created to read:

27-1-117. Portable benefit accounts.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Financial institution" means any bank, savings and loan association or credit union chartered under the laws of Wyoming, the laws of the United States or the laws of another territory or state of the United States that is insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or the national credit union administration. "Financial institution" shall include any special purpose depository institution as defined by W.S. 13-1-101(a)(xvi);

(ii) "Hiring party" means a person that hires or enters into a contract with an independent contractor;

(iii) "Independent contractor" means as defined by W.S. 27-14-102(a)(xxiii);

(iv) "Portable benefit account" means an account opened by an independent contractor that is:

(A) Administered by a portable benefit account provider; and

(B) Assigned to a beneficiary of one (1) or more benefit plans for the purpose of funding the purchase of one (1) or more benefit plans, including but not limited to plans that provide health benefits, income replacement insurance, vision and dental insurance, life insurance or retirement benefits.

(v) "Portable benefit account provider" means the administrator of a portable benefit account and shall include:

(A) A financial institution;

(B) An investment management firm;

(C) A technology provider or program manager that offers services through a financial institution or investment management firm;

(D) Any other person that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the state banking commissioner that the manner in which the person will administer the portable benefit account is consistent with the requirements of this section.

(b) Any person, including but not limited to an independent contractor, internet-based company and application-based company, may voluntarily contribute funds to a portable benefit account for or on behalf of an independent contractor.

(c) Any contribution to a portable benefit account made under this section shall not be used as a criterion or factor for determining a person's employment classification, including a classification or determination under W.S. 27-3-104 or 27-14-102(a)(xxiii).

(d) A contribution to a portable benefit account under this section may be made using the funds of the hiring party or as a percentage of funds withheld from compensation owed to an independent contractor if all of the following are met:

(i) The withholding of compensation, if applicable, is expressly agreed to by the independent contractor in writing;

(ii) The written agreement for withholding funds or contributing employer funds is clear, unambiguous and prominently displayed in a work contract or separate agreement;

(iii) The withholdings are made only after an independent contractor opts in to the withholdings;

(iv) The independent contractor is authorized to opt out of the agreement at any time;

(v) A hiring party is authorized to opt out of the agreement with at least sixty (60) days of notice to the independent contractor.

Section 2. The department of workforce services shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(b) Section 1 of this act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 64

STEM CELL FREEDOM ACT

Original Senate File No. 48

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; authorizing physicians to recommend and perform stem cell therapy on patients as specified; allowing health care insurers to cover stem cell therapy as specified; prohibiting the state board of medicine from taking action against a physician's license due to the use or promotion of stem cell therapy; prohibiting the state of Wyoming from denying patients access to stem cell therapy; providing that no cause of action is created against a person properly performing stem cell therapy; requiring compliance as specified; amending the powers of the Wyoming state board of medicine; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-4-1101 through 35-4-1106 are created to read:

ARTICLE 11
STEM CELL FREEDOM ACT

35-4-1101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Stem Cell Freedom Act."

35-4-1102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Current good manufacturing practices" means the quality, safety and manufacturing practice standards employed under this act that are consistent with applicable federal law;

(ii) "Institutional review board" means a group duly constituted and currently registered in accordance with applicable federal law that provides initial approval and continuing oversight of the stem cell therapies being offered under this act, including adverse event reporting and the approval of a form to be used for informed consent between a physician and patient or the patient's legal representative prior to the use of stem cell therapy;

(iii) "Investigational drug, biological product or device" means a drug, biological product or device that has successfully completed phase one (1) of a clinical trial but has not yet been approved for general use by the United States food and drug administration and remains under investigation in a clinical trial;

(iv) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine by the state board of medicine pursuant to title 33, chapter 26 of the Wyoming statutes. "Physician" shall not include a physician assistant as defined by W.S. 33-26-501(a)(iii);

(v) "Stem cell therapy" means treatment involving the use of autologous mesenchymal stem cells, including but not limited to the collection, processing, cultural expansion, manufacturing, storage and therapeutic use of stem cells. "Stem cell therapy" shall not include, whether directly or indirectly, the use of any biological material derived from an abortion;

(vi) "This act" means W.S. 35-4-1101 through 35-4-1106.

35-4-1103. Access to stem cell therapy; conditions; insurance coverage.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 35-7-118 and any other law to the contrary, a patient may receive, and a physician may perform, stem cell therapy that has not been approved by the United States food and drug administration if:

(i) The therapy is conducted in accordance with a current institutional review board approval or is an investigational drug, biological product or device;

(ii) The stem cells are manufactured and handled in accordance with current good manufacturing practice standards;

(iii) A physician-patient relationship exists between the physician administering the stem cell therapy and the person receiving the therapy;

(iv) The physician is registered with the Wyoming state board of medicine to provide stem cell therapy pursuant to this act;

(v) The patient or legally recognized representative of the patient has provided written informed consent acknowledging:

(A) The nature and character of the proposed stem cell therapy;

(B) That stem cell therapy is not approved by the United States food and drug administration;

(C) The potential benefits, risks and complications associated with stem cell therapy and the procedure to be performed; and

(D) The financial responsibility of the patient or legally recognized representative of the patient in paying for the stem cell therapy to be received.

(b) Stem cell therapy provided pursuant to this act shall be administered by a physician or under the direct supervision of a physician. Activities other than the actual administration of the stem cells to the patient shall be supervised by a physician.

(c) No person authorized under this act to perform stem cell therapy or manufacture stem cells shall be obligated by this act to provide stem cell therapy or stem cells but may do so according to the person's own discretion and judgment.

(d) A health carrier as defined by W.S. 26-13-303(a)(iii) may but shall not be required to provide coverage for costs associated with stem cell therapy.

(e) This act shall not prohibit the performing of any stem cell therapy or activity otherwise allowed by law. A person shall not perform, advertise or represent that the person is providing stem cell therapy under this act if the person does not comply with the provisions of this act.

35-4-1104. Action against physician license prohibited.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Wyoming state board of medicine shall not revoke, fail to renew, suspend or take any other action against a physician's license based solely on the physician's recommendations to a patient regarding access to or treatment with stem cell therapy or the performance of stem cell therapy, provided that the recommendations or procedures are consistent with medical standards of care and that the physician is registered with the Wyoming state board of medicine to provide stem cell therapy under this act.

35-4-1105. Access to stem cell therapy.

An official, employee or agent of this state or any political subdivision of this state shall not prohibit or attempt to prohibit a patient's access to stem cell therapy. Counseling, advice or a recommendation consistent with medical standards of care from a licensed health care provider shall not constitute a violation of this section.

35-4-1106. No cause of action created.

This act shall not create a private cause of action against any person involved in the care of any patient using stem cell therapy or the manufacturing of stem cells if the person is complying with the requirements of this act and medical standards of care.

Section 2. W.S. 33-26-202(b) by creating a new paragraph (xx) is amended to read:

33-26-202. Board; duties; general powers.

(b) The board is empowered and directed to:

<u>(xx) Operate and publish a public registry of qualified physicians registered to perform stem cell therapy pursuant to the Stem Cell Freedom Act.</u>

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 65

SCHOOL FACILITIES-USE FEES

Original Senate File No. 90

AN ACT relating to education; imposing requirements for rental fees charged by school districts for use of school district property as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-111(a)(ii) is amended to read:

21-3-111. Powers of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district within the state may:

(ii) Acquire, hold, convey, lease, rent, and manage property, real and personal, for the benefit of the school district in the name by which the district is designated, either alone or jointly with another public or private agency, institution, person, or corporation. This includes leasing of real property under

W.S. 21-15-112. Any rental fees charged by the district for use of school district property by youth clubs and activities not sponsored by the district shall:

(A) Not exceed the hourly rate of personnel, equipment, utility and supply costs actually incurred by the district for the specific use of the property during each rental period, limited to direct, incremental costs that would not otherwise have been incurred. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require the district to charge any fee and the district may permit use without charge;

(B) Upon request, be supported by an itemized statement identifying the district's personnel, equipment, supply and utility costs incurred for the specific use of the property. The itemized statement shall be provided not more than fifteen (15) days after a request is made pursuant to this subparagraph; and

(C) Not require a youth club or activity not sponsored by the school district to maintain formal legal status as a nonprofit organization or any other specific corporate status as a prerequisite for the use of school property under this paragraph.

Section 2. This act shall not be construed to impair any contract or agreement entered into before July 1, 2026.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 66

K-12 LANGUAGE AND LITERACY PROGRAM

Original Senate File No. 59

AN ACT relating to language and literacy competency; providing definitions; specifying screeners, assessments, diagnostics and screening requirements; requiring professional development; establishing school district duties; requiring parental notice; requiring individual reading plans for students with reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes; requiring reports; establishing additional duties for the department of education; authorizing the state superintendent of public instruction to create a language and literacy division; requiring rulemaking; repealing provisions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-402 through 21-3-405 are created to read:

ARTICLE 4
LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

21-3-402. Wyoming language and literacy program; purpose.

(a) The Wyoming language and literacy program is created.

(b) The purpose of this act is to ensure that every student in kindergarten through grade twelve (12) develops strong language and literacy skills by establishing a comprehensive system of evidence based language and literacy instruction, assessment, intervention and professional development that supports educators, engages families and promotes literacy proficiency for all Wyoming students.

21-3-403. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Department" means the state department of education created pursuant to W.S. 21-2-104;

(ii) "Developmental language disorder" or "DLD" means a primary language disorder that is not attributable to a known biomedical condition and is characterized by persistent difficulties learning, understanding or using language that cause functional impairment in everyday activities. The disorder may affect speaking, listening, reading and writing, may co-occur with other neurodevelopmental conditions and typically persists from early childhood into adulthood;

(iii) "Diagnostic assessment" means a valid and reliable specialized assessment used to evaluate specific areas of language and literacy for students with reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes and provide data to inform individualized reading plans and evidence based language and literacy instruction and intervention;

(iv) "District language and literacy plan" or "DLLP" means a school district's written comprehensive strategy, including professional development, progress monitoring and family engagement and intervention, to identify students with reading difficulties and deliver evidence based language and literacy instruction through a multitiered system of support for students with reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes;

(v) "Dyslexia" means a specific learning disability neurobiological in origin, characterized by difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities, typically resulting from a deficit in the phonological component of language and often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that may impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge;

(vi) "Dyslexia screener" means a valid and reliable brief assessment used to identify students who may have characteristics associated with dyslexia and aligned with evidence based language and literacy instruction. A dyslexia screener does not diagnose dyslexia;

(vii) "Evidence based language and literacy instruction" means explicit, systematic, cumulative and diagnostic instruction grounded in the science of reading that develops accurate and fluent word recognition and language comprehension. Instruction includes, as appropriate to developmental level, phonological and phonemic awareness, sound–symbol association, decoding and encoding, syllable structure, morphology, syntax, semantics, vocabulary development, oral reading fluency, background knowledge and discourse-level comprehension, coordinated to support fluent word recognition, deep comprehension and effective written expression;

(viii) "Grade level reading proficiency" means as defined by the state superintendent and adopted in rule;

(ix) "High quality instructional materials and practices" means curriculum, instructional methods and teaching tools aligned with evidence based language and literacy instruction and supported by strong or moderate evidence of effectiveness;

(x) "Individualized reading plan" or "IRP" means a written plan developed for an individual student identified as having reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes that includes evidence based language and literacy instruction and intervention, measurable goals and progress monitoring;

(xi) "Literacy proficiency" means the ability to read, write, speak and understand language with accuracy, automaticity and effective expression in order to comprehend and communicate across content areas. Literacy proficiency includes reading fluency, which consists of rate, accuracy and expression, and integration of vocabulary knowledge, background knowledge and language comprehension that support proficient reading and written expression;

(xii) "Multitiered system of support" or "MTSS" means a tiered framework that provides universal, targeted and intensive levels of academic and behavioral support and evidence based language and literacy instruction, and uses screeners and diagnostic assessments, data-based decision making and progress monitoring to improve outcomes for all students;

(xiii) "Reading difficulties" means conditions or patterns of learning that interfere with the development of accurate and fluent word recognition, spelling or comprehension, including but not limited to dyslexia and developmental language disorder, as demonstrated by a student's performance on a screener or diagnostic assessment;

(xiv) "State superintendent" means the state superintendent of public instruction;

(xv) "Three-cueing system" means any model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax and visual cues;

(xvi) "Universal screener" means a valid and reliable brief assessment used to identify students with reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes that is aligned with evidence based language and literacy instruction.

21-3-404. School district language and literacy plans; administration of screeners and diagnostic assessments; multitiered system of support; individualized reading plans.

(a) Each school district shall adopt and implement a DLLP to ensure language and literacy competency and literacy proficiency for students in kindergarten through grade twelve (12). The DLLP shall, at a minimum:

(i) Use universal and dyslexia screeners and diagnostic assessments to assess and identify students with reading difficulties and students at risk for poor reading outcomes. After administration of a screener or diagnostic assessment, each school district shall provide the results of the student's performance on the screener or assessment administered pursuant to this paragraph to the student's parent or guardian. Screeners and diagnostic assessments shall be approved by the state superintendent pursuant to W.S. 21-3-405(a)(i) and shall be administered as follows:

(A) A dyslexia screener, once each fall, for all students in kindergarten through grade two (2);

(B) A universal screener, three (3) times each school year, for all students in kindergarten through grade three (3);

(C) A universal screener, once each school year, for all students in grades four (4) through twelve (12) who have not demonstrated grade level reading proficiency, for any student transferring into an elementary or secondary public school in the state and for any student identified as not proficient or at risk for poor reading outcomes through district procedures or recent assessments;

(D) Diagnostic assessments as appropriate for any student identified with a reading difficulty or at risk for poor reading outcomes.

(ii) Use high quality instructional materials and practices aligned with the science of reading to deliver evidence based language and literacy instruction;

(iii) Deploy an MTSS that ensures comprehensive and effective evidence based language and literacy instruction and intervention to improve the literacy proficiency of all students. The MTSS shall, at a minimum, include:

(A) Tier I, to provide explicit and systematic evidence based language and literacy instruction for all students in kindergarten through grade twelve (12);

(B) Tier II, to provide supplemental evidence based language and literacy instruction with targeted assistance and ongoing progress monitoring for students with reading difficulties;

(C) Tier III, to deliver intensive and individualized evidence based language and literacy instruction and intervention for students with significant and persistent reading difficulties.

(iv) Implement an IRP for each student identified as having reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes. An individualized education program (IEP) prepared for a student pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act shall be deemed an IRP for purposes of this paragraph. The IRP shall:

(A) Specify evidence based language and literacy instruction specific to the student's reading difficulties;

(B) Identify measurable language, literacy and reading goals and progress monitoring methods;

(C) Be integrated into the student's educational record;

(D) Be developed in collaboration with the student's parent or guardian and implemented within thirty (30) calendar days after identification of a student with reading difficulties or at risk for poor reading outcomes pursuant to paragraph (i) of this subsection. The school district shall notify the student's parent or guardian of the student's progress quarterly during the applicable school year.

(v) Prohibit the use of the three-cueing system as the only basis for teaching word recognition or decoding.

(b) Each school district with sixty percent (60%) or more students not demonstrating grade level reading proficiency, as defined by rule of the state superintendent, shall offer summer literacy camps or extended supports, including after school support and tutoring, for all students in grades one (1) through three (3) with an IRP. The instruction required pursuant to this subsection shall consist of appropriate, evidence based language and literacy instruction aligned with each student's IRP and shall include age and district appropriate hours additional instruction beyond that delivered during the regular course of the school year.

(c) Each school district shall ensure any person employed by the school district receives job embedded, practice based and ongoing literacy related professional development appropriate to their role and level of responsibility. The minimum professional development shall include opportunities for literacy coaching and leadership development to support effective implementation of evidence based language and literacy instruction. The hours and content requirements shall be as defined by rule of the state superintendent pursuant to W.S. 21-3-405(a)(ii).

(d) Not later than August 15 each year, for the prior school year, each school district shall report to the department:

(i) The percentage of students not achieving grade level reading proficiency;

(ii) The average growth, by grade, for the lowest performing ten percent (10%) of students in relation to grade level reading proficiency;

(iii) A list of the evidence based language and literacy instruction and high quality instructional materials and practices utilized by the school district;

(iv) The qualifications, as defined by rule of the state superintendent, of any person employed by the school district that delivers language and literacy instruction to students.

21-3-405. Additional duties of the state superintendent; rulemaking authority.

(a) The state superintendent shall, by rule:

(i) In consultation with school districts, identify universal and dyslexia screeners, diagnostic assessments, evidence based language and literacy instruction and high quality instructional materials and practices to be utilized by school districts. School districts may request the state superintendent approve use of alternatives not incorporated in rule in the manner and form required by the state superintendent;

(ii) Establish professional development requirements related to effective language and literacy instruction for all teachers and instructional staff, differentiated by their role, level of responsibility and grade level in supporting literacy proficiency;

(iii) Define terms necessary for the administration and implementation of this act, including but not limited to, "grade level reading proficiency", "qualifications", "significant and persistent reading difficulties", the "science of reading", "progress monitoring" and "at risk for poor reading outcomes";

(iv) Ensure school districts comply with the requirements of this act through monitoring and providing technical assistance to school districts. The rules shall identify policies and procedures for imposition of corrective action plans for school districts failing to adhere to the requirements of this act.

(b) The state superintendent shall post the information reported by school districts pursuant to W.S. 21-3-404(d) to the department's website.

(c) Nothing in this article shall be construed to limit or prohibit the expenditure of federal funds or other funds for the purposes of this article.

Section 2. W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxiii) is amended to read:

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xxiii) Implement and administer the ~~reading screening and intervention~~ <u>Wyoming language and literacy</u> program for students in kindergarten through grade ~~three (3)~~ <u>twelve (12)</u> as required by W.S. ~~21-3-401~~ <u>21-3-402 et seq.</u>;

Section 3.

(a) The state superintendent of public instruction may utilize resources as necessary to establish a literacy division within the department of education and contract for services to support the literacy division to administer the Wyoming language and literacy program as created by section 1 of this act. The literacy division shall:

(i) Maintain a list of approved universal and dyslexia screeners, diagnostic assessments, evidence based language and literacy instruction and high quality instructional materials and practices and review requests by school districts to utilize alternative screeners, assessments, instructional material or high quality instructional materials and practices;

(ii) Provide technical assistance to school districts;

(iii) Support research efforts;

(iv) Publish data and reports collected pursuant to W.S. 21-3-404(d);

(v) Monitor school districts' compliance with the Wyoming language and literacy program, as created by section 1 of this act and take corrective action as necessary.

Section 4. W.S. 21-3-401 is repealed.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 67

CONTRACTS FOR HOLDING AND TREATING MENTALLY ILL DETAINEES

Original Senate File No. 10

AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; authorizing the department of health to enter into contracts with detention centers for holding and treating mentally ill detainees before a competency evaluation or restoration; amending the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act; providing immunity for persons providing competency evaluations or restoration services as specified; amending definitions; providing an appropriation; making conforming amendments; requiring reports; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 7-11-308 is created to read:

7-11-308. Duties of the department of health as to designated facilities other than the state hospital.

The department of health may designate county detention facilities as qualified to provide security, examination or treatment to accused persons under this act and enter into contracts with those designated facilities for the security, examination or treatment of accused persons under this act. The department may enter into contracts with counties under this section.

Section 2. W.S. 1-39-103(a)(iv) by creating a new subparagraph (J), 1-39-109(a), 1-39-110(a) and 7-11-301(a)(ii) and (iv) are amended to read:

1-39-103. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(iv) "Public employee":

(J) Includes persons employed by or contracted with facilities as defined by W.S. 7-11-301(a)(ii) that provide security, examination or treatment of accused persons housed in county detention facilities under W.S. 7-11-308.

1-39-109. Liability; medical facilities.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section and except for services provided under W.S. 7-11-308, a governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from bodily injury, wrongful death or property damage caused by the negligence of public employees while acting within the scope of their duties in the operation of any public hospital or in providing public outpatient health care.

1-39-110. Liability; health care providers.

(a) Except for services provided under W.S. 7-11-308, a governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from bodily injury, wrongful death or property damage caused by the medical malpractice of health care providers who are employees of the governmental entity, including contract physicians, physician assistants, nurses, optometrists and dentists who are providing a service for state institutions or county jails, while acting within the scope of their duties.

7-11-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(ii) "Facility" means the Wyoming state hospital or other facility designated by the court ~~which~~ or the department of health that can adequately provide for the security, examination or treatment of the accused. A "facility" shall include a county jail that is subject to a written contractual agreement under W.S. 7-11-308;

(iv) "This act" means W.S. 7-11-301 through ~~7-11-307~~ 7-11-308.

Section 3. There is appropriated five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) from the general fund to the department of health for purposes of implementing this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. This general fund appropriation shall decrease by one dollar ($1.00) for every one dollar

($1.00) of funds appropriated in 2026 House Bill 0001 or 2026 Senate File 0001, as enacted into law, for this purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget of the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. The department of health shall report to the joint judiciary interim committee by October 1, 2027 on the designation of county detention facilities and the utilization and implementation of contracts with those facilities as authorized under W.S. 7-11-308, created by this act.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 68

KRATOM PRODUCT REGULATION

Original Senate File No. 56

AN ACT relating to food and drugs; regulating the sale, testing and use of kratom products as specified; authorizing the department of health and local law enforcement to enforce compliance with kratom product regulation as specified; providing definitions; providing criminal penalties; providing appropriations; authorizing full-time positions; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-7-2201 through 35-7-2203 are created to read:

ARTICLE 22
KRATOM PRODUCT REGULATION

35-7-2201. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Adulterated" means the addition of a controlled substance, a synthesized alkaloid or semi-synthesized alkaloid into a kratom product;

(ii) "Alkaloid fraction" means a portion of a plant or plant extract that contains primarily alkaloid compounds;

(iii) "Controlled substance" means as defined by W.S. 35-7-1002(a)(iv);

(iv) "Kratom leaf" means the leaf of the mitragyna speciosa plant in fresh, dehydrated or dried form;

(v) "Kratom leaf extract" means the material extracted from a kratom leaf through the application of a solvent consisting of water, ethanol, food-grade carbon dioxide or another solvent allowed by federal or state law to be used in the manufacturing of a food ingredient;

(vi) "Kratom product" means a food or dietary supplement that consists of or contains any part of the kratom leaf, kratom leaf extract or any kratom alkaloid, kratom constituent or kratom metabolite. “Kratom product” shall not include any synthesized alkaloid or semi-synthesized alkaloid;

(vii) “Retailer” means a business of any kind at a specific location that sells kratom products to a user or consumer;

(viii) “Semi-synthesized alkaloid” means an alkaloid or alkaloid derivative contained in kratom leaf extract that has been exposed to chemicals or processes that would confer a structural change in the alkaloids, including but not limited to oxidation, reduction and ring opening and closing, resulting in material that has been chemically altered;

(ix) “Synthesized alkaloid” means an alkaloid or alkaloid derivative of the kratom leaf that has been created by chemical synthesis or biosynthetic means, including fermentation, recombinant techniques, yeast-derived techniques and enzymatic techniques. “Synthesized alkaloid” shall not include an alkaloid or alkaloid derivative of the kratom leaf that has been created by traditional food preparation techniques, including but not limited to heating or extracting;

(x) “This act” means W.S. 35-7-2201 through 35-7-2203.

35-7-2202. Kratom product regulation; penalties.

(a) A person is guilty of a violation of this act if the person:

(i) Knowingly prepares, distributes, delivers, advertises, sells or offers for sale a kratom product:

(A) That is adulterated;

(B) To a person less than twenty-one (21) years of age;

(C) That contains a level of 7-hydromitragynine in the alkaloid fraction that is greater than two percent (2%) of the alkaloid composition of the kratom product;

(D) That is a confection, mimics a candy product or is manufactured, packaged, labeled or distributed in a way that is appealing to children, including in the distinct shape of a human, animal or fruit; or

(E) That is combustible or intended for vaporization.

(ii) Knowingly prepares, distributes, delivers, advertises, sells or offers for sale a kratom product that does not have a label that clearly and conspicuously states on each retail package:

(A) The name and address for the place of business of the manufacturer or distributor of the kratom product;

(B) The full list of ingredients of the kratom product;

(C) Disclosure and advice:

(I) Against use by persons who are less than twenty-one (21) years of age, pregnant or breastfeeding;

(II) To consult a health care provider prior to use;

(III) That the use of kratom products may be habit forming;

(IV) That kratom products may interact with certain medications, drugs and controlled substances.

(D) The following statements:

(I) "These statements have not been evaluated by the United States food and drug administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease."; and

(II) "Keep out of reach of children."

(E) Directions for use that include:

(I) A recommended amount of the kratom product per serving;

(II) The number of recommended servings per package;

(III) A recommended number of servings of the kratom product that can be safely consumed in a twenty-four (24) hour period; and

(IV) Quantitative declarations of the amounts of mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine per serving of the kratom product.

(iii) Displays or stores kratom products in a retail location in a manner that would permit the products to be accessed by persons less than twenty-one (21) years of age; or

(iv) Manufactures, packages, distributes or labels a kratom product or delivers a kratom product to a person less than twenty-one (21) years of age that:

(A) Contains synthesized alkaloids or semi-synthesized alkaloids; or

(B) Has a level of 7-hydroxymitragynine in the alkaloid fraction that is greater than two percent (2%) of the alkaloid composition of the product.

(b) A violation of this act is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00), or both.

(c) The state chemist shall, pursuant to W.S. 35-7-201 and when requested by law enforcement or the department of health, analyze kratom products to determine whether the requirements of paragraphs (a)(i) and (iv) of this section are being followed.

(d) Any retailer violating this act for a third or subsequent time within a two (2) year period may be subject to an injunction. The department of health or the district attorney of the county in which the offense occurred may petition the district court for an injunction to prohibit the sale of kratom products in the establishment where the violation occurred. If a court finds that the retailer in the action has violated the provisions of this act for a third or subsequent time within a two (2) year period and may continue to violate this act, it may grant an injunction prohibiting the retailer from selling kratom products in the establishment where the violation occurred for a period of not more than one hundred eighty (180) days. For the purposes of this subsection, multiple violations occurring before the petition for the injunction is filed shall be deemed part of the violation for which the injunction is sought. If the person against whom the injunction is sought operates multiple, geographically separate establishments, the injunction shall apply only to the establishment where the violation occurred. The injunction shall prohibit all sales of kratom products in the establishment where the violation occurred, regardless of any change in ownership or management of the establishment that is not a bona fide, arms length transaction while the injunction is in effect.

(e) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this act that, in the case of a sale, the retailer who sold the kratom product was presented with, and reasonably relied upon, an identification card which identified the person buying or receiving the kratom product as being over twenty-one (21) years of age.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this act, no fine for a violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be imposed for a first offense in any twenty-four (24) month period if a retailer can show it has:

(i) Adopted and enforced a written policy against selling kratom products to persons under the age of twenty-one (21) years;

(ii) Informed its employees of the applicable laws regarding the sale of kratom products to persons under the age of twenty-one (21) years;

(iii) Required employees to verify the age of kratom product customers by way of photographic identification or by means of electronic transaction scan device; and

(iv) Established and imposed disciplinary sanctions for noncompliance.

35-7-2203. Compliance inspections.

(a) The department of health, working with local law enforcement agencies and other local persons and organizations at the discretion of the department, shall be the lead agency to ensure compliance with this act.

(b) The department of health shall develop strategies to coordinate and support local law enforcement efforts to enforce all state statutes relating to the prohibition of the sale of kratom products to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age.

(c) The department of health shall have discretion to:

(i) Work with each local law enforcement agency within the state; and

(ii) Coordinate local enforcement efforts that appropriately reflect the needs of the community.

(d) To coordinate the enforcement of state statutes relating to the prohibition of the sale of kratom products to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age and to comply with applicable federal law, the department of health shall have authority to contract with or provide grants to local law enforcement agencies or other local persons or entities having the appropriate level of enforcement authority on the local level to conduct random, unannounced inspections at retail locations where kratom products are sold. The local law enforcement agencies or other local persons or entities authorized to conduct inspections shall be permitted to use minors and persons under twenty-one (21) years of age subject to the following:

(i) Prior to the inspection, the local law enforcement agency or other authorized person shall obtain the written consent of the person being used in the inspection or if using a minor, the written consent of the minor's parents or guardian shall be obtained prior to the minor participating in an inspection. The written consent required under this paragraph shall include a notification that testimony in a subsequent court proceeding may be required;

(ii) Any person under twenty-one (21) years of age participating in an inspection shall, if questioned, state his true age and that he is less than twenty-one (21) years of age;

(iii) The appearance of a person under twenty-one (21) years of age shall not be altered to make the person appear to be twenty-one (21) years of age or older;

(iv) Neither a minor nor the minor's parents or guardians shall be coerced into participating in such inspections;

(v) The person conducting the inspection shall photograph the participant immediately before the inspection and any photographs taken of the participant shall be retained by the person conducting the inspection.

(e) The person conducting an inspection under this section shall:

(i) Remain within sight or sound of the participant attempting to make the purchase;

(ii) After an inspection is complete, immediately inform in writing a representative or agent of the business establishment that an inspection has been performed and the results of the inspection;

(iii) Within two (2) days, prepare a report of the inspection containing:

(A) The name of the person who supervised the inspection;

(B) The age and date of birth of the participant who assisted in the inspection;

(C) The name and position of the person from whom the participant attempted to purchase kratom products;

(D) The name and address of the establishment inspected;

(E) The date and time of the inspection; and

(F) The results of the inspection, including whether the inspection resulted in the sale or distribution of, or offering for sale, kratom products to a person under twenty-one (21) years of age.

(iv) Immediately upon completion of the report required under this subsection, provide a copy of the report to a representative or agent of the business establishment that was inspected;

(v) Request a law enforcement officer to issue a citation for any illegal acts relating to providing kratom products to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age during the inspection.

Section 2. There is appropriated one hundred fifteen thousand dollars ($115,000.00) from opioid settlement funds distributed to the department of health or, if opioid settlement funds are not available for that purpose, then from the general fund to the department of health for the purpose of implementing this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3.

(a) The department of agriculture is authorized one (1) full-time employee for the purpose of testing kratom products as required by this act. There is appropriated one hundred ninety-seven thousand five hundred forty dollars ($197,540.00) from opioid settlement funds distributed to the department of health or, if opioid settlement funds are not available for that purpose, then from the general fund to the department of agriculture for the salary and benefits of the position created by this subsection. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation and this position be included in the department of agriculture's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated twenty-four thousand dollars ($24,000.00) from opioid settlement funds distributed to the department of health or, if opioid settlement funds are not available for that purpose, then from the general fund to the department of agriculture to purchase equipment necessary for the testing of kratom products as required by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of agriculture's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. The department of health and the department of agriculture shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 5.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 4 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 69

MEDICAID RATE INCREASE-EMS SERVICES

Original Senate File No. 4

AN ACT relating to medical assistance and services; providing for increased reimbursement for emergency medical services under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act as specified; providing appropriations; specifying applicability; requiring reports; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. For the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028, services authorized under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act involving emergency medical services provided by ground ambulance service providers shall be reimbursed at one hundred percent (100%) of the current Medicare rate, not to exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the provider's or department's usual and customary billed charges. The department of health shall develop enhanced Medicaid rural and super-rural fee schedules for emergency medical services provided by ground ambulance service providers. These reimbursement rates shall apply if the services were rendered during the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028.

Section 2. The department of health shall report to the joint appropriations committee and the joint labor, health and social services interim committee on or before October 31, 2027 regarding the additional costs incurred by the increased reimbursement rates required by this act. The report required by this section shall include any recommendations for modifications to the reimbursement rates for emergency medical services provided by ground ambulance providers under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act.

Section 3. There is appropriated one million three hundred thousand dollars ($1,300,000.00) from the general fund and one million three hundred thousand dollars ($1,300,000.00) from federal funds to the department of health for purposes of increasing the reimbursement rates for services as provided by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 70

STATE ENGINEER-SURFACE AND GROUND WATER STUDY

Original Senate File No. 50

AN ACT relating to water; requiring the state engineer to conduct a groundwater study in control areas as specified; requiring reports; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 41-3-939 is created to read:

41-3-939. Groundwater study to assess corrective controls within groundwater control areas.

Subject to available funding, not less than once every ten (10) years the state engineer shall conduct a groundwater study in each county that has a control area designated by the board of control under W.S. 41-3-912 and where the state engineer has ordered one (1) or more corrective controls under W.S. 41-3-915. The study under this section shall assess the effect of the ordered corrective controls, assess recharge of the aquifer compared to water consumption from that aquifer and assess the impact of future development on the aquifer. The study under this section may include mapping, modeling and the drilling of monitoring wells. The state engineer may conduct a study under this section in counties without a control area if deemed necessary by the state engineer. The results of each study conducted under this section shall be made public by the state engineer and shall be reported to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee not later than sixty (60) days after the study is completed.

Section 2. The initial study required under W.S. 41-3-939 as created by section 1 of this act shall be completed not later than June 30, 2030. There is appropriated five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) from the general fund to the state engineer's office for purposes of conducting the study required by W.S. 41-3-939 as created by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2031. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2031. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the state engineer's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 71

DRIVER'S AND MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES-THIRD PARTY PROVIDERS

Original Senate File No. 95

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; authorizing third party providers to provide driver's license and motor vehicle services as specified; creating the motor vehicle division partner program; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-1-205 is created to read:

31-1-205. Third party providers; motor vehicle division partner program.

(a) The department may enter into agreements with third party providers to administer written, driving and skills tests for driver's licenses and administer motor vehicle services.

(b) The department may establish a motor vehicle division partner program to allow third party providers to conduct specified driver's license and motor vehicle services.

(c) The department shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section, including but not limited to:

(i) Establishing criteria for the qualifications and certifications of third party providers;

(ii) If a motor vehicle division partner program is established, defining the scope of services that may be provided by third party providers under the program;

(iii) Establishing requirements for training, background checks and bonding of third party providers;

(iv) Ensuring compliance of third party providers with all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, including but not limited to the federal motor carrier safety administration's regulations for commercial driver's license testing and applicable provisions of the Wyoming administrative code;

(v) Establishing procedures for monitoring and auditing the activities of third party providers to ensure the integrity and security of driver's license and motor vehicle services;

(vi) Defining the terms and conditions of agreements between the department and third party providers;

(vii) Establishing fees and compensation structures for services provided by third party providers;

(viii) Establishing procedures for the suspension or revocation of third party provider services for noncompliance with department rules or agreement conditions.

(d) A third party provider acting under the authority granted by this section shall not be considered a governmental entity.

Section 2. W.S. 31-1-203(b) and 31-7-114(f)(intro) are amended to read:

31-1-203. Special enforcement officers; summons and notice to appear for violations; deposit for appearance; disposition of deposit.

(b) Employees designated under subsection (a) of this section may issue summons for violations of W.S. <u>31-1-205,</u> 31-4-101, 31-7-106, 31-7-133, 31-18-101 through 31-18-603, 31-18-701, 31-18-801 through 31-18-808 and 39-17-208.

31-7-114. Examinations; visual acuity.

(f) The department may authorize a person, including an agency of this or another state, an employer, <u>a third party provider pursuant to W.S. 31-1-205,</u> a private driver training facility or other private institution, or a department, agency or instrumentality of local government including fire departments to administer the skills test specified by subsection (a) of this section, provided:

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 72

LOCAL APPROVAL FOR SIMULCASTING

Original Senate File No. 45

AN ACT relating to pari-mutuel wagering; specifying requirements for simulcasting permits, including historic horse racing terminals; requiring approval by a city, town or county for the issuance of a simulcasting permit as specified; authorizing conditions and revocation of approval; authorizing appeals; amending enforcement requirements; conforming provisions; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-25-210 is created to read:

11-25-210. Simulcasting permits; rulemaking; local approval; permit conditions; revocation; judicial review.

(a) Simulcasting shall be conducted only by a person holding a simulcasting permit issued by the commission and approved by the local approving authority under this section.

(b) The commission shall promulgate rules for simulcasting that are reasonably necessary to protect the public interest.

(c) A simulcasting permit is a type of pari-mutuel event permit and, except as specifically provided for in this section, is subject to the same terms and conditions, and shall be issued and renewed by the commission in the same manner as pari-mutuel event permits issued under this act.

(d) A simulcasting permit issued or renewed by the commission off the permitted premises shall be subject to the following:

(i) If the simulcasting will be conducted within the corporate limits of any city or town the permit or renewal shall be subject to approval by the governing body of that city or town, subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection;

(ii) If the simulcasting will be conducted outside the corporate limits of any city or town the permit or renewal shall be subject to approval by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the simulcasting will be conducted, subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection;

(iii) If the simulcasting will be conducted within the corporate limits of any city or town, the permit or renewal application shall be subject to review and objection by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the simulcasting will be conducted. If the simulcasting will be conducted within one-half (1/2) mile of the corporate limits of any city that has exercised the authority granted under W.S. 15-3-202(b)(ii), the permit or renewal application shall be subject to review and objection by the governing body of that city or town. Any city, town or county that objects under this paragraph shall submit written findings stating the basis for the objection, including impacts on land use, public safety, taxation or other substantial interests. The objection shall be transmitted to the local approving authority within thirty (30) days of the objecting city, town or county receiving the permit or renewal application. An objection shall be deemed addressed once the local approving authority places it on a public agenda, considers the written findings and takes formal action to sustain, modify or overrule the objection. No permit or renewal shall be approved until all timely submitted objections have been addressed;

(iv) No simulcasting may be conducted within one hundred (100) miles of any live pari-mutuel event permitted under this act during the time the event is being held, except that the commission may waive the one hundred (100) mile limitation if the simulcasting permitholder obtains written approval from the live pari-mutuel event permitholder conducting the event;

(v) A simulcasting permit or renewal shall be issued by the commission only to an applicant authorized under this act to conduct a pari-mutuel event other than simulcasting;

(vi) Except as provided by paragraph (e)(ii) of this section, counties, towns and municipalities shall not charge a monetary fee to obtain a simulcasting permit or renewal that exceeds the actual costs of issuing the permit or renewal.

(e) An applicant for a simulcasting permit or renewal shall:

(i) File an application for approval with the local approving authority. Renewal applications shall be filed not later than ninety (90) days prior to expiration of the permit;

(ii) At the time of filing the application, pay an amount sufficient to reimburse the actual cost of publishing notice of the application;

(iii) Identify in the application the specific location in the city, town or county where simulcasting will be conducted and the number of historic horse racing terminals to be permitted at that location.

(f) After receipt of an approval or renewal application, the local approving authority shall promptly prepare and publish notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation in the state once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks and shall post the notice on its official website. The notice shall state that the named applicant has applied for approval or renewal of a simulcasting permit, that protests against the issuance or renewal of the permit, if any, will be heard at a designated meeting of the local approving authority, and shall include the date, time and meeting place of the designated meeting. For a renewal application, the local approving authority shall hold the designated meeting not later than thirty (30) days prior to expiration of the permit.

(g) A local approving authority, in considering the approval or renewal of simulcasting permits issued by the commission:

(i) Shall not approve or deny an application before the date set for the designated meeting in the published notice of the application;

(ii) Shall not consider, modify or impose conditions that are solely within the jurisdiction of the commission;

(iii) May impose reasonable conditions on approval or renewal, which shall be negotiated in good faith with the applicant, including the following:

(A) A schedule of operating hours for the permitted premises, provided the hours of operation shall not be more restrictive than the hours of operation for alcohol sales set pursuant to W.S. 12-5-101 for the holder of a retail liquor license under W.S. 12-4-201;

(B) Designation of areas within the permitted premises where historic horse racing terminals may be located, to the extent the designations are not inconsistent with rules of the commission.

(iv) May modify any condition imposed under paragraph (iii) of this subsection only upon a showing of good cause;

(v) Shall grant approval for the same term as is granted by the commission for the simulcasting permit, if the application is approved;

(vi) Shall issue written findings and conclusions if the application is denied;

(vii) Shall have the right to revoke approval or deny a renewal only for good cause, which shall be limited to any of the following:

(A) A breach of a reasonable condition imposed by the local approving authority or the commission, if the permitholder fails to take reasonable steps to cure the breach within ten (10) business days after receiving written notice of the breach from the local approving authority or the commission, or a date agreed upon by the permitholder and the local approving authority or commission;

(B) Notification from the commission that the permitholder has been found in violation of any Wyoming gaming law specified in this chapter, W.S. 6-7-101 through 6-7-104 or 9-24-101 through 9-24-106;

(C) Failure to demonstrate commencement of simulcasting at the permitted location within two (2) years after the permit is issued. Upon a showing of good cause by the permitholder, the local approving authority and commission may extend the period for commencement of simulcasting for one (1) additional year;

(D) The welfare of the people residing in the vicinity of the permitted premises is adversely and seriously affected by the permitted premises.

(h) A simulcasting permitholder may appeal a denial of renewal or revocation of approval by the local approving authority to the district court in the county where the permitted premises are located.

(j) An applicant for a new simulcasting permit may appeal a decision of the local approving authority to the district court in the county where the application is filed only if that authority has previously granted approval for a simulcasting permit within its jurisdiction. If the local approving authority has not previously granted an approval for a simulcasting permit, the applicant shall have no right of appeal from the decision of the local approving authority.

(k) Subject to the approval of the local approving authority, the transfer of an existing simulcasting permit involving a change of location within the same local approving authority's area of jurisdiction shall be treated as a renewal of a simulcasting permit. A transfer involving a change of location outside of the current local approving authority's area of jurisdiction shall be treated as a new application and shall be subject to all application, review and approval requirements applicable to a new simulcasting permit.

Section 2. W.S. 11-25-102(a)(vii)(intro) and by creating new paragraphs (xxiii) and (xxiv), 11-25-104(g)(intro) and 11-25-201(a) are amended to read:

11-25-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(vii) "Simulcasting" means the sale of pari-mutuel pools electronically transmitted live or historic on interstate or intrastate pari-mutuel events as prescribed by the commission;~~. The commission shall authorize simulcasting subject to the following conditions:~~

(xxiii) "Local approving authority" means the local authority with responsibility to approve, deny or revoke a site-specific application or renewal for a simulcasting permit issued by the commission;

(xxiv) "Local authority" means the governing body of a city, town or county in Wyoming.

11-25-104. Gaming commission; officers; director; meetings; quorum; records; licenses generally; effect of financial interest in events.

(g) The commission may delegate authority to enforce rules of the commission and this act to three (3) stewards at each live pari-mutuel event, at least one (1) of whom shall be an employee of and selected by the commission. ~~The commission shall require at least one (1) steward to supervise each simulcast location that is approved by the commission.~~ Stewards shall exercise such reasonable and necessary authority as is designated by rules of the commission including the following:

11-25-201. Pari-mutuel permits; fees and reports; disposition of funds; enforcement of provisions.

(a) The commission may issue pari-mutuel permits for a specified period not to exceed three (3) years from the date of issuance to any Wyoming county, city, incorporated town, county fair board or any corporation or association ~~which~~ that has been approved by the board of county commissioners, except as provided for simulcasting permits in W.S. 11-25-210, and that provides a bond acceptable to the commission. No permit shall be granted to any city, town, county, county fair board or any corporation or association except upon the express condition that it shall not, by any lease, contract, understanding or arrangement of whatever kind or nature, grant, assign or turn over to any person, corporation or association the operation or management of the pari-mutuel event permitted under this act or of the pari-mutuel system of wagering or in any manner permit any person, corporation or association to retain any of the money received for admission to the race meeting or from the operations of the pari-mutuel system. The commission shall revoke the permit of any permittee for any violation of the foregoing condition and such acts are a violation of this act. The permit is effective only for the times and at the places for which issued. In addition to all other fees and charges, there shall be charged before issuance of a permit a daily fee established by the commission to defray expenses of enforcing this act.

Section 3. W.S. 11-25-102(a)(vii)(A) through (D) is repealed.

Section 4.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 11-25-210, as created by this act, a person holding a simulcasting permit as of the effective date of this act shall be authorized to continue operations through December 31, 2027, subject to the conditions of the existing permit and approval.

(b) Subject to this subsection, on and after July 1, 2027, a person holding a simulcasting permit as of the effective date of this act shall be subject to the requirements of W.S. 11-25-210. A city, town or county may deny or withhold approval of a simulcasting facility permitted as of the effective date of this act, only upon a showing of good cause, as specified in W.S. 11-25-210(g)(vii).

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 73

OMNIBUS WATER BILL-CONSTRUCTION

Original Senate File No. 70

AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing construction of designated water projects; describing projects; specifying terms and conditions of funding for projects; providing grants; providing loans; providing appropriations; amending amounts and terms of appropriations for specified prior projects; transferring funds from water development account I to water development account II; transferring a project; requiring studies; requiring a report; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 99-3-3101 through 99-3-3104 are created to read:

ARTICLE 31

2026 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

99-3-3101. Definitions.

The definitions in W.S. 99-3-101 apply to this article.

99-3-3102. General authorization.

The provisions of W.S. 99-3-102 apply to this article.

99-3-3103. Level III construction projects – new development.

(a) Authorization is granted for the Level III new development construction projects identified in this section subject to the general conditions specified in W.S. 99-3-103, provided that W.S. 99-3-103(a)(iii) shall not apply to the projects identified in this section unless required by W.S. 41-2-121.

(b) Project – Alpine Well #4 Transmission Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Alpine;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of water transmission pipeline, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Four hundred twenty thousand dollars ($420,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two hundred ten thousand dollars ($210,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriations: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two hundred ten thousand dollars ($210,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(c) Project – Cloud Seeding: Wind River and Sierra Madre mountain ranges 2027 (ground-based):

(i) Project sponsor: The state of Wyoming;

(ii) Project purpose: To enhance the winter snowpack in the Wind River and Sierra Madre mountain ranges;

(iii) Project description: Conduct a ground-based operational winter snowpack augmentation program during the 2026-2027 season;

(iv) Total project budget: Eight hundred ninety-one thousand four hundred twenty-nine dollars ($891,429.00);

(v) Special conditions: Prior to commencing project operations, the Wyoming water development office shall acquire funding commitments from other Colorado River basin water users or other interested parties for a minimum of one hundred percent (100%) of actual project operations costs.

(d) Project – Gillette Red Hills Tank 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: City of Gillette;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Construction engineering and construction of a tank, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Five million one hundred nineteen thousand dollars ($5,119,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million five hundred fifty-nine thousand five hundred dollars ($2,559,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriations: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two million five hundred fifty-nine thousand five hundred dollars ($2,559,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(e) Project – LaGrange Well Connection 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of LaGrange;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a well connection, well treatment, pumping facilities, transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Seven hundred forty thousand dollars ($740,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed three hundred seventy thousand dollars ($370,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission three hundred seventy thousand dollars ($370,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(f) Project – Little Snake River Battle Lake Modification and Forest Management Demonstration Project 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Little Snake River Conservation District and Savery-Little Snake River Water Conservancy District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of forest management treatments, lake outlet, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million one hundred eighty-four thousand dollars ($2,184,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, land access, permit procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million ninety-two thousand dollars ($1,092,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one million ninety-two thousand dollars ($1,092,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(g) Project - Small Water Development Projects – New Development 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Eligible public entities;

(ii) Project purpose: Multi-purpose - agriculture, recreation and environmental;

(iii) Project description: Small dams, windmills, springs, guzzlers and other water collection, storage and drinking systems, pipelines, and similar small projects, to impound, develop and convey water for livestock, wildlife, irrigation, environmental and recreational purposes;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million dollars ($2,000,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to sponsors of small water development projects from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project a total amount not to exceed one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of the actual development costs of the small water development projects, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Definition: "Small water development project" means a project where the maximum financial contribution from the commission is thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) or less;

(viii) Special conditions:

(A) The commission may grant a sponsor fifty percent (50%) of the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction cost of a small water development project. No grant shall be more than thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00);

(B) The small water development project sponsors shall substantiate the public benefit that will be derived from proposed small water development projects;

(C) The commission may make monthly progress payments of not more than fifty percent (50%) of eligible monthly project expenses;

(D) An appropriate land management or resource management entity shall certify that the proposed small water development project will meet expectations and that appropriate engineering standards, as approved by the commission, will be adhered to;

(E) The establishment of criteria and administrative procedures for the development of small water development projects under this subsection and decisions of the commission relating to the recommendations, prioritization or disqualification of small water development projects are specifically exempt from the provisions of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act including judicial review under W.S. 16-3-114 and 16-3-115;

(F) W.S. 16-6-116 shall not apply to a small water development project unless the project sponsor determines the small water development project meets the definition of a "public work" as defined in W.S. 16-6-101(a)(ix).

99-3-3104. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(a) Authorization is granted for the Level III rehabilitation construction projects identified in this section subject to the general conditions specified in W.S. 99-3-104, provided that W.S. 99-3-104(a)(iii) shall not apply to the projects identified in this section unless required by W.S. 41-2-121.

(b) Project – Big Horn Canal ID Five Mile Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Big Horn Canal Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a pipeline, wasteway, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Four million five hundred forty-four thousand six hundred dollars ($4,544,600.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million two hundred seventy-two thousand three hundred dollars ($2,272,300.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million two hundred seventy-two thousand three hundred dollars ($2,272,300.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of twenty (20) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission four million five hundred forty-four thousand six hundred dollars ($4,544,600.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(viii) Special conditions: The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(c) Project – Cody Canal ID Lead Diversion Rehabilitation 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Cody Canal Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a diversion structure and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Four million four hundred forty-two thousand dollars ($4,442,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million two hundred twenty-one thousand dollars ($2,221,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million one hundred two thousand dollars ($2,102,000.00) or forty-seven and three-tenths percent (47.3%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of forty (40) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission four million three hundred twenty-three thousand dollars ($4,323,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(viii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring two and seven-tenths percent (2.7%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(d) Project – Cowley Transmission Pipeline Replacement 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Cowley;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of water transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Three hundred sixty-four thousand dollars ($364,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed one hundred eighty-two thousand dollars ($182,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred eighty-two thousand dollars ($182,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(e) Project – Deaver ID Rehabilitation Phase II 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Deaver Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two hundred seventeen thousand five hundred five dollars ($217,505.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission an amount not to exceed one hundred thirty-five thousand three hundred twenty-five dollars ($135,325.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the approved materials costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred thirty-five thousand three hundred twenty-five dollars ($135,325.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for all project costs with the exception of the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission, up to the amount appropriated in this subsection;

(B) The sponsor is responsible for retaining professional engineering services to design the project, compile materials and bidding documents and monitor construction activities including the installation of project components and the tracking of project expenditures;

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(f) Project – Elk Water Users ID Roan Wash Spill Rehabilitation 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Elk Water Users Irrigation District and Lovell Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a canal spill structure and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Six hundred forty-one thousand dollars ($641,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed three hundred twenty thousand five hundred dollars ($320,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed three hundred twenty thousand five hundred dollars ($320,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of thirty (30) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission six hundred forty-one thousand dollars ($641,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031.

(g) Project – Glenrock Transmission Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Glenrock;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of water transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Nine hundred thirty-four thousand dollars ($934,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed four hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars ($467,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission four hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars ($467,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(h) Project – GID 3.6 East Springer Pipeline Project 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Goshen Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two hundred twenty thousand eight hundred eighty dollars ($220,880.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission an amount not to exceed one hundred six thousand one hundred dollars ($106,100.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the approved materials costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred six thousand one hundred dollars ($106,100.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for all project costs with the exception of the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission, up to the amount appropriated in this subsection;

(B) The sponsor is responsible for retaining professional engineering services to design the project, compile materials and bidding documents and monitor construction activities including the installation of project components and the tracking of project expenditures;

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(j) Project – GID 29.4 Pipeline Project Phase III 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Goshen Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Three hundred eighty-four thousand eight hundred forty-five dollars ($384,845.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission an amount not to exceed one hundred seventy-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($177,500.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the approved materials costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred seventy-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($177,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for all project costs with the exception of the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission, up to the amount appropriated in this subsection;

(B) The sponsor is responsible for retaining professional engineering services to design the project, compile materials and bidding documents and monitor construction activities including the installation of project components and the tracking of project expenditures;

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(k) Project – Greybull Tank and Phase I Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Greybull;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of water transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances and design and construction of tank, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Three million one hundred sixty-four thousand dollars ($3,164,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million five hundred eighty-two thousand dollars ($1,582,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million five hundred eighty-two thousand dollars ($1,582,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(m) Project – Greybull Valley ID Upper Sunshine Outlet Works 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Greybull Valley Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of reservoir intake, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million six hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred dollars ($2,623,200.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million three hundred eleven thousand six hundred dollars ($1,311,600.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million three hundred eleven thousand six hundred dollars ($1,311,600.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of forty (40) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million six hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred dollars ($2,623,200.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(viii) Special conditions: The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(n) Project – Newcastle Transmission Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: City of Newcastle;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million three hundred two thousand six hundred dollars ($2,302,600.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million one hundred fifty-one thousand three hundred dollars ($1,151,300.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million one hundred fifty-one thousand three hundred dollars ($1,151,300.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) No funds granted for this project under paragraph (v) of this subsection shall be expended until the commission determines that the sponsor has allowed water sales outside city limits;

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(o) Project – Owl Creek Re-Lift Pump Station and Dempsey Diversion 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Owl Creek Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of pump station, diversion, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: One hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars ($188,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed ninety-four thousand dollars ($94,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed ninety-four thousand dollars ($94,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of twenty (20) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars ($188,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031.

(p) Project – Powder River ID Fifteen Mile Siphon 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Powder River Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of siphon, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million two hundred thirty thousand dollars ($2,230,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million one hundred fifteen thousand dollars ($1,115,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million one hundred fifteen thousand dollars ($1,115,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of forty (40) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million two hundred thirty thousand dollars ($2,230,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031.

(q) Project – Riverton West Main Street Transmission Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: City of Riverton;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Five million six hundred ninety-five thousand dollars ($5,695,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million eight hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($2,847,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million eight hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($2,847,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(r) Project – Shoshoni Well #6 and Transmission Pipeline 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Shoshoni;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of well upgrades, transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: One million three hundred fifty-eight thousand dollars ($1,358,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed six hundred seventy-nine thousand dollars ($679,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission six hundred seventy-nine thousand dollars ($679,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(s) Project – Sidon ID Byron Lateral 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Sidon Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Four hundred eighteen thousand dollars

($418,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed two hundred nine thousand dollars ($209,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two hundred nine thousand dollars ($209,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 3 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

(t) Project - Small Water Development Projects – Rehabilitation 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Eligible public entities;

(ii) Project purpose: Multi-purpose - agriculture, recreation and environmental;

(iii) Project description: Rehabilitation and replacement of small dams, windmills, springs, guzzlers and other water collection, storage and drinking systems, pipelines, and similar small projects, to impound, develop and convey water for livestock, wildlife, irrigation, environmental and recreational purposes;

(iv) Total project budget: One million dollars ($1,000,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to sponsors of small water development projects from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of small water development projects a total amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of the actual development costs of the small water development projects, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031;

(vii) Definition: "Small water development project" means a project where the maximum financial contribution from the commission is thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) or less;

(viii) Special conditions:

(A) The commission may grant a sponsor fifty percent (50%) of the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction cost of a small water development project. No grant shall be more than thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00);

(B) The small water development project sponsors shall substantiate the public benefit that will be derived from proposed small water development projects;

(C) The commission may make monthly progress payments of not more than fifty percent (50%) of eligible monthly project expenses;

(D) An appropriate land management or resource management entity shall certify that the proposed small water development project will meet expectations and that appropriate engineering standards, as approved by the commission, will be adhered to;

(E) The establishment of criteria and administrative procedures for the development of small water development projects under this subsection and decisions of the commission relating to the recommendations, prioritization or disqualification of small water development projects are specifically exempt from the provisions of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act including judicial review under W.S. 16-3-114 and 16-3-115;

(F) W.S. 16-6-116 shall not apply to a small water development project unless the project sponsor determines the small water development project meets the definition of a "public work" as defined in W.S. 16-6-101(a)(ix).

(u) Project – Tillard Canal Rehabilitation and Pump Station 2026:

(i) Project sponsor: Tillard Canal Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and pre-construction of pump station, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Seventy-three thousand one hundred dollars ($73,100.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed fifty-four thousand eight hundred twenty-five dollars ($54,825.00) or seventy-five percent (75%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and pre-construction of the project an amount not to exceed eighteen thousand two hundred seventy-five dollars ($18,275.00) or twenty-five percent (25%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of ten (10) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission seventy-three thousand one hundred dollars ($73,100.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2031.

Section 2. W.S. 99-3-1503(g)(vi), 99-3-2003(b)(vi), 99-3-2103(b)(vi), 99-3-2203(b)(vi), 99-3-2205(d)(vii), 99-3-2303(e)(vi), 99-3-2406(b)(vii) and (j)(vii), 99-3-2604(b)(vi) and 99-3-3003(d)(iii) through (vi) are amended to read:

99-3-1503. Level III construction projects - new development.

(g) Project – Ethete Water Supply:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two million dollars ($2,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028;

99-3-2003. Level III construction projects - new development.

(b) Project – Arapahoe Pipeline and Tank:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two million four hundred twenty thousand dollars ($2,420,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027;

99-3-2103. Level III construction projects – new development.

(b) Project – Arapahoe Water Supply 2016:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two million two hundred forty-seven thousand eight hundred fifty dollars ($2,247,850.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028;~~.~~

99-3-2203. Level III construction projects – new development.

(b) Project – Broken Wheel Ranch Water Supply 2017:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission nine hundred thirteen thousand fifty dollars ($913,050.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027;

99-3-2205. Level III construction projects – dams and reservoirs.

(d) Project – Alkali Creek Reservoir:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account III to the commission fifty-nine million dollars ($59,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account III on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. It is the intent of the legislature that no further time extensions shall be authorized for this project. Beginning January 1, 2027, funds from the appropriation made in this paragraph shall not be expended or used to exercise eminent domain for the purposes of this project.

99-3-2303. Level III construction projects – new development.

(e) Project – Melody Ranch Water System Improvements 2018:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission nine hundred forty-four thousand seven hundred dollars ($944,700.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028;

99-3-2406. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(b) Project – Austin-Wall Reservoir Rehabilitation 2019:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission three hundred seventy-four thousand dollars ($374,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028;

(j) Project – Interstate Diversion Structure Rehabilitation 2019:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission four hundred twenty thousand dollars ($420,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028.

99-3-2604. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(b) Project – Interstate Irrigation and Reservoir Irrigation District

Improvements 2021:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million eight hundred twenty-seven thousand four hundred dollars ($2,827,400.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2026~~ 2028;

99-3-3003. Level III construction projects – new development.

(d) Project – Hoback Junction Public Water System 2025:

(iii) Project description: Design, ~~and~~ pre-construction and construction of a diversion structure, pumping facilities, water transmission pipelines, tank, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Five hundred forty-eight thousand nine hundred dollars ($548,900.00)~~ Two million four hundred ninety-seven thousand dollars ($2,497,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, ~~and~~ pre-construction, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed ~~two hundred seventy-four thousand four hundred fifty dollars ($274,450.00)~~ one million two hundred forty-eight thousand five hundred dollars ($1,248,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriations: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission ~~two hundred seventy-four thousand four hundred fifty dollars ($274,450.00)~~ one million two hundred forty-eight thousand five hundred dollars ($1,248,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2030;

Section 3.

(a) The Wyoming water development commission is hereby authorized to transfer sixteen million two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars ($16,225,000.00) from water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) to water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii).

(b) In accordance with W.S. 41-2-115(c), upon a finding that the transfer of the test well, Sheep Mountain No. 2, developed as part of the level II feasibility study authorized under 2017 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 65, Section 2 as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws Chapter 186, Section 6, to the city of Douglas is desirable and in the public interest and that the city is capable of constructing, operating and maintaining the project and accomplishing the public interest, the water development commission shall transfer to the city of Douglas the test well, Sheep Mountain No. 2, developed as part of a level II feasibility study for further development by the city, provided the city of Douglas agrees to terms outlined by the commission for reimbursement of the expense of predevelopment costs, an amount which shall be not less than six hundred ten thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars ($610,838.00), payment for property and assurances of construction, operation and maintenance of the test well, Sheep Mountain No. 2, in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws.

(c) To the extent funds are transferred under subsection (a) of this section, the Wyoming water development commission is hereby authorized to transfer two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars ($225,000.00) from water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii) to water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i). This subsection is effective July 1, 2026.

Section 4. There is appropriated one hundred fifty-five thousand dollars ($155,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming agricultural experiment station (WAES) within the college of agriculture and natural resources to be deposited into a separate account, which account shall be expended to conduct a study to quantify how forest management treatments under the Little Snake River Battle Lake Modification and Forest Management Demonstration Project 2026 authorized under section 1 of this act affect evapotranspiration and potential water yield. Of the appropriation under this section, not less than thirty-five thousand dollars ($35,000.00) shall be used to contract with an online platform for mapping evapotranspiration at the scale necessary to conduct the study under this section. The results of the study under this section shall be reported to the select water committee not later than November 1, 2030. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2030. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2030.

Section 5.

(a) The Wyoming water development office shall conduct a study of the small water project program. The study required under this section shall be in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The study shall consider the application and funding process for small water projects, including application requirements and studies required for an application to be reviewed under the program;

(ii) The study shall consider the process for reviewing completed applications for the small water project program, including:

(A) The extent to which additional evaluations, whether conducted internally or externally, are required;

(B) Whether reviews include or duplicate reviews already conducted or completed by the applicant before submitting a complete application;

(C) Whether additional costs are imposed on the applicant, the state or both in reviewing and evaluating project applications.

(iii) The Wyoming water development office shall review its rules and policies associated with the small water project program and consider whether changes can be made to improve efficiencies and reduce the time and cost associated with submitting and reviewing applications;

(iv) The study shall consider and develop methods for:

(A) Streamlining and incorporating efficiencies in the application and review process for small water projects;

(B) Reducing costs of the application and review process for both the applicant and the state.

(v) Not later than November 1, 2026, the Wyoming water development office shall report to the select water committee on the results of the study required under this section.

Section 6. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Chapter 74

STATE BANKS AND SPDI CONVERSIONS

Original Senate File No. 54

AN ACT relating to banks, banking and finance; providing for the conversion of special purpose depository institutions into state banks; providing for the conversion of state banks into special purpose depository institutions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 13-2-216 and 13-12-127 are created to read:

13-2-216. Conversion of special purpose depository institution into state bank.

(a) The commissioner, with approval of the board, may convert the charter of a special purpose depository institution chartered under W.S. 13-12-115 to a state bank chartered under this article. A conversion shall occur as follows:

(i) A special purpose depository institution seeking to convert its charter to a state bank shall file an application to convert that contains a comprehensive plan for conversion as required by this section and rules promulgated by the commissioner. The application shall include a certificate signed by the institution's president and a majority of the board of directors setting forth the action taken to support the proposed conversion in compliance with this section. The plan of conversion and a proposed organizational instrument that includes the information required by W.S. 13-2-202 shall be approved by the shareholders of the special purpose depository institution prior to submitting an application for conversion;

(ii) The application to convert shall include a comprehensive plan for conversion setting forth any necessary disposition of assets and liabilities in reasonable detail to effect the conversion, and any other plans required by the commissioner. The application shall be accompanied by a fee consistent with W.S. 13-2-208. The plan of conversion shall provide for the discharge or assumption of all known and unknown claims and liabilities of the special purpose depository institution. Additionally, the application for conversion shall include other evidence, certifications, affidavits, documents or information as the commissioner may require, including demonstration of how assets and liabilities will be disposed, the timetable for effecting disposition or transfer of the assets and liabilities and a proposal for addressing any claims that are asserted after conversion has been completed;

(iii) The commissioner shall examine the application for compliance with this section, the requirements of W.S. 13-2-207 through 13-2-212 that are not inconsistent with this section and applicable rules.

(b) Upon receipt of a complete application, the commissioner shall notify the board. The board, in its discretion, may allow the commissioner to proceed with approval of an application on an expedited basis without further oversight or approval by the board or, if deemed necessary by the board, the board may require a process consistent with W.S. 13-2-207, 13-2-209 and 13-2-211. Where an expedited review is allowed by the board, the commissioner shall approve or deny a conversion application under this section not more than ninety (90) days after receipt of a complete application.

(c) The application shall not be approved under this section until the board or commissioner, as applicable, has ascertained to the board's or commissioner's satisfaction that the proposed state bank satisfies all criteria under W.S. 13-2-212(a)(i) through (iii), (v) and (vi), complies with all applicable capital requirements and capital levels are sufficient in light of current and prospective conditions and meets all applicable requirements and any applicable rules to operate as a state bank. If the application is to be approved by the board, the board shall take action consistent with W.S. 13-2-212(b).

(d) If the application is approved and a charter granted by the board or commissioner, the converting special purpose depository institution shall not commence business as a state bank before receiving a certificate of authority to operate as a state bank from the state banking commissioner. Upon approval of an application the special purpose depository institution shall apply for a certificate of authority to the state banking commissioner and shall certify that the capital levels comply with all applicable capital requirements and any additional capital requirements imposed by the state banking commissioner have been paid in, the address at which the converted state bank will operate and that all of the bylaws adopted have been attached as an exhibit to the application for certificate of authority. The application for a certificate of authority shall state who the officers, directors and stockholders are at that time and attach evidence that appropriate federal insurance of deposits has been obtained, where applicable. The state banking commissioner shall approve or deny an application for a certificate of authority not more than thirty (30) days after a complete application has been filed. If the state banking commissioner approves the application, he shall issue a certificate of authority to the converted state bank not later than twenty (20) days after approval of the application. If the state banking commissioner denies the application, he shall mail a notice of denial to the converted state bank not later than twenty (20) days after denial of the application, stating the reasons for denying the application, and grant to the converted state bank not more than ninety (90) days to resubmit the application with the necessary corrections. If the converted state bank fails to comply with requirements of the notice of denial within ninety (90) days from the receipt of the notice, the approval of the application and articles of incorporation previously issued to the converted state bank shall be revoked by the state banking commissioner. The failure of the state banking commissioner to act upon receipt of a complete application for a certificate of authority within thirty (30) days shall be deemed an approval. If a converted state bank fails to commence business in good faith within one (1) year after the issuance of a certificate of authority by the state banking commissioner or any required federal approval, whichever is later, the charter and certificate of authority shall expire.

(e) A state bank that results from a conversion under this section shall be deemed to have been in existence for the same period of time as the special purpose depository institution from which it converted and shall surrender its certificate of authority under W.S. 13-12-116. Upon completion of the conversion the state bank shall not use the term “special purpose depository institution” in its business name or in connection with its ongoing business.

(f) The commissioner shall adopt all rules necessary to implement this section.

13-12-127. Conversion of state bank into special purpose depository institution.

(a) The commissioner, with approval of the board, may convert the charter of a state bank chartered under W.S. 13-2-201 et. seq, to a special purpose depository institution chartered under this article. A conversion shall occur as follows:

(i) A state bank seeking to convert its charter to a special purpose depository institution shall file an application to convert that contains a comprehensive plan for conversion as required by this section and rules promulgated by the commissioner. The application shall include a certificate signed by the institution's president and a majority of the board of directors setting forth the action taken to support the proposed conversion in compliance with this section. The plan of conversion and a proposed organizational instrument that includes the information required by W.S. 13-12-109 shall be approved by the shareholders of the state bank prior to submitting an application for conversion;

(ii) The application to convert shall include a comprehensive plan for conversion setting forth any necessary disposition of assets and liabilities in reasonable detail to effect the conversion, and any other plans required by the commissioner. The application shall be accompanied by a fee consistent with W.S. 13-12-111. The plan of conversion shall provide for the discharge or assumption of all known and unknown claims and liabilities of the state bank. Additionally, the application for conversion shall include other evidence, certifications, affidavits, documents or information as the commissioner may require, including demonstration of how assets and liabilities will be disposed, the timetable for effecting disposition or transfer of the assets and liabilities and a proposal for addressing any claims that are asserted after conversion has been completed;

(iii) The commissioner shall examine the application for compliance with this section, the requirements of W.S. 13-12-102 through 13-12-116 and 13-12-118 that are not inconsistent with this section and applicable rules.

(b) Upon receipt of a complete application, the commissioner shall notify the board. The board, in its discretion, may allow the commissioner to proceed with approval of an application on an expedited basis without further oversight or approval by the board or, if deemed necessary by the board, the board may require a process consistent with W.S. 13-12-112 through 13-12-115. Where an expedited review is allowed by the board, the commissioner shall approve or deny a conversion application under this section not more than ninety (90) days after receipt of a complete application.

(c) The application shall not be approved under this section until the board or commissioner, as applicable, has ascertained to the board's or commissioner's satisfaction that the proposed special purpose depository institution satisfies all criteria under W.S. 13-12-115(a) and meets all applicable requirements and any applicable rules to operate as a special purpose depository institution. If the application is to be approved by the board, the board shall take action consistent with W.S. 13-12-115(b).

(d) If the application is approved and a charter is granted by the board or commissioner, the converting state bank shall not commence business as a special purpose depository institution before receiving a certificate of authority to operate as a special purpose depository institution from the state banking commissioner. Upon approval of an application, the converting state bank shall apply for a certificate of authority to the state banking commissioner and shall certify that the capital and surplus have been paid in, the address at which the converting state bank will operate as a special purpose depository institution and that all of the bylaws adopted have been attached as an exhibit to the application for a certificate of authority. The application for a certificate of authority shall state who the officers, directors and stockholders are at that time and attach evidence that appropriate federal insurance of deposits has been obtained, where applicable. The state banking commissioner shall approve or deny an application for a certificate of authority not more than thirty (30) days after a complete application has been filed. If the state banking commissioner approves the application, he shall issue a certificate of authority to the converted special purpose depository institution not later than twenty (20) days after approval of the application. If the state banking commissioner denies the application, he shall mail a notice of denial to the converted special purpose depository institution not later than twenty (20) days after denial of the application, stating the reasons for denying the application, and grant to the converted special purpose depository institution not more than ninety (90) days to resubmit the application with the necessary corrections. If the converted special purpose depository institution fails to comply with requirements of the notice of denial within ninety (90) days from the receipt of the notice, the approval of the application and articles of incorporation previously issued to the converted special purpose depository institution shall be revoked by the state banking commissioner. The failure of the state banking commissioner to act upon receipt of a complete application for a certificate of authority within thirty (30) days shall be deemed an approval. If a converted special purpose depository institution fails to commence business in good faith within one (1) year after the issuance of a certificate of authority by the state banking commissioner or any required federal approval, whichever is later, the charter and certificate of authority shall expire.

(e) A special purpose depository institution that results from a conversion under this section shall be deemed to have been in existence for the same period of time as the state bank from which it converted and shall surrender its certificate of authority under W.S. 13-2-213. Upon completion of the conversion the special purpose depository institution shall not use the term "state bank" in its business name or in connection with its ongoing business.

(f) The commissioner shall adopt all rules necessary to implement this section.

Section 2. W.S. 13-12-102(b)(iv) is amended to read:

13-12-102. Applicability of other provisions.

(b) The following provisions of this title shall not apply to this chapter:

(iv) W.S. 13-2-201 through 13-2-214 <u>except as otherwise provided in W.S. 13-2-216</u>;

Section 3. The banking commissioner shall adopt all rules necessary to implement this act on or before July 1, 2026.

Section 4.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 75

SPECIAL PURPOSE DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 55

AN ACT relating to banks, banking and finance; amending special purpose depository institution initial capital stock requirements; amending requirements for special purpose depository institutions to commence business as specified; amending requirements for the application to charter special purpose depository institutions as specified; amending the timeline special purpose depository institutions must commence business; authorizing appeals of decisions of the commissioner; amending the appealable court for decisions relating to special purpose depository institutions; creating a special purpose depository institution resolution fund account; specifying authorized expenditures and the investment of funds in the account; requiring a portion of supervisory fees to be paid to the account; repealing the requirement that special purpose depository institutions maintain a contingency account; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 5-13-115 by creating a new subsection (g), 13-12-110(a) and (b), 13-12-111(b), 13-12-116 by creating a new subsection (b) and by renumbering (b) as (c), 13-12-117, 13-12-119(d) and 13-12-122 by creating a new subsection (c) are amended to read:

5-13-115. Purpose and jurisdiction.

<u>(g) The chancery court shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide appeals of any decision of the state banking board or the state banking commissioner appealed under W.S. 13-12-117.</u>

13-12-110. Required initial capital and surplus; additional capital.

(a) The capital stock of each special purpose depository institution chartered under this chapter shall be subscribed for as fully paid stock. No special purpose depository institution shall ~~be chartered~~ commence business with capital stock of less than five million dollars ($5,000,000.00).

(b) No special purpose depository institution shall commence business until the full amount of its authorized capital is subscribed and all capital stock is fully paid in. No special purpose depository institution ~~may be chartered~~ shall commence business without a paid up surplus fund of not less than twenty percent (20%) of its legally authorized capital stock and undivided profits in an amount not less than ~~three (3) years~~ one (1) year of estimated operating expenses in the amount disclosed pursuant to W.S. 13-12-111(b) or in another amount required by the commissioner.

13-12-111. Application for charter; fee; subaccount created.

(b) The incorporators under W.S. 13-12-109(a) shall apply to the commissioner for a charter. The application shall contain the special purpose depository institution's articles of incorporation, a detailed business plan, a comprehensive estimate of operating expenses for the first ~~three (3) years~~ year of operation, a complete proposal for compliance with the provisions of this chapter and ~~evidence of~~ a plan to raise the capital required under W.S. 13-12-110. The commissioner may prescribe the form of application by rule.

13-12-116. Certificate of authority to commence business required; application; approval or denial; failure to commence business.

(b) The commissioner shall have the authority to determine the requirements by rule in accordance with this act that shall be met for an approved special purpose depository institution to commence business.

~~(b)~~(c) If an approved special purpose depository institution fails to commence business in ~~good faith~~ compliance with the requirements imposed by the commissioner under subsection (b) of this section, within ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year after the issuance of a certificate of authority to operate by the commissioner, the charter and certificate of authority shall expire. The board, for good cause and upon an application filed prior to the expiration of the ~~six (6) month~~ one (1) year period, may extend the time within which the special purpose depository institution may open for business.

13-12-117. Decisions by board appealable; grounds.

Any decision of the board or commissioner in approving, conditionally approving or disapproving a charter for a special purpose depository institution, ~~or~~ the issuance or denial of a certificate of authority to operate, compliance with the requirements for an approved special purpose depository institution to commence business under W.S. 13-12-116(b) or the issuance or denial of an extension to commence business under W.S. 13-12-116(c) is appealable to the district court of the county in which the institution is to be located, in accordance with the provisions of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act or, notwithstanding W.S. 16-3-114(a), to the chancery court. In addition to the grounds for appeal contained in the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, an appellant may appeal if the board or the commissioner fails to make any of the required findings or otherwise take an action required by law.

13-12-119. Reports and examinations; supervisory fees; required private insurance or bond.

(d) Unless the commissioner determines an exemption is appropriate because of payment of other fees, on or before January 31 and July 31 of each year, a special purpose depository institution shall compute and pay supervisory fees to the commissioner based on the total assets of the special purpose depository institution as of the preceding December 31 and June 30 respectively. Except as provided in W.S. 13-12-122(c), supervisory fees under this section shall provide for the operating costs of the office of the commissioner and the administration of the laws governing special purpose depository institutions. ~~Such~~ Supervisory fees shall be established by rule of the commissioner and shall be adjusted by the commissioner to assure consistency with the cost of supervision. Except as provided in W.S. 13-12-122(c), supervisory fees shall be deposited by the commissioner with the state treasurer and credited to the special purpose depository institutions subaccount created by W.S. 13-12-111(d).

13-12-122. Failure of institution; unsound or unsafe condition; applicability of other insolvency and conservatorship provisions; special purpose depository institution resolution fund account.

(c) There is created the special purpose depository institution resolution fund account. A portion of each supervisory fee paid pursuant to W.S. 13-12-119(d) shall be deposited in the special purpose depository institution resolution fund account and shall be used by the commissioner in the event of an involuntary dissolution of a special purpose depository institution. The amount deposited in the account shall be established by rule of the commissioner. The portion of fees designated under this subsection shall be remitted to the state treasurer to be credited to the special purpose depository institution resolution fund account. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer and all investment earnings from the account shall be credited to the account. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, unobligated and unexpended funds in the account shall not lapse or revert and shall remain in the account and be available for distribution as provided by this subsection. Expenditures from the account shall be made using warrants drawn by the state auditor, upon vouchers issued and signed by the director of the department of audit or by the commissioner. Funds from the account shall be expended only to carry out the duties of the commissioner in the involuntary dissolution of a special purpose depository institution.

Section 2. W.S. 13-12-106 and 13-12-122(b)(i)(B) are repealed.

Section 3. The banking commissioner shall promulgate rules as necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 76

RAVEN ACT

Original Senate File No. 85

AN ACT relating to the division of criminal investigation; creating the internet crimes against children task force program account; providing legislative findings; providing definitions; providing for the administration of the account; providing an appropriation; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1.

(a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Resource Allocation for Victim and Enforcement Needs (RAVEN) Act."

(b) The legislature finds that:

(i) The internet crimes against children task force program, through the United States department of justice, helps state and local law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and internet crimes against children. The program encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim assistance and community education. The program is a national network of sixty-one (61) coordinated task forces representing over five thousand four hundred (5,400) federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies;

(ii) There is a lack of dedicated state resources to combat internet crimes against children. As a result, many of the cases involving internet crimes against children are not adequately investigated. It is the intent of the legislature to create an account dedicated to combating internet crimes against children, promoting education on internet safety to the public and to minors and rescuing child victims from abuse and exploitation.

Section 2. W.S. 9-1-641 is created to read:

9-1-641. Internet crimes against children task force program account; definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "ICAC task force" means the internet crimes against children task force that is located in this state and recognized by the United States department of justice;

(ii) "Account" means the ICAC task force program account created by this section.

(b) There is created the ICAC task force program account to provide a stable funding source for the ICAC task force in Wyoming. The account shall consist of:

(i) Funds appropriated by the legislature directly to the account; and

(ii) Grants, gifts and donations accepted by the attorney general and directed to the account.

(c) All funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the division of criminal investigation solely to support the administration and activities of law enforcement in efforts to combat internet crimes against children. Unless otherwise specifically provided, appropriations to the account shall not lapse or revert at the end of the fiscal period and shall remain in the account. Interest or other earnings on funds within the account shall be credited to the account.

Section 3. There is appropriated one million six hundred thousand dollars ($1,600,000.00) from the general fund to the internet crimes against children task force program account created by this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall not revert. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the division of criminal investigation within the attorney general's office for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. The attorney general shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 5.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 4 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 77

DONATED HUNTING LICENSES-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 66

AN ACT relating to game and fish; authorizing persons with life threatening illnesses and persons who are vision-impaired to receive donated hunting licenses as specified; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 23-1-705(j) and (k) is amended to read:

23-1-705. Complimentary licenses; pioneer licenses; antelope hunt licenses; gunpowder and buckskin hunt licenses; gratuitous licenses; donated licenses.

(j) In addition the commission may issue upon payment of proper fees any number, set by rule and regulation, of antelope licenses, deer licenses, elk licenses and turkey licenses each year for the exclusive use by persons ~~twenty (20) years of age or younger~~ with life threatening illnesses who are sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization with a mission to provide opportunities and experiences to persons with life threatening or serious illnesses. As a condition of issuing the license, the sponsoring organization shall pay the appropriate license fee on behalf of the licensee and at no cost to the licensee.

(k) The holder of any valid big game animal license, trophy game animal license, any wild bison license or a female or calf wild bison license may surrender said license to the department for reissuance to a veteran with disabilities, ~~or~~ a person with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair, a person with a life-threatening illness or a person who is vision impaired as established by commission rule and regulation selected and sponsored by a nonprofit charitable organization providing hunting opportunities. ~~to a veteran with disabilities or a person with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair.~~ Any license reissued in accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall be for the same species, area and license type as the license donated. The license shall be reissued by the department to a qualifying person at no fee. Any license donated and reissued under the provisions of this subsection shall not be sold, traded, auctioned or offered for any monetary value and shall not be issued to, or used by, any person other than a qualifying person under the provision of this section and in compliance with commission rule and regulation. Licenses reissued to persons pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to residency, drawing or fee requirements under W.S. 23-2-101 or 23-2-107. The five (5) year restriction imposed on the receipt of a cow or calf moose or a ewe or lamb bighorn sheep license by W.S. 23-1-703(b), the lifetime restriction imposed on the receipt of a grizzly bear, mountain goat, ram or any bighorn sheep, any wild bison or any moose or antlered moose license by W.S. 23-1-703(c) or the restrictions imposed on a wild bison under W.S.

23-2-107(f) shall not be applicable in any manner to a license issued pursuant to this subsection.

Section 2. The game and fish commission shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 78

TRANSPARENCY IN HOSPITAL SERVICE PRICING

Original Senate File No. 57

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; requiring hospitals to list prices for medical items and services as specified; requiring the department of health to monitor and enforce the provisions of this act; providing penalties; providing definitions; requiring recommendations for future legislation; requiring rulemaking; making conforming amendments; providing a sunset date; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-2-1501 through 35-2-1507 are created to read:

ARTICLE 15
HOSPITAL PRICE TRANSPARENCY ACT

35-2-1501. Short title; purpose; sunset.

(a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Hospital Price Transparency Act."

(b) The purpose of this act is to require hospitals to disclose prices for certain items and services and to provide civil penalties.

(c) This article is repealed effective July 1, 2029.

35-2-1502. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Department" means the department of health;

(ii) "De-identified maximum negotiated charge" means the highest charge a facility has negotiated with any third party payors for a facility item or service;

(iii) "De-identified minimum negotiated charge" means the lowest charge a facility has negotiated with any third party payors for a facility item or service;

(iv) "Discounted cash price" means the charge that applies to a person who pays cash, or a cash equivalent, for a facility item or service;

(v) "Facility" means a hospital located within the state and licensed under title 35, chapter 2, article 9 of the Wyoming statutes;

(vi) "Facility item or service" means all items and services, including individual items and services and service packages, that may be provided by a facility to a patient in connection with an inpatient admission or an outpatient department visit, including:

(A) Supplies and procedures;

(B) Room and board;

(C) Use of the facility and other areas, generally referred to as facility fees;

(D) Services of health care providers, generally referred to as professional charges;

(E) Any other item or service offered by the facility.

(vii) "Gross charge" means the charge for a facility item or service that is reflected on a facility's list, less any discounts;

(viii) "Machine-readable format" means a digital representation of information that can be imported or read into a computer system for processing;

(ix) "Payor-specific negotiated charge" means the charge that a facility has negotiated with a third party payor for a facility item or service;

(x) "Shoppable service" means a facility item or service that may be scheduled by a patient in advance;

(xi) "Standard charge" means the regular rate established by the facility for a facility item or service provided to a specific group of paying patients. The term includes all of the following:

(A) The gross charge;

(B) The payor-specific negotiated charge;

(C) The de-identified minimum negotiated charge;

(D) The de-identified maximum negotiated charge;

(E) The discounted cash price.

(xii) "Third party payor" means a person who is, by statute, contract or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a facility item or service;

(xiii) "This act" means W.S. 35-2-1501 through 35-2-1507.

35-2-1503. List of standard charges required.

(a) A facility shall:

(i) Maintain a list of all standard charges for facility items or services in accordance with this section;

(ii) Maintain a list of the standard charges required under paragraph (i) of this subsection for not less than three hundred (300) shoppable services provided by the facility, or as many of the shoppable services the facility provides, in accordance with this section; and

(iii) Make the lists required by paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection available to the public at all times.

(b) The lists required to be maintained by a facility under subsection (a) of this section shall reflect the standard charges applicable to each location as required by federal rules and regulations.

(c) The lists required under subsection (a) of this section shall include the following items, if applicable:

(i) A description of each facility item or service provided by the facility;

(ii) The following charges, expressed in dollar amounts, for each individual facility item or service:

(A) All standard charges;

(B) Any code used by the facility for purposes of accounting or billing; and

(C) A list of charges for shoppable services as required by paragraph (a)(ii) of this section, including but not limited to:

(I) The charges for shoppable services specified by the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services in 45 C.F.R. part 180; or

(II) If the facility does not provide all of the shoppable services described by subdivision (I) of this subparagraph, then the facility shall provide as many of the charges for those shoppable services as the facility does provide.

(d) The lists required by subsection (a) of this section shall be displayed in a prominent location on the home page of the facility's publicly accessible website or accessible through a link on that website.

(e) The lists required under subsection (a) of this section shall:

(i) Be available:

(A) Free of charge;

(B) Without having to establish a user account or password;

(C) Without having to submit personal identifying information;

(D) Without having to enter a code to access the list.

(ii) Be accessible to a common commercial operator of an internet search engine to the extent necessary for the search engine to index and display the lists as a result in response to a search query of a user of the search engine;

(iii) Be digitally searchable;

(iv) Use the naming convention specified by the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services.

(f) Each facility shall update the lists required by subsection (a) of this section not less than annually. Each facility shall clearly indicate on its website the date that the lists were updated.

35-2-1504. Monitoring.

(a) The department shall monitor each facility's compliance with the requirements of this act using any of the following methods:

(i) Evaluating complaints made by persons to the department regarding noncompliance with the act;

(ii) Reviewing any analysis prepared regarding noncompliance with this act

(iii) Auditing the websites of facilities for compliance with this act.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in considering an application for renewal of a facility's license or certificate, the department may consider whether a facility is or has been in substantial compliance with this act.

35-2-1505. Material violation; corrective action plan.

(a) A facility materially violates this act if the facility fails to comply with the requirements of W.S. 35-2-1503.

(b) If the department determines that a facility has materially violated this act, the department shall issue a material violation notice to the facility and require that the facility submit a corrective action plan. The notice shall indicate the form and manner that the corrective action plan shall be submitted to the department and shall clearly state the date by which the facility shall submit the plan.

(c) The facility that receives a notice under subsection (b) of this section shall:

(i) Submit a corrective action plan in the form and manner, and by the specified date, prescribed by the notice of violation; and

(ii) Act to comply with the corrective action plan by the date required by paragraph (d)(ii) of this section.

(d) A corrective action plan submitted to the department shall:

(i) Describe in detail the corrective action the facility will take to address any violation identified by the department in the notice provided under subsection (b) of this section; and

(ii) Provide a date that corresponds with federal rules and regulations by which the facility will complete the corrective action plan.

(e) A corrective action plan is subject to review and approval by the department. After the department reviews and approves a facility's corrective action plan, the department shall monitor and evaluate the facility's compliance with the plan.

35-2-1506. Civil penalty for violations.

(a) The department may impose a civil penalty on a facility if a facility fails to:

(i) Respond to the department's notice to submit a corrective action plan within the timeframe specified by federal rules and regulations; or

(ii) Comply with the requirements of a corrective action plan submitted to the department within the timeframe specified by federal rules and regulations.

(b) A civil penalty imposed under subsection (a) of this section shall be:

(i) For facilities categorized as critical access hospitals:

(A) For a first offense within any twelve (12) month period, one hundred dollars ($100.00) per day for each day the department imposes a civil penalty under subsection (a) of this section;

(B) For a second offense within any twelve (12) month period, five hundred dollars ($500.00) per day for each day the department imposes a civil penalty under subsection (a) of this section;

(C) For a third or subsequent offense within any twelve (12) month period, one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) per day for each day the department imposes a civil penalty under subsection (a) of this section.

(ii) For hospitals with prospective payment systems, one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) per day for each day within any twelve (12) month period the department imposes a civil penalty under subsection (a) of this section.

35-2-1507. Legislative recommendations.

The department may propose to the legislature any necessary recommendations for amending this act, including recommendations in response to amendments by the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services to 45 C.F.R. part 180.

Section 2. W.S. 35-2-905(a) by creating a new paragraph (vi) is amended to read:

35-2-905. Conditions, monitoring or revoking a license.

(a) The division may place conditions upon a license, install a division approved monitor or manager at the owner's or operator's expense, suspend admissions, or deny, suspend or revoke a license issued under this act if a licensee:

(vi) Violates any provision of W.S. 35-2-1501 through 35-2-1507. This paragraph is repealed effective July 1, 2029.

Section 3. The department of health shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 79

MOTOR VEHICLE SALES TO FAMILY MEMBERS-NOT TAXABLE

Original Senate File No. 61

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; providing a sales tax and use tax exemption to the purchase or transfer of a motor vehicle to family members as specified; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-15-105(a) by creating a new paragraph (xi) and 39-16-105(a) by creating a new paragraph (xi) are amended to read:

39-15-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following sales or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(xi) Purchases of motor vehicles made from immediate family members or transfers of motor vehicles made to immediate family members, subject to all of the following:

(A) As used in this paragraph, "immediate family member" means a parent, child, spouse, sibling, stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, grandparent or grandchild;

(B) The seller or donor of the motor vehicle shall have paid sales tax or use tax as required by law when the seller or donor purchased or received the vehicle;

(C) The sale or gift of the motor vehicle shall be made by the seller or donor to an immediate family member to qualify for the exemption under this paragraph;

(D) A vehicle sold or gifted under this paragraph shall be considered an exempt motor vehicle for purposes of this chapter.

39-16-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following purchases or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(xi) Purchases of motor vehicles made from immediate family members or transfers of motor vehicles made to immediate family members, subject to all of the following:

(A) As used in this paragraph, "immediate family member" means a parent, child, spouse, sibling, stepparent, stepchild, stepsibling, grandparent or grandchild;

(B) The seller or donor of the motor vehicle shall have paid sales tax or use tax as required by law when the seller or donor purchased or received the vehicle;

(C) The sale or gift of the motor vehicle shall be made by the seller or donor to an immediate family member to qualify for the exemption under this paragraph;

(D) A vehicle sold or gifted under this paragraph shall be considered an exempt motor vehicle for purposes of this chapter.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 80

OUTPATIENT EXAMINATION AND COMMITMENT LENGTH

Original Senate File No. 23

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; amending provisions related to the involuntary hospitalization of mentally ill persons; expanding the list of examiners qualified to perform involuntary hospitalization examinations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 25-10-110(e) is amended to read:

25-10-110. Involuntary hospitalization proceedings.

(e) The court shall appoint one (1) or more examiners to examine the proposed patient and to make a written report to the court of the findings as to the history and mental illness of the proposed patient. The court may order the proposed patient to appear for examination and if the proposed patient does not appear the court may compel his appearance. The examination shall be held at a hospital, a medical facility, the home of the proposed patient or any other suitable place which will not have a harmful effect on ~~his~~ the patient's health. The examination shall be conducted no later than seven (7) days from the date of the notice. If the examination is conducted by an examiner other than a licensed physician, a licensed psychiatrist, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed physician assistant or a licensed psychologist, the court shall appoint one (1) of the following persons, a licensed physician, a licensed psychiatrist, a licensed psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner, a licensed physician assistant with documented education, training and experience in psychiatric or mental health assessment and diagnosis or a licensed psychologist to review the findings of the examiner and conduct a further examination, if indicated, and to report to the court.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 81

HUMAN HEARTBEAT ACT

Original House Bill No. 126

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing legislative findings; specifying requirements associated with the termination of pregnancies; prohibiting procedures that terminate the life of a child with a detectable heartbeat; specifying exceptions to the prohibition; specifying penalties; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The legislature finds that:

(i) In State v. Johnson, 2026 WY 1, the Wyoming supreme court interpreted article 1, section 38 of the Wyoming constitution to include a right to make health care decisions but acknowledged the legislature's authority under article 1, section 38(c) of the Wyoming constitution to enact reasonable and necessary restrictions to protect the general welfare of the people;

(ii) Article 1, section 2 of the Wyoming constitution recognizes that all members of the human race have an equal right to life. Unborn children are members of the human race. The general welfare of the state of Wyoming and its people necessarily includes the preservation of life. In State v. Johnson, 2026 WY 1, the Wyoming supreme court acknowledged that the state has an interest "in protecting the life that an abortion would end." The legislature finds that a right to life is the most fundamental of all rights, and the state has a compelling interest in protecting that life;

(iii) Protecting the general welfare of the state of Wyoming and its people necessarily includes the obligation of the state to act in parens patriae, protecting those who cannot protect themselves. The state has a compelling interest in protecting the life of unborn members of the human race who cannot protect themselves;

(iv) Protecting the general welfare of the state of Wyoming and its people necessarily includes the obligation to support and encourage childbirth as an essential element in the future stability of our societal and economic structures. The state asserts a compelling interest in providing for the state's future population and societal and economic security by promoting childbirth;

(v) Medical evidence shows a fetal heartbeat is a key indicator that an unborn child is alive and will reach live birth. The state has a compelling interest, beginning at least at the time a fetal heartbeat is detected, in protecting the life of the unborn child.

(b) Acting under the specific authority to determine reasonable and necessary restrictions on the right of health care access to protect the health and general welfare of the people granted in article 1, section 38(c) of the Wyoming constitution, the purpose of this act is to restrict abortion procedures on unborn children with detectable heartbeats.

Section 2. W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 are created to read:

ARTICLE 4
PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN WITH HEARTBEATS

35-6-401. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Detectable fetal heartbeat" means cardiac activity or the steady and repetitive rhythmic contraction of the fetal heart within the gestational sac that is detectable using standard medical equipment;

(ii) "Medical emergency" means a condition that, in reasonable medical judgment, so complicates the medical condition of the pregnant woman as to necessitate the immediate termination of her pregnancy to avert the woman's death or for which a delay will create a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the woman;

(iii) "Termination of pregnancy" means the use of any instrument, medicine, drug or other substance or device with the intent to terminate the pregnancy of a woman known to be pregnant, with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth, to preserve the life or health of the child after live birth or to remove a dead unborn child.

35-6-402. Determination of detectable fetal heartbeat required.

(a) Except in the case of a medical emergency, no person shall perform, induce, attempt to perform or attempt to induce a termination of a pregnancy unless the person has first made a determination of whether the unborn child has a detectable fetal heartbeat.

(b) The determination of whether an unborn child has a detectable fetal heartbeat shall be made using standard medical practices and techniques, including ultrasound measurement if necessary.

35-6-403. Prohibition of terminations of unborn children with detectable fetal heartbeats.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person shall perform, induce, attempt to perform or attempt to induce a termination of pregnancy if:

(i) The unborn child has a detectable fetal heartbeat; or

(ii) The person fails or has failed to make the determination of whether the unborn child has a detectable fetal heartbeat under W.S. 35-6-402.

(b) The restriction in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply if, in reasonable medical judgment, a medical emergency exists. If a medical emergency exists, a licensed physician may terminate the pregnancy, provided that the termination of the pregnancy shall be in the manner that provides the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive, unless that manner would pose a greater risk of death or substantial and irreversible physical impairment to the pregnant woman.

35-6-404. Penalties; sanctions.

(a) Any person who intentionally or knowingly violates this article shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(b) A violation of this article constitutes unprofessional conduct and shall result in the mandatory revocation of the person's professional license by the appropriate licensing board in this state.

Section 3. W.S. 33-21-146 by creating a new subsection (c), 33-24-122 by creating a new subsection (d), 33-26-402 by creating a new subsection (c) and 33-26-508 by creating a new subsection (e) are amended to read:

33-21-146. Disciplining licensees and certificate holders; grounds.

<u>(c) The board of nursing shall revoke the license, certificate or temporary permit of any person if the person is convicted of violating any provision of W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404.</u>

33-24-122. Revocation or suspension of license and registration; letter of admonition; summary suspension; administrative penalties; probation; grounds.

<u>(d) The board of pharmacy shall revoke the license and registration of any pharmacist if the person is convicted of violating any provision of W.S.</u>

35-6-401 through 35-6-404.

33-26-402. Grounds for suspension; revocation; restriction; imposition of conditions; refusal to renew or other disciplinary action.

(c) The board shall revoke the license of any physician if the physician is convicted of violating any provision of W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404.

33-26-508. Suspension, restriction, revocation or nonrenewal of license.

(e) The board shall revoke the license of any physician assistant if the physician assistant is convicted of violating any provision of W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404.

Section 4. W.S. 35-6-501 through 35-6-510 are created to read:

ARTICLE 5
ABORTION REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

35-6-501. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

(i) "Abortion" means an act, procedure, device or prescription administered to or prescribed for a pregnant woman by any person with knowledge of the pregnancy, including the pregnant woman herself, with the intent of producing the premature expulsion, removal or termination of a human embryo or fetus, except that in cases in which the viability of the embryo or fetus is threatened by continuation of the pregnancy, early delivery after viability by commonly accepted obstetrical practices shall not be construed as an abortion;

(ii) "Accepted medical procedures" means procedures of the type and performed in a manner and in a facility that is equipped with surgical, anesthetic, resuscitation and laboratory equipment sufficient to meet the standards of medical care that physicians engaged in the same or similar lines of work in the community would ordinarily exercise and devote to the benefit of their patients;

(iii) "Conception" means the fecundation of the ovum by the spermatozoa;

(iv) "Hospital" means those institutions licensed by the state department of health as hospitals;

(v) "Minor" means a pregnant woman under the age of eighteen (18), but does not include any woman who:

(A) Is legally married;

(B) Has received a declaration of emancipation under W.S. 14-1-203;

(C) Is in active military service; or

(D) Has lived apart from her parents or guardian, has been financially independent and has managed her own affairs for at least six (6) months prior to a proposed abortion.

(vi) "Parents" means both parents of a minor if they are both living, or one (1) parent of the minor if only one (1) parent of the minor is living or if the second parent does not have custody of the minor or cannot be located through a reasonably diligent effort;

(vii) "Physician" means any person licensed to practice medicine in this state;

(viii) "Pregnant" means that condition of a woman who has a human embryo or fetus within her as the result of conception;

(ix) "Viability" means that state of human development when the embryo or fetus is able to live by natural or life-supportive systems outside the womb of the mother, according to appropriate medical judgment;

(x) "Woman" means any female person.

(b) The singular, where used in this article, includes the plural, the plural includes the singular and the masculine gender includes the feminine or neuter genders, when consistent with the intent of this article and when necessary to effectuate its purpose.

35-6-502. No abortion after viability; exception.

An abortion shall not be performed after the embryo or fetus has reached viability, except when necessary to preserve the woman from an imminent peril that substantially endangers her life or health, according to appropriate medical judgment.

35-6-503. Viability not affected by abortion.

A physician who performs an abortion procedure employed pursuant to W.S. 35-6-502 shall not intentionally terminate the viability of the unborn infant prior to, during or following the procedure.

35-6-504. Means of treatment for viable abortion.

The commonly accepted means of care that would be rendered to any other infant born alive shall be employed in the treatment of any viable infant who survives an abortion or attempted abortion. Any physician performing an abortion shall take medically appropriate and reasonable steps to preserve the life and health of an infant born alive.

35-6-505. Penalty for violation of W.S. 35-6-502, 35-6-503 or 35-6-504.

Any physician or other person who violates any provision of W.S. 35-6-502, 35-6-503 or 35-6-504 is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than fourteen (14) years.

35-6-506. Penalty for a person other than a physician to perform abortion.

Any person other than a licensed physician who performs an abortion is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than one (1) year and not more than fourteen (14) years.

35-6-507. Procedure governing abortion performed upon minor.

(a) An abortion shall not be performed upon a minor unless at least one (1) of the minor's parents or her guardian are notified in writing at least forty-eight (48) hours before the abortion, and the attending physician has obtained the written consent of the minor and at least one (1) parent or guardian of the minor, unless:

(i) The minor, in a closed hearing, is granted the right to self-consent to an abortion by court order pursuant to subparagraph (b)(v)(B) of this section and the attending physician receives a certified copy of the court order and the written consent of the minor; or

(ii) The abortion is authorized by court order pursuant to subparagraph (b)(v)(C) of this section and the attending physician receives a certified copy of the court order.

(b) A juvenile court of competent jurisdiction may grant the right of a minor to self-consent to an abortion or may authorize an abortion upon a minor, in accordance with the following procedure:

(i) The minor shall apply to the juvenile court for assistance, either in person or through an adult of the minor's choice. The court shall assist the minor in preparing the petition and notices required under this section;

(ii) Notwithstanding W.S. 14-6-212, the minor or an adult of the minor's choice shall file a petition with the court, signed by the minor and setting forth:

(A) The initials of the minor and the minor's date of birth;

(B) The names and addresses, if known, of the minor's parents, guardian, custodian or, if the minor's parents are deceased and a guardian or custodian has not been appointed, any other person standing in loco parentis of the minor;

(C) That the minor has been informed by her treating physician of the risks and consequences of an abortion;

(D) That the minor is mature and wishes to have an abortion; and

(E) Facts indicating why an abortion is in the best interest of the minor.

(iii) The court may appoint a guardian ad litem of the minor and may appoint legal counsel for the minor;

(iv) Not later than five (5) days after the petition is filed under paragraph (ii) of this subsection, a hearing on the merits of the petition shall be held on the record. Any appointed counsel shall be appointed and notified by the court at least forty-eight (48) hours before the time set for the hearing. At the hearing, the court shall hear evidence relating to:

(A) The maturity and understanding of the minor;

(B) The nature of the abortion, risks and consequences of the abortion and alternatives to the abortion; and

(C) Whether an abortion is in the best interest of the minor.

(v) In its order, which shall be issued not later than twenty-four (24) hours from the conclusion of the hearing, the court shall enter findings of fact and conclusions of law, order the record of the hearing sealed and shall:

(A) Deny the petition, setting forth the grounds on which the petition is denied;

(B) Grant the minor the right to self-consent to the abortion, based upon a finding by clear and convincing evidence that the minor is sufficiently mature and adequately informed to make her own decision, in consultation with her physician, independently of the wishes of her parent or guardian; or

(C) Authorize the abortion based upon a finding by clear and convincing evidence that the abortion is in the best interest of the minor.

(vi) Any order entered under paragraph (v) of this subsection may be appealed to the supreme court in accordance with the Wyoming Rules of Appellate Procedure. Notwithstanding W.S. 14-6-233, the supreme court shall, by rule, provide for expedited appellate review of appeals under this paragraph.

(c) This section shall not apply in an emergency medical situation when, to a reasonable degree of medical probability, the attending physician determines that an abortion is necessary to preserve the minor from an imminent peril that substantially endangers her life, and so certifies in the minor's medical record.

(d) The written notifications required under this section shall be delivered:

(i) Personally by the minor, attending physician or an agent; or

(ii) By certified mail addressed to the parent at the usual place of abode of the parent with return receipt requested and restricted delivery to the addressee.

(e) No parent, guardian or spouse shall require a minor to submit to an abortion against her wishes.

(f) Any physician or other person who knowingly performs an abortion on a minor in violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00), imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

35-6-508. Information provided to patient; exceptions.

(a) Except in a case of medical emergency, the physician performing the abortion on the patient, the referring physician or a person designated by either physician shall inform the patient of the opportunity to view an active ultrasound of the unborn child and hear the heartbeat of the unborn child if the heartbeat is audible. The active ultrasound image and auscultation of the fetal heart tone shall be of a quality consistent with standard medical practice in the community.

(b) This section shall not apply to a procedure performed with the intent to:

(i) Save the life of the patient;

(ii) Ameliorate a serious risk of causing the patient substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function;

(iii) Preserve the health of the unborn child;

(iv) Remove a dead unborn child; or

(v) Remove an ectopic pregnancy.

35-6-509. Applicability; intent.

(a) It is the intent of the legislature that, subject to W.S. 35-6-510:

(i) The abortion regulations that existed in Wyoming before the United States supreme court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 597 U.S. 2015 (2022) be in effect;

(ii) In light of the Wyoming supreme court's decision in State v. Johnson, 2026 WY 1, the abortion regulations that existed before the enactment of the Life is a Human Right Act be in effect so that abortion in Wyoming is regulated as it was before the United States Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs and the enactment of the Life is a Human Right Act and any subsequent enacted law regulating abortion in the state.

35-6-510. Whether article is effective.

(a) This article shall be effective only if a court has enjoined the enforcement or applicability of W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 or has held that W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 violates the Wyoming constitution or the United States constitution.

(b) The attorney general shall review the decisions of any court that challenges W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 to determine whether W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 are enforceable. If the attorney general determines that W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 are not enforceable or cannot take effect, the attorney general shall, within thirty (30) days of the date of the decision, report that fact to the governor, the joint judiciary interim committee and the governor, who may certify the effectiveness of this article to the secretary of state.

(c) After receiving certification from the governor that this article is effective, the secretary of state shall report that fact to the management council of the legislature, the joint judiciary interim committee and the Wyoming state board of medicine and shall immediately publish the effective date of this article on the website of the secretary of state, which effective date shall be five (5) days after the secretary of state receives certification under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) To the extent that W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 are enjoined but later determined to be legal, constitutional or enforceable after this article has taken effect, the provisions of W.S. 35-6-401 through 35-6-404 shall control and take precedence over this article.

Section 5. W.S. 5-8-102(a) by creating a new paragraph (vii) is amended to read:

5-8-102. Jurisdiction.

(a) The juvenile court has general jurisdiction in all matters and proceedings commenced therein or transferred to it by order of the district court concerning:

<u>(vii) Procedures governing abortions performed on minors as provided under W.S. 35-6-507, subject to W.S 35-6-510. For proceedings under this paragraph, "minor" shall mean as defined in W.S. 35-6-501(a)(v).</u>

Section 6. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 9, 2026.

Chapter 82

K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE-2

Original Senate File No. 81

AN ACT relating to K-12 public school finance; implementing the 2025 cost of education study as modified by the legislature; modifying the education resource block grant model; modifying cash reserves; restricting expenditure of funds distributed through the school foundation program account; creating a new grant program for the post secondary education enrollment options program; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; repealing provisions; providing an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-13-309.1 and 21-13-339 through 21-13-341 are created to read:

21-13-309.1. Education resource block grant model components.

(a) This section is intended to specify the education resource block grant model components and computations necessary to execute the 2025 cost of education study as required by W.S. 21-13-309(t) and as adopted and modified by the legslature.

(b) As used in this section:

(i) "Average daily membership" or "ADM" means as defined by W.S.

21-13-101(a)(i) and calculated pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(iv);

(ii) "Education resource block grant model" means as defined by W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv);

(iii) "Co-located school" means two (2) or more schools, each with its own administrative structure, that operate within the same physical facility, regardless of whether the schools serve the same or different grade bands;

(iv) "FTE" means full-time equivalency basis as computed in accordance with the department of education rule;

(v) "Grade band" means a school grade configuration that falls within one (1) of the following configurations:

(A) An elementary school grade band that includes grades kindergarten through grade six (6) or any combination of those grades;

(B) A middle school grade band that includes grades five (5) through eight (8) or grade six (6) through grades nine (9) or any combination of grades within those ranges;

(C) A high school grade band that includes grades eight (8) through grade twelve (12) or any combination of those grades.

(c) The education resource block grant model components and associated resources are as follows:

(i) Full day kindergarten. Funded for all elementary school grade bands;

(ii) Core teachers. For any school with greater than fifty (50) ADM, one (1.0) FTE for every sixteen (16) ADM for grades kindergarten through three (3), one (1.0) FTE for every twenty-two (22) ADM for grades four (4) through eight (8) and one (1.0) FTE for every twenty-five (25) ADM for grades nine (9) through twelve (12);

(iii) Elective/specialist teachers:

(A) Elementary school grade bands. FTE equal to twenty percent (20%) of the core teachers calculated pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(B) Middle school grade bands. FTE equal to thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of the core teachers calculated pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(C) High school grade bands. FTE equal to thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of the core teachers calculated pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this subsection.

(iv) For any school with greater than fifty (50) ADM, additional career and technical education teachers. FTE equal to thirty-four percent (34%) of each school's career and technical education students as determined pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(D)(I), divided by twenty-five (25);

(v) Minimum teachers. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model:

(A) For any school with greater than fifty (50) ADM, if the combined total FTE calculated pursuant to paragraphs (ii), (iii) and (iv) of this subsection is less than the applicable minimum specified in subdivisions (I) through (III) of this subparagraph, the grade band shall be provided the applicable minimum teacher FTEs as follows:

(I) For an elementary school grade band with greater than fifty (50) ADM, six (6) FTE and for an elementary school grade band with fifty (50) ADM or less, six (6) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying six (6) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the elementary school grade band ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50);

(II) For a middle school grade band with greater than fifty (50) ADM, seven (7) FTE and for a middle school grade band with fifty (50) ADM or less, seven (7) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying seven (7) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the middle school grade band ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50);

(III) For a high school grade band with greater than fifty (50) ADM, nine (9) FTE and for a high school grade band with fifty (50) ADM or less, nine (9) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying nine (9) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the high school grade band ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50).

(B) For any school with fifty (50) ADM or less, the minimum teacher FTEs shall be provided as follows:

(I) For an elementary school, six (6) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying six (6) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the school's ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50);

(II) For a middle school, seven (7) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying seven (7) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the school's ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50);

(III) For a high school, nine (9) FTE reduced on a pro rata basis, calculated by multiplying nine (9) teacher FTEs by a fraction, the numerator of which is the school's ADM and the denominator of which is fifty (50);

(IV) Notwithstanding subdivisions (I) through (III) of this subparagraph, each school shall receive a minimum of one (1.0) FTE.

(C) For any school district that includes grades kindergarten through grade twelve (12), if the combined total FTE calculated pursuant to paragraphs (ii), (iii) and (iv) of this subsection and subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph is less than seventeen (17) for the school district, additional FTEs shall be provided to ensure the total teacher FTE for the school district is equal to seventeen (17).

(vi) Summer school teachers. One (1.0) FTE for every one hundred twenty (120) at-risk students identified pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(A);

(vii) Extended day school teachers. One (1.0) FTE for every one hundred twenty (120) at-risk students identified pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(A);

(viii) English language learner teachers. One (1.0) FTE for every one hundred (100) students identified as limited English proficient in accordance with rules enacted by the department of education pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(A);

(ix) Instructional facilitators. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. One and one-half (1.5) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One and one-half (1.5) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. One and one-half (1.5) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this paragraph, each school district shall receive a minimum of one (1.0) FTE.

(x) At-risk/core tutors. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM. One (1.0) FTE for every one hundred (100) at-risk students identified pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(A), plus:

(A) Elementary schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM.

(xi) Substitute teachers. An amount equal to:

(A) For FTEs, five and seven hundred fifteen thousandths percent (5.715%) of the combined total FTEs generated by paragraphs (ii) through (x) of this subsection;

(B) For employer paid social security and Medicare benefits, the amount calculated in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph multiplied by a daily salary as specified in subparagraph (xxxiv)(P) of this subsection, multiplied by seven and sixty-five hundredths percent (7.65%).

(xii) Counselors. Resourced at each grade band:

(A) Elementary school grade bands. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle school grade bands. One (1.0) FTE for every two hundred fifty (250) ADM;

(C) High school grade bands. One (1.0) FTE for every two hundred fifty (250) ADM;

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this paragraph, each school district shall receive a minimum of one (1.0) FTE.

(xiii) Pupil support positions. One (1.0) FTE for every one hundred (100) at-risk students computed under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(A);

(xiv) Nurses. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this paragraph, each school district shall receive a minimum of one-half (0.5) FTE.

(xv) Supervisory aides. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. Two (2.0) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. Two (2.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. Three (3.0) FTE for every six hundred thirty (630) ADM.

(xvi) Librarians. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred thirty (330) ADM up to three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred fifteen (315) ADM up to three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. One (1.0) FTE for every six hundred thirty (630) ADM up to six hundred thirty (630) ADM;

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this paragraph, each school district shall receive a minimum of one-half (0.5) FTE.

(xvii) Library aides. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. One (1.0) FTE for each additional three hundred thirty (330) ADM above three hundred thirty (330) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One (1.0) FTE for each additional three hundred fifteen (315) ADM above three hundred fifteen (315) ADM;

(C) High schools. One (1.0) FTE for each additional six hundred thirty (630) ADM above six hundred thirty (630) ADM.

(xviii) Principals. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. One (1.0) FTE for each school with at least one hundred ten (110) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. One (1.0) FTE for each school with at least one hundred five (105) ADM;

(C) High schools. One (1.0) FTE for each school with at least one hundred five (105) ADM.

(xix) Assistant principals. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. The greater of:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for each additional three hundred thirty (330) ADM above three hundred thirty (330) ADM; or

(II) One (1.0) FTE for schools with less than one hundred ten (110) ADM.

(B) Middle schools. The greater of:

(I) One (1.0) assistant principal position for each additional three hundred fifteen (315) ADM above three hundred fifteen (315) ADM; or

(II) One (1.0) FTE for schools with less than one hundred five (105) ADM.

(C) High schools. The greater of:

(I) One (1.0) assistant principal position for each additional three hundred fifteen (315) ADM above three hundred fifteen (315) ADM; or

(II) One (1.0) FTE for schools with less than one hundred five (105) ADM.

(xx) School site secretaries. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model using total school ADM:

(A) Elementary schools. Two (2) FTE for three hundred thirty (330) ADM, prorated down to one and one-half (1.5) FTE for two hundred twenty

(220) ADM, prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for one hundred ten (110) ADM, one (1.0) FTE prorated below one hundred ten (110) ADM. For schools with greater than three hundred thirty (330) ADM, one (1.0) additional FTE for each additional one hundred sixty-five (165) ADM;

(B) Middle schools. Two (2.0) FTE for three hundred fifteen (315) ADM, prorated down to one and one-half (1.5) FTE for two hundred ten (210) ADM, prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for one hundred five (105) ADM, one (1.0) FTE prorated below one hundred five (105) ADM. For schools with ADM greater than three hundred fifteen (315) ADM, one (1.0) additional FTE for each additional one hundred fifty-seven and one-half (157.5) ADM;

(C) High schools. Three (3.0) FTE for six hundred thirty (630) ADM, prorated down to two (2.0) FTE for three hundred fifteen (315) ADM, prorated down to one and one-half (1.5) FTE for two hundred ten (210) ADM, prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for one hundred five (105) ADM, one (1.0) FTE prorated below one hundred five (105) ADM. For schools with ADM greater than six hundred thirty (630) ADM, one (1.0) additional FTE for each additional two hundred ten (210) ADM.

(xxi) Instructional and library materials. Three hundred dollars ($300.00) per ADM;

(xxii) Technology and equipment. Two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00) per ADM;

(xxiii) Gifted and talented students. Twenty-five dollars ($25.00) per ADM.

(xxiv) Student activities:

(A) School districts with two thousand (2,000) or more ADM: eight hundred thirty-three dollars ($833.00) per high school grade band ADM, four hundred forty-seven dollars ($447.00) per middle school grade band ADM and thirty-five dollars ($35.00) per elementary school grade band ADM;

(B) School districts with five hundred (500) ADM: two thousand eighty-two dollars and fifty cents ($2,082.50) per high school grade band ADM, one thousand one hundred seventeen dollars and fifty cents ($1,117.50) per middle school grade band ADM and eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents ($87.50) per elementary school grade band ADM;

(C) School districts with one hundred fifty (150) or fewer ADM: two thousand four hundred ninety-nine dollars ($2,499.00) per high school grade band ADM, one thousand three hundred forty-one dollars ($1,341.00) per middle school grade band ADM and one hundred five dollars ($105.00) per elementary school grade band ADM;

(D) For school districts with less than two thousand (2,000) ADM and more than five hundred (500) ADM the per ADM amounts specified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall be proportionally adjusted on a linear per ADM basis to the per ADM amounts specified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

(E) For school districts with less than five hundred (500) ADM and more than one hundred fifty (150) ADM the per ADM amounts specified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be proportionally adjusted on a linear per ADM basis to the per ADM amounts specified in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(xxv) Professional development. One hundred ninety-one dollars and forty-three cents ($191.43) per ADM;

(xxvi) Short cycle and formative assessments. Twenty-five dollars ($25.00) per ADM;

(xxvii) Central office staff. Central office staff shall be calculated utilizing the school district's ADM, as follows:

(A) For school districts with five hundred (500) ADM or less:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) One and one-half (1.5) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions;

(III) Two (2.0) FTE for secretary/accounting positions;

(IV) One (1.0) FTE for a computer technician position.

(B) For school districts with more than five hundred (500) ADM and less than or equal to one thousand (1,000) ADM:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) Two (2.0) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions at one thousand (1,000) ADM prorated down to one and one-half (1.5) FTE for five hundred (500) ADM;

(III) Three (3.0) FTE for secretary/accounting positions at one thousand (1,000) ADM prorated down to two (2.0) FTE for five hundred (500) ADM;

(IV) Two (2.0) FTE for computer technician positions at one thousand (1,000) ADM prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for five hundred (500) ADM.

(C) For school districts with more than one thousand (1,000) ADM and less than or equal to two thousand (2,000) ADM:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) Three (3.0) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions at two thousand (2,000) ADM prorated down to two (2.0) FTE for one thousand (1,000) ADM;

(III) Six and one-half (6.5) FTE for secretary/accounting positions at two thousand (2,000) ADM prorated down to three (3.0) FTE for one thousand (1,000) ADM;

(IV) Two and one-half (2.5) FTE for computer technician positions at two thousand (2,000) ADM prorated down to two (2.0) FTE for one thousand (1,000) ADM.

(D) For school districts with more than two thousand (2,000) ADM and less than or equal to four thousand (4,000) ADM:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) Four (4.0) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to three (3.0) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM;

(III) Ten (10.0) FTE for secretary/accounting positions at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to six and one-half (6.5) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM;

(IV) Five (5.0) FTE for computer technician positions at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to two and one-half (2.5) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM;

(V) Three (3.0) FTE for director/coordinator positions at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to zero (0.0) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM;

(VI) One (1.0) FTE for a network supervisor position at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to zero (0.0) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM;

(VII) One (1.0) FTE for a software manager position at four thousand (4,000) ADM prorated down to zero (0.0) FTE for two thousand (2,000) ADM.

(E) For school districts with more than four thousand (4,000) ADM and less than or equal to twelve thousand (12,000) ADM:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) Four (4.0) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions;

(III) Twenty (20.0) FTE for secretary/accounting positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to ten (10.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM;

(IV) Fifteen (15.0) FTE for computer technician positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to five (5.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM;

(V) Nine (9.0) FTE for director/coordinator positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to three (3.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM;

(VI) Two (2.0) FTE for network supervisor positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM;

(VII) Two (2.0) FTE for software manager positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to one (1.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM;

(VIII) Ten (10.0) FTE for other central office professional positions at twelve thousand (12,000) ADM prorated down to zero (0.0) FTE for four thousand (4,000) ADM.

(F) For school districts with more than twelve thousand (12,000) ADM:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for a superintendent position;

(II) Four (4.0) FTE for deputy/assistant superintendent positions;

(III) Twenty (20.0) FTE for secretary/accounting positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM;

(IV) Fifteen (15.0) FTE for computer technician positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM;

(V) Nine (9.0) FTE for director/coordinator positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM;

(VI) Two (2.0) FTE for network supervisor positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM;

(VII) Two (2.0) FTE for software manager positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM;

(VIII) Ten (10.0) FTE for other central office professional positions prorated up from twelve thousand (12,000) ADM.

(xxviii) Central office nonpersonnel resources. Six hundred six dollars ($606.00) per ADM;

(xxix) School custodians. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model for each school operating for the immediately preceding school year:

(A) For schools with more than fifty (50) ADM, calculated using the average of the four (4) factors specified under subdivisions (I) through (IV) of this subparagraph, plus an additional one-half (0.5) FTE for middle or high schools:

(I) One (1.0) FTE for every thirteen (13) FTE resourced under paragraphs (ii) through (v) of this subsection;

(II) One (1.0) FTE for every three hundred twenty-five (325) ADM;

(III) One (1.0) FTE for every thirteen (13) classrooms;

(IV) One (1.0) FTE for every eighteen thousand (18,000) square feet of authorized education space, as determined by W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(G).

(B) District custodians. One (1.0) FTE for every eighteen thousand

(18,000) square feet of authorized education space, multiplied by ten percent (10%) of the total authorized education space for all school buildings in the district, as determined under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(G).

(xxx) Maintenance workers. Resourced at the highest prototypical school model for each school operating for the immediately preceding school year:

(A) A base FTE resourced using the average of the four (4) factors specified under subdivisions (I) through (IV) of this subparagraph, plus the additional adjustments to the base FTE amount as provided in subdivision (V) of this subparagraph:

(I) One and one-tenth (1.1) FTE per school building;

(II) One (1.0) FTE for every sixty thousand (60,000) square feet of authorized education space, as determined under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(G), multiplied by one and two-tenths (1.2);

(III) One (1.0) FTE for every one thousand (1,000) ADM, multiplied by one and three-tenths (1.3);

(IV) One (1.0) FTE for every five million dollars ($5,000,000.00) of the school district's school year 2004-2005 general fund operating expenditures, multiplied by one and two-tenths (1.2);

(V) The base FTE calculated under this subparagraph for each school building shall be adjusted as follows:

(1) A school level adjustment for elementary schools equal to the product of the base FTE multiplied by a factor of eight-tenths (0.8) less the base FTE and for high schools equal to the product of the base FTE multiplied by two (2) less the base FTE;

(2) A building age adjustment for a school building that is less than ten (10) years old equal to the product of the base FTE multiplied by a factor of ninety-five hundredths (0.95) less the base FTE and for a school building that is more than thirty (30) years old equal to the product of the base FTE multiplied by a factor of one and one-tenth (1.1) less the base FTE;

(3) A small district adjustment for a school district with less than one thousand (1,000) ADM equal to the base FTE plus the adjustments under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subdivision, then multiplied by a factor of one and one-tenth (1.1) less the base FTE and the adjustments under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subdivision.

(xxxi) Groundskeepers. In making calculations under this paragraph:

(A) For school land acreage containing more than one (1) school building, the resources shall be generated at the highest applicable prototypical school model using the total ADM of all schools on the land acreage;

(B) Acreage acquired by a district after July 1, 1997 shall be calculated using the lesser of the actual site acreage on which the facility is situated or the acreage specified in the state construction department's rules, provided that this limitation shall not apply if the acreage was acquired through an exchange with another governmental entity and the acreages involved in the exchange were originally acquired by the district and the governmental entity on or prior to July 1, 1997;

(C) A base groundskeeper FTE for each school site for the immediately preceding school year shall be equal to the authorized acreage computed under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph multiplied by ninety-three (93) hours per acre divided by two thousand eight (2,008) hours of work per year. The base groundskeeper FTE shall be adjusted by a factor equal to the base groundskeeper FTE multiplied by one and five-tenths (1.5) for middle school sites and two and five-tenths (2.5) for high school sites;

(D) Groundskeeper FTE positions for district level sites shall be equal to ten percent (10%) of the school level groundskeeper FTE positions calculated under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

(xxxii) Operations and maintenance supplies. The authorized education space for each school building, as determined under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(G), multiplied by one dollar and two cents ($1.02) per square foot and adjusted by a factor of one and one-tenth (1.1);

(xxxiii) Utilities. Actual school year 2024-2025 general fund expenditures by school district excluding amounts reimbursed under W.S. 21-13-320 and 21-13-321 adjusted by the external cost adjustment in accordance with W.S. 21-13-309(o). For additional buildings added or removed from school district building inventories after school year 2024-2025, one hundred percent (100%) of 2024-2025 district average utility expenditures per gross square foot for district school buildings as adjusted by the external cost adjustment in accordance with W.S. 21-13-309(o) multiplied by the additional or removed square footage;

(xxxiv) Salaries. The average salaries for the positions specified in this subsection shall be as follows:

(A) Superintendents: one hundred sixty-four thousand three hundred sixty-seven dollars ($164,367.00);

(B) Deputy/assistant superintendents: one hundred twenty-four thousand nine hundred ninety-four dollars ($124,994.00);

(C) Director/coordinators: one hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred five dollars ($115,905.00);

(D) Other central office professional personnel: ninety thousand dollars ($90,000.00);

(E) Network supervisor/software managers: sixty-eight thousand five hundred sixteen dollars ($68,516.00);

(F) Computer technicians: sixty thousand three hundred fifty-eight dollars ($60,358.00);

(G) Principals: one hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred five dollars ($115,905.00);

(H) Assistant principals: one hundred eight thousand nine hundred fifty-one dollars ($108,951.00);

(J) Teachers, including instructional facilitators, tutors, counselors, pupil support, librarians and nurses: seventy-five thousand eight hundred sixty-three dollars ($75,863.00);

(K) Secretary/accounting personnel: forty-seven thousand four hundred thirty-two dollars ($47,432.00);

(M) Supervisory/library aides: twenty-nine thousand four hundred thirty-four dollars ($29,434.00);

(N) Maintenance workers: fifty-three thousand seven hundred twenty-four dollars ($53,724.00);

(O) Groundskeepers/custodians: thirty-seven thousand six hundred five dollars ($37,605.00);

(P) Substitute teachers: one hundred eighty-five dollars ($185.00) per day.

(xxxv) In determining the resources allocated to each school district, each salary specified in paragraph (xxxiv) of this subsection shall be adjusted in the following order:

(A) Multiplied by the external cost adjustment adopted by the legislature pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(o) and in accordance with paragraph (xxxviii) of this subsection;

(B) Multiplied by the lowest regional cost adjustment specified in subsection (f) of this section for the applicable school year to establish a baseline salary;

(C) The baseline salary for each position computed in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall be further multiplied by each school district's rebased regional cost adjustment determined in subsection (f) of this section for the applicable school year to determine the salary for each school district for each position.

(xxxvi) Employer-paid payroll costs. In determining the resources allocated to each school district, each salary shall be multiplied by eight and forty-one hundredths percent (8.41%), including:

(A) Social security equal to six and two-tenths percent (6.2%). Social security benefits shall be limited to each salary up to the maximum taxable earnings amount as of January 1 of the immediately preceding school year;

(B) Medicare equal to one and forty-five hundredths percent (1.45%);

(C) Workers' compensation equal to seven-tenths percent (0.7%);

(D) Unemployment insurance equal to six-hundredths percent (0.06%).

(xxxvii) Health insurance. Health insurance benefits shall be computed pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(F);

(xxxviii) External cost adjustment. The following categories of model components shall be adjusted by the external cost adjustment adopted by the legislature pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(o):

(A) "Education materials category" including the following components:

(I) Instructional and library materials component resourced under paragraph (xxi) of this subsection;

(II) Student activities component resourced under paragraph (xxiv) of this subsection;

(III) Professional development component determined under paragraph (xxv) of this subsection;

(IV) Central office nonpersonnel resources under paragraph (xxviii) of this subsection;

(V) Operations and maintenance supplies resources under paragraph (xxxii) of this subsection.

(B) "Energy category" includes the utilities component resourced under paragraph (xxxiii) of this subsection;

(C) "Nonprofessional labor category" includes salaries for secretaries and accounting staff, supervisory and library aides, groundskeepers and custodians and maintenance workers identified under paragraph (xxxiv) of this subsection;

(D) "Professional labor category" including salaries for superintendents, deputy and assistant superintendents, directors and coordinators, other central office professional personnel, network supervisors and software managers, computer technicians, principals, assistant principals and teachers identified under paragraph (xxxiv) of this subsection.

(d) Amounts resourced through the education resource block grant model for FTE generated pursuant to paragraphs (c)(ii) through (x) of this section shall only be expended by a school district for instructional purposes and shall not be expended or transferred for any other purpose. As used in the subsection, "instructional purposes" includes individual, group or class instructional activities to provide educational programs required under W.S. 21-9-101 by teachers, tutors, paraeducators or instructional aides or any combination thereof, the use of instructional facilitators or any other instructional activity to assist in the instructional process. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a district from hiring fewer or more positions than resourced under paragraphs (c)(ii) through (x) of this section, prohibit a district from hiring paraeducators or instructional aides for instructional purposes or prohibit a district from contracting to deliver the educational program. Expenditures related to technology and equipment or instructional materials are not appropriate expenditures for instructional purposes under this subsection.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, co-located schools shall be treated as a single school for purposes of funding, staffing and resource allocation through the education resource block grant model. The ADM for co-located schools shall be aggregated, and no component of the education resource block grant model, or any categorical allocation shall be calculated or distributed on a separate or duplicative basis for co-located schools, unless expressly authorized by law.

(f) The salary for each staffing category shall be further adjusted for regional cost differences as follows:

(i) By the hedonic wage index as computed in the 2025 cost of education study. For school year 2027-2028 and each year thereafter, the hedonic wage index shall be updated annually by the legislative service office until it is recalibrated in accordance with W.S. 21-13-309(t). Each salary under paragraph (c)(xxxiv) of this section shall be adjusted by the lowest annual hedonic wage index to establish a baseline state average salary for each position in the education resource block grant model. The baseline state average salary shall be further adjusted by each school district's rebased hedonic wage index with a minimum of one hundred (100) as the index value or an adjusted rebased hedonic wage index as computed in paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(ii) If the difference between a school district's rebased Wyoming cost-of-living index and its rebased hedonic wage index is greater than thirty-three (33) percentage points, the difference, less thirty-three (33) percentage points, shall be added to a district's rebased hedonic wage index. The version of the Wyoming cost-of-living index used under this paragraph for any school year shall be the average of the six (6) consecutive semi-annual index reports completed by January 1 of the immediately preceding school year and each semi-annual index report shall be rebased with the minimum of one (100) as the index value.

21-13-339. Retirement; K-12 public school employees.

In addition to amounts resourced and computed by the education resource block grant model and amounts reimbursed under W.S. 21-13-320 and 21-13-321, the department of education shall reimburse each school district for retirement benefits equal to the percentage paid for state employee members under W.S. 9-3-413 and 9-3-413.1, but only for those employees' salaries paid from amounts specified by W.S. 21-13-309.1, 21-13-320 or

21-13-321. If a portion of an employee's total salary is paid from funds other than those amounts specified by W.S. 21-13-309.1, 21-13-320 or 21-13-321, only the proportional amount shall be subject to reimbursement. The department shall promulgate rules regarding employee eligibility for reimbursement under this section and the information required from school districts to reimburse retirement benefit costs under this section. The department shall reimburse the amount computed under this section to each school district monthly or in accordance with the schedule provided under W.S. 21-13-313(c).

21-13-340. Instructional reserve account; expenditures; reporting.

(a) Each school district may establish an instructional reserve account.

(b) The account shall consist of any unexpended and unencumbered funds resourced through the education resource block grant model, pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309.1(c)(ii) through (x), for instructional purposes, as defined by W.S. 21-13-309.1(d). Interest and other earnings shall be credited to the account. Unexpended and unencumbered monies within the account at the end of each fiscal year shall not lapse but shall remain in the account. These funds shall be excluded from the school district's operating balance and cash reserves calculated pursuant to W.S. 21-13-313(e). In no event shall these funds be transferred or expended for any other purpose, except as authorized by subsection (c) of this section.

(c) Funds within the instructional reserve account may be expended by school districts for instructional purposes as defined by W.S. 21-13-309.1(d), to mitigate the fiscal impact of declining enrollment or to recruit, hire and retain instructional personnel.

(d) Each school district shall report annually to the department of education the balance of the instructional reserve account and a general accounting of the expenditures from the account. Reporting shall be in the manner and form required by the department of education.

(e) The department of education shall promulgate rules, including reporting requirements and procedures for districts, to implement this section.

21-13-341. Dual enrollment district reimbursement program; administration; application; distribution.

(a) In addition to funding generated by the education resource block grant model, the department of education shall reimburse each school district for amounts expended for student enrollment in and completion of dual enrollment courses pursuant to an agreement with the University of Wyoming or a community college under W.S. 21-20-201. From amounts appropriated by the legislature, the department of education shall distribute funds not to exceed ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) each school year from the public school foundation program account pursuant to this section.

(b) The department of education shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this section. The rules shall, at a minimum, establish the form, manner and procedures for submitting reimbursement requests and the timeline and process for approval or denial. Any denial shall be in writing and shall state the specific reasons for the denial.

(c) The department shall annually distribute funds to school districts in accordance with this section. If the funds appropriated for this program are insufficient to pay approved reimbursement expenses submitted by school districts, the payments shall be reduced on a pro rata basis relative to each school district's proportion of completed credit hours.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, school districts, the University of Wyoming and community colleges shall not limit the number of dual enrollment courses in which a student may enroll pursuant to W.S. 21-20-201.

(e) Not later than October 1 of each year, the department of education shall report to the joint education interim committee the total reimbursements awarded, the number of participating districts and students, total credit hours funded and the rate of completion and any pro rata reductions pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

Section 2. W.S. 9-3-413.1(a)(v), 16-4-105(b), 21-2-202(g), 21-2-204(b)(intro), 21-3-110(a) by creating a new paragraph (xlv), 21-3-314(c)(i) and (vi), 21-13-101(a)(xiv), (xvi)(A)(II) through (IV) and (c), 21-13-102(e), 21-13-307 by creating a new subsection (c), 21-13-309(m)(iv)(A), (v)(intro), (B)(intro), (IV)(intro), (F)(I), (II), by creating a new subdivision (IV), (G)(intro), (I), (II), (vi)(C), (o) and (u), 21-13-310(a) by creating new paragraph (xv) and by renumbering (xv) as (xvi), 21-13-313(b), (c), (e) and (g), 21-13-320(b)(intro), (f), (g)(intro), (v)(intro), (A), (vi), (m) and by creating a new subsection (o), 21-13-321(b) and (d), 21-13-338(a), (c)(intro), (i) through (iii) and (e) and 21-13-504 are amended to read:

9-3-413.1. Members' and employers' contributions based on actuarially determined contribution rates; calculation of rates; reports.

(a) Beginning with the 2027-2028 fiscal biennium, the retirement system shall calculate the percentage of salary for members' contributions required under W.S. 9-3-412(a) and for the employers' contribution required under W.S. 9-3-413 based on an actuarially determined contribution rate in accordance with the following:

(v) After calculation of the actuarially determined contribution rate under paragraph (ii) of this subsection, the state budget department and the retirement system shall calculate necessary amounts to account for any changes in the appropriations necessary to fund the contributions for the public employee retirement plan and shall include those amounts in the budget prepared under W.S. 9-2-1010 through 9-2-1014.1, including changes in amounts for school districts necessary to account for the employer's share of the actuarially determined contribution rate in accordance with this section for benefits paid ~~from the education resource block grant model defined in W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv) and as enumerated in Attachment A(b)(xxxviii), as defined in W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ in accordance with W.S. 21-13-339;

16-4-105. Accumulated retained earnings or fund surplus; capital improvements reserve.

(b) Except as specifically prohibited under W.S. 21-13-504(b) for school district boards of trustees, a municipality may appropriate funds from estimated revenue in any budget year to a reserve for capital improvements and for depreciation within any capital improvements fund, and for the purpose of purchasing or replacing specified equipment or a depreciation reserve for equipment, which has been duly established by ordinance. Money in the reserves may be allowed to accumulate from year to year until the accumulated total is sufficient to permit economical expenditure for the specified purposes. Disbursements from reserves shall be made only by transfer to a revenue account within a capital improvements fund pursuant to an appropriation for the fund. The amount appropriated to reserves under this subsection in any budget year shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the municipality's total revenues for that budget year.

21-2-202. Duties of the state superintendent.

(g) Paragraphs (a)(xxxviii) and (xxxix) of this section are repealed ~~July 1, 2026~~ July 1, 2027.

21-2-204. Wyoming Accountability in Education Act; statewide education accountability system created.

(b) A statewide education accountability system shall be established by the state board through the department of education in accordance with this section, which implements the components of the education resource block grant model as defined by W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv) and as contained in ~~Attachment "A" as defined under~~ W.S. ~~21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ 21-13-309.1. The first phase of this system shall be a school-based system that is based on student performance as determined through multiple measures of school performance. The goals of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act are to:

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xlv) Commencing with the budget prepared and adopted for school year 2027-2028 in accordance with W.S. 16-4-109 and 16-4-111, the budget shall contain a section to report staffing and expenditure variances from each component contained within the education resource block grant model as defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv). Any variance plus or minus seven and one-half percent (7.5%) shall be reported in each budget with an explanation for each variance, by component of the education resource block grant model. The variances calculated and reported under this paragraph shall be on a dollar and position basis.

21-3-314. Students counted among district ADM; determination of charter school funding.

(c) The charter school shall be entitled to the following amounts:

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (vi) of this subsection, one hundred percent (100%) of the foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309(m) and 21-13-309.1 based upon the average daily membership of the charter school, less amounts generated by the charter school's membership under ~~paragraph (b)(xxix) of "Attachment A" as defined in~~ W.S. ~~21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ 21-13-309.1(c)(xxiv) and (xxvii) and less amounts specified under W.S. 21-13-309(m)(v)(E)(III) through (V);

(vi) A percentage amount calculated by dividing the charter school's average daily membership by the total average daily membership of the charter school's respective school district multiplied by the amounts generated from the foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309(m) and ~~paragraph (b)(xxix) of "Attachment A" as defined in~~ W.S. ~~21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ 21-13-309.1(c)(xxiv) and (xxvii).

21-13-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this chapter:

(xiv) "Education resource block grant model" means the block grant model for Wyoming school finance contained within the enumeration of model components summarizing and executing ~~recommendations within~~ the ~~2010~~ 2025 cost of education study as modified by the legislature and as ~~referenced in paragraph (xvii) of this subsection~~ contained in W.S. 21-13-309.1. "Education resource block grant model" or "model" includes model spreadsheets updated with technical corrections, all of which are enacted into law, on file with the secretary of state and are maintained and made available for public inspection by the state superintendent under W.S. 21-2-202(e), and as may be subsequently modified by the legislature prior to future model recalibration required under W.S. 21-13-309(t);

(xvi) "Prototypical school model" means a school level, comprised of cost, resource and enrollment parameters, as described within the education resource block grant model. The separate school levels identified with the model are as follows:

(A) Elementary school - kindergarten through grade five (5) modeled at cost and resource levels for:

(II) ~~Ninety-six (96)~~ One hundred ten (110) ADM;

(III) ~~One hundred ninety-two (192)~~ Two hundred twenty (220) ADM; and

(IV) ~~Two hundred eighty-eight (288)~~ Three hundred thirty (330) ADM.

(c) The education resource block grant model as defined under paragraph (a)(xiv) of this section and as ~~included in "Attachment A" referenced in paragraph (a)(xvii) of this section~~ contained in W.S. 21-13-309.1 and operationalized through the model spreadsheets, as each are enacted into law, and including any technical correction which may be implemented by rule ~~and regulation~~ of the state superintendent under W.S. 21-2-202(e), shall be filed with the secretary of state.

21-13-102. Maximum rate of school district tax; recapture of excess; equalization of permissive levies.

(e) Annually on or before ~~August 15~~ September 1 the department shall notify each district subject to recapture of the estimated amount due to the state during the current fiscal year, using data from the previous school year. Upon receipt of the state assessed values by school districts, and not later than ~~March 1~~ May 31 of the current fiscal year, the department shall certify to each district subject to recapture the amount of recapture for the fiscal year to be remitted to the state. The amount certified shall supersede the estimates certified on or before ~~August 15~~ September 1. If a district can demonstrate financial inability to make payments to the state as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the superintendent of public instruction may adjust the schedule of payments provided by subsection (b) of this section if the financial integrity of the foundation program will not be jeopardized.

21-13-307. Eligibility to share in distribution of money from foundation account; mandatory financial reporting; prohibition of spending foundation program funds on capital construction.

(c) In no event shall any school district transfer or expend any foundation program amounts, defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(v), including but not limited to revenues collected under W.S. 21-13-310 and amounts paid to the school district for the purpose of funding operational expenses under this chapter, for major building and facility repair or replacement, as defined under W.S. 21-15-109(a)(iii), or for a project, as defined under W.S. 21-15-111(a)(iv) or for any educational building, office building, portable building, teacherage or warehouse building, as defined under W.S. 21-15-109(a).

21-13-309. Determination of amount to be included in foundation program for each district.

(m) In determining the amount to be included in the foundation program for each district, the state superintendent shall:

(iv) Based upon reports from each district on schools operating within that district for the current school year and on grade configurations contained within each reported school during that school year, compute the average daily membership (ADM) for each reported school and each grade within each reported school in accordance with identified grade configurations subject to the following:

(A) If the district's average ADM for the ~~three (3)~~ two (2) immediately preceding school years is greater than the district's ADM from the previous school year, each reported school shall be computed based upon the average of the school's ADM counts completed at the end of the ~~three (3)~~ two (2) immediately preceding school years, otherwise each reported school within the district shall be computed based on the school's ADM for the previous school year;

(v) Based upon ADM computations and identified school configurations within each district pursuant to paragraph (iv) of this subsection, compute the foundation program amount for each district as prescribed by the education resource block grant model ~~adopted by the Wyoming legislature~~ as defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv).~~, as contained within the spreadsheets and accompanying reports referenced under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii).~~ The following criteria shall be used by the state superintendent in the administration of the education resource block grant model:

(B) Alternative schools ~~qualifying for separate consideration under the education resource block grant model~~ may be established by a school district for offering educational programs to students with educational needs which the district finds are not appropriately met by other schools in the district, excluding charter schools established under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314. Alternative schools included within a district's configuration of schools identified under paragraph (iv) of this subsection shall for purposes of the education resource block grant model:

(IV) ~~Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (V) of this subparagraph, on and after July 1, 2014, and if not qualifying under subdivision (I) of this subparagraph,~~ Be approved as an alternative school by the state superintendent subject to the following:

(F) Amounts provided within the model for health insurance shall be based upon:

(I) ~~Prior year statewide average district weighted~~ The actual ~~participation~~ participants, for each month of the prior year, of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees funded with amounts allocated from the education resource block grant model in district health insurance plans ~~as to the proportion of~~ categorized into employee only, split contracts, employee plus spouse, ~~or~~ employee plus children and family coverage. Each

FTE reported under this subdivision shall be adjusted by the department of education to reflect eligible participation in the state group health insurance plan and proportional contribution percentages. For any FTE reported under this subdivision funded from the education resource block grant model and any other source of funds, a proportional share of the FTE shall be used for purposes of this subparagraph;

(II) Each reported employee under subdivision (I) of this subparagraph shall be multiplied by the annualized state contribution rate as of January 1 of the preceding school year, on behalf of each employee and official enrolled in the state group health insurance plan, for employee only, split contracts, employee plus spouse~~,~~ ~~or~~ employee plus children and family coverage except as provided in subdivision ~~(III)~~ (IV) of this subparagraph; and

(IV) For school year 2027-2028 and each school year thereafter, the amount provided to school districts for health insurance shall be computed as follows:

(1) The amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (II) of this subparagraph, subject to subdivision (2) of this subdivision;

(2) If the actual prior school year health insurance expenditures for employees funded with amounts allocated from the education resource block grant model is less than the amount calculated under subdivision (II) of this subparagraph for that school year, the difference shall be subtracted from the amount calculated pursuant to subdivision (II) of this subparagraph.

(G) Amounts within the education resource block grant model for maintenance and operations shall be based upon the lesser of the actual educational gross square footage of school buildings and facilities or the education space prescribed by statewide adequacy standards under W.S. 21-15-115 subject to the following:

(I) Actual gross square footage of school buildings and facilities shall be separated into education ~~and noneducation~~ space categories by school and by district, including leased square footage but excluding square footage not used for delivering the required educational program and the square footage of any building or facility closed and not operational as provided under W.S. 21-15-109(c)(iv);

(II) Actual gross square footage of education space shall be the gross square footage prescribed by statewide building adequacy standards promulgated pursuant to W.S. 21-15-115. ~~Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision,~~ Education space capacity in excess of one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of the standard space level shall not be included in actual gross square footage computations under this subdivision. ~~For school year 2025-2026, education space capacity in excess of one hundred thirty-five percent (135%) of the standard space level shall not be included in actual gross square footage computations under this subdivision;~~

(vi) Except for charter schools established under W.S. 21-3-301 through 21-3-314 and alternative schools approved under subdivision (v)(B)(IV) of this subsection, any alteration of the configuration of grades within a district, school or school facility which differs from the configuration of grades during the immediately preceding school year as reported under paragraph (iv) of this subsection shall be considered a reconfiguration and shall be documented by the district and reported to the state superintendent and the director of the state construction department. Following review and evaluation, the state superintendent and the director of the state construction department shall, each acting independently, approve or deny the reconfiguration for purposes of application to the education resource block grant model and the determination of school facility needs and remedies. The following shall apply:

(C) ~~Effective for the school year commencing after July 1, 2012, and each school year thereafter,~~ No reconfiguration of grades within any district, school or facility shall differ from the previous school year such that more than one (1) school is included within any one (1) school facility to be reported under paragraph (iv) of this subsection for purposes of determining the foundation program amount for that district;

(o) To the extent specifically provided by the legislature, and between periods of model recalibration required under subsection (t) of this section, the amount computed for each district under subsection (m) of this section shall be adjusted to provide for the effects of inflation, excluding those amounts specified under subparagraphs (m)(v)(E) and (F) of this section, the technology and equipment component as specified in W.S. 21-13-309.1(c)(xxii), the gifted and talented students component as specified in W.S. 21-13-309.1(c)(xxiii) and the short cycle and formative assessment component ~~contained in paragraph (b)(xxviii) of "Attachment A" as referenced~~ as specified in W.S. ~~21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ 21-13-309.1(c)(xxvi). The adjustment under this subsection shall not be applied until the expiration of the school year immediately following the first school year of application of the recalibrated model, and shall be adjusted on a cumulative basis each school year thereafter and until the first school year of application of a subsequent model recalibration. Following analysis of information reported under subsection (u) of this section, the joint appropriations ~~interim~~ committee shall submit a recommendation to the legislature and the governor not later than November 1 of each applicable year on an external cost adjustment for purposes of this subsection.

(u) To ensure model components specified under the education resource block grant model defined under W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv), as enumerated and enacted by the legislature and ~~included in "Attachment A" referenced in W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii)~~ as specified by W.S. 21-13-309.1, remain resourced at cost-based levels between periods of model recalibration required under subsection (t) of this section, and prior to adjustment for the effects of inflation for any school year under subsection (o) of this section, the joint education interim committee shall annually receive and review reports in accordance with this subsection and report to the joint appropriations ~~interim~~ committee as required by this subsection. The legislative service office shall assemble information necessary to develop a model monitoring process and other reports for the committee using data maintained by the department of education and other state agencies. For this purpose, the department shall annually update and compile information, in a format contained within reports provided during ~~2010~~ 2025 model recalibration, reported at the model component level, on school district allocation of model resources, as well as other information provided for purposes of developing and completing the ~~2010~~ 2025 cost of education studies. Each year excluding the first school year of application of any model recalibration performed under subsection (t) of this section, the information and analysis assembled by the legislative service office under this subsection shall be reported to the joint education interim committee in sufficient time to allow committee review of and deliberation on the report and the submission of recommendations to the joint appropriations ~~interim~~ committee by October 15 of the applicable school year. Report recommendations shall be used by the joint appropriations ~~interim~~ committee in its determination of legislative recommendation on model adjustment under subsection (o) of this section.

21-13-310. Annual computation of district revenues.

(a) To ensure revenues available to each district are uniformly sufficient to enable compliance with the uniform standards for educational programs prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and to secure state board accreditation of educational programs under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(ii), the revenues specified under this subsection shall be deemed state revenues and shall be considered in determining the amount to be distributed to each district under W.S. 21-13-311. A district shall make an annual computation of the following revenues:

(xv) One-half (1/2) of the amount of realized investment earnings received on school district investments;

~~(xv)~~(xvi) All other revenues received or collected by the district during the previous school year, but excluding any amount received from private contributions and gifts, excluding any revenues dedicated by law to the payment of bonded indebtedness, and any revenues from the disposition of school buildings and land pursuant to W.S. 21-15-123(f)(vi), and excluding fees or other charges imposed by the district for goods or services, such as rental fees and the price paid for admission into any place for recreation, entertainment or an athletic event. Upon application of a district, the department shall exclude from this paragraph revenue received by the district if the department finds that the revenue could not be used by the district to provide educational services to students.

21-13-313. Distribution of funds from foundation account; property tax and cash reserve adjustment; regulations.

(b) The state superintendent shall determine on or before ~~August 15~~ September 1 of each year the tentative allotment of foundation funds to which each district is entitled under this article. In making this determination, the state superintendent may, if current fiscal information required by law to compute the tentative allotment is not available for any district, ~~by August 1 of that year,~~ use fiscal information available to the state superintendent from the foundation program computations of the previous school year for that district. The previous year's fiscal information shall be adjusted to reflect current fiscal changes and other information known by or available to the state superintendent. Upon receiving actual fiscal information from a district, the state superintendent shall accordingly adjust future foundation program determinations for that district such that foundation program payments appropriately reflect current fiscal information for the applicable school year.

(c) ~~Fifteen percent (15%)~~ Ten percent (10%) of each district's entitlement shall be paid to the district on or before ~~August 15~~ July 15 of each year and subject to any adjustment under subsections (d) and (e) of this section, ~~ten percent (10%)~~ nine percent (9%) of each district's entitlement shall be paid on or about the fifteenth day of each month through April of each year. The final payment for the balance of each district's entitlement shall be distributed on or before May 15 of each year. If~~, after March 1 and before April 1,~~ the state superintendent determines that the entitlement to be paid to a district for that school year is not accurate, the state superintendent shall adjust payments to or payments from that district as necessary to correct the inaccuracy as soon as practicable. Except as provided under W.S. 21-2-202(e) and 21-13-307(b), after ~~March 31~~ June 30 of any school year, the state superintendent shall not adjust any district's entitlement or fiscal information used to compute a district's entitlement for that school year, and the entitlement or fiscal information shall only be adjusted thereafter in accordance with audit review pursuant to W.S. 9-15-13.

(e) Not later than January 31 of each fiscal year, and except where a different percentage is otherwise specified in this subsection, the department shall compute the amount by which each district's operating balance and cash reserves at the end of the preceding fiscal year exceed ~~fifteen percent (15%)~~ twenty percent (20%) of the total foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309, 21-13-309.1, 21-13-321 and 21-13-339 for the preceding fiscal year. ~~In making this calculation, the entire operating balance and cash reserves for each district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, as computed by the department, shall be separately accounted for and excluded, until it has been completely expended by the district.~~ Revenues from settlements of protested amounts attributable to levies assessed under W.S. 21-13-102(a)(i)(A) and (ii)(A) and 21-13-201, regardless of the assessment year, shall be accounted for and excluded from the calculation under this subsection for a period of not more than one (1) year following that fiscal year in which the revenue was received by a district, as verified in writing by the district and certified by the county treasurer. Except ~~as otherwise provided in 1997 Special Session Laws, chapter 3, section 306(e), as amended, and except~~ as excluded under this subsection, that excess shall be deemed to be a state revenue under W.S. 21-13-310(a) for the purpose of determining distributions under W.S. 21-13-311 and amounts to be rebated under W.S. 21-13-102. The department shall promulgate rules, including reporting requirements and procedures for districts, to implement this subsection. As used in this section, "operating balance and cash reserves" means those financial resources of the district which are not encumbered by the district board of trustees for expenditure to meet an existing legal obligation or otherwise restricted by law or regulation for expenditure on specific educational programs. For purposes of this subsection, any balance within a district's separate account established under W.S. 21-15-109(e) for major building and facility repair and replacement shall be deemed restricted by law for expenditure as provided by W.S. 21-15-109(e) and shall not be considered an operating balance and cash reserve under this section. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, the department shall compute the amount by which each district's operating balance and cash reserves at the end of the preceding fiscal year exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309<u>, 21-13-309.1, 21-13-321 and 21-13-339</u> for the preceding fiscal year. ~~During this period, the amount of a district's operating balance and cash reserves that may be increased from fifteen percent (15%) to thirty percent (30%) of the total foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309 for the preceding fiscal year shall be accounted for and reported separately and shall not be transferred or expended for purposes of capital construction. For purposes of this subsection, "capital construction" does not include major building and facility repair and replacement as defined under W.S. 21-15-109(a)(iii).~~

(g) In addition to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the state superintendent shall, for any district subject to W.S. 21-13-102(b) as determined by the department for any school year, or for any district not subject to W.S. 21-13-102(b) whose entitlement amount determined under W.S. 21-13-311(a) for any school year is equal to or less than twenty percent (20%) of the foundation program amount computed under W.S. 21-13-309(p), and upon demonstration by the district of financial need as documented by cash flow analysis, provide payments from the public school foundation program account in an amount not to exceed one-fifth (1/5) of the foundation program amount computed for that district for that school year in accordance with W.S. 21-13-309. The computed amount shall be paid to each eligible district on or ~~before September 1~~ <u>after July 1</u> based upon tentative computations under W.S. 21-13-309, for which the department may use fiscal information available from foundation program computations for the previous school year in the manner provided under subsection (b) of this section. Any district receiving a payment under this subsection shall repay the public school foundation program account not later than ~~December 15~~ <u>June 15</u> of that school year.

21-13-320. Student transportation; amount within school foundation program formula for transportation maintenance and operations expenditures and school bus purchases; school year 2026-2027 reimbursement; repeal of subsection (o) of this section effective July 1, 2027; district reporting requirements.

(b) There shall be an amount computed for each school district equal to ~~the base price amount for bus purchase and lease payment expenditures made by the district during the previous school year pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and for~~ the amount actually expended by the district during the previous school year for:

(f) The department of education shall adopt necessary rules ~~and regulations~~ to implement and enforce state standards established under this section and to administer this section. District expenditures computed under subsection (b) of this section shall not include expenditures for ~~employee~~ contributions to the Wyoming retirement system exceeding the amount specified in W.S. ~~9-3-413.1(b)(iii)~~ <u>21-13-339</u> of any member employee's salary. In addition, the department shall, in accordance with procedures prescribed by department rule<u>,</u> ~~and regulation,~~ establish a base price for each school bus type or other student transportation vehicle type for the applicable fiscal period that complies with minimum state standards for vehicle specifications and equipment. The department shall also establish a process including competitive bidding which guarantees the acquisition of school buses and other student transportation vehicles approved for reimbursement and complying with state minimum standards and district fleet size restrictions at the established base price for the applicable fiscal year. Department rules shall establish appropriate restrictions on how and under which conditions a school district may procure a school bus or other student transportation vehicle~~, either through purchase or lease,~~ to ensure that the procurement method used is the most cost effective. School districts shall notify the department of school bus and other student transportation vehicle needs and requirements for the appropriate fiscal year in the manner and within the times prescribed by department rule<u>,</u> ~~and regulation,~~ and shall report expenditures~~,~~ <u>and</u> purchases ~~and lease arrangements~~ for the applicable reporting period, including vehicles replaced by purchases<u>,</u> ~~and leases,~~ as required by department rule<u>.</u> ~~and regulation.~~ The department shall annually review and conduct audits as necessary of information submitted under this section. As authorized under W.S. 21-13-307(b), the department may correct the information reported by districts under this section as necessary to fairly and accurately reflect the data type, classification and format required to administer this section in accordance with law and department rules<u>.</u> ~~and regulations.~~

(g) In addition to amounts provided pursuant to subsection (b) of this section~~,~~ ~~and for purchases and leases conducted~~ in a manner consistent with department rules, the ~~transportation adjustment for each district under this section shall include an~~ department shall reimburse each school district for the amount ~~computed under this subsection~~ expended for the purchase ~~or lease~~ of school buses and other vehicles used primarily for the transportation of students to and from school and to and from school activities. ~~Computations of~~ Amounts provided under this subsection shall be in addition to and shall not be considered in determining the school foundation program amount under the education resource block grant model pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309. Amounts reimbursed under this subsection shall be based upon the base price established by the department under subsection (f) of this section for the student transportation vehicle type~~. Amounts included within the adjustment under this subsection~~ and shall be subject to the following:

(v) ~~The adjustment~~ Reimbursement for the purchase ~~or lease~~ of buses and other student transportation vehicles authorized under this subsection shall be paid by the department not later than three (3) months after the month in which the school district expends the funds for the purchase and shall be in an amount equal to:

(A) ~~One-fifth (1/5) of~~ The base price established under subsection (f) of this section for each ~~purchased~~ school bus or other ~~purchased~~ student transportation vehicle ~~for which reimbursement is authorized and which is made~~ purchased by the district~~, during the preceding five (5) years~~;

(vi) ~~Amounts included within the adjustment for~~ School bus purchases ~~or leases~~ that are fully or partially paid for or rebated under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, 42 U.S.C. § 16131 et seq., or other similar program, shall be made in accordance with department rule and regulation.

(m) No district shall purchase ~~or lease~~ a school bus unless it first demonstrates to the department and the department determines that the school district has in good faith attempted to purchase ~~or lease~~ a bus that will be fully or partially paid for or rebated under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, 42 U.S.C. § 16131 et seq., or other similar program.

(o) For school year 2026-2027 only, the department of education shall reimburse each school district for any remaining balance for buses or other student transportation vehicles purchased in accordance with this section prior to July 1, 2026. This subsection is repealed July 1, 2027.

21-13-321. Special education; amount provided for special education programs and services; reimbursement for out-of-district placements; district reporting requirements; billing for Medicaid authorized school based services.

(b) Except for expenditures for out-of-district special education placements, the amount provided to a school district for special education shall be equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the amount actually expended by the district during the previous school year for special education programs and services, which shall include the amount actually expended by the district during the previous school year for reasonable administrative costs to bill for authorized Medicaid services under subsection (h) of this section. Amounts ~~awarded~~ provided under this section shall be in addition to and shall not be considered in determining the school foundation program amount under the education resource block grant model pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309. Except for expenditures for out-of-district special education placements, the department of education shall distribute the amount computed under this section to each school district in the same proportion and schedule of distributions under W.S. 21-13-313(c). Expenditures by a district for out-of-district special education placements shall be reimbursed in the year in which the costs are incurred and shall be distributed to each school district on a quarterly basis in accordance with rules adopted by the department of education.

(d) The department of education shall adopt necessary rules ~~and regulations~~ to implement and administer this section. Districts shall report special education program expenditures for the applicable reporting period as required by department rule and regulation. District expenditures computed under subsection (b) of this section shall not include expenditures for ~~employee~~ contributions to the Wyoming retirement system ~~exceeding the amount~~ specified in W.S. ~~9-3-413.1(b)(iii)~~ 21-13-339 of any member employee's salary. The department shall annually review and report to the joint education interim committee regarding services provided to special education students by school districts. In addition, the department shall when necessary, conduct audits of information submitted by districts under this section and may, in accordance with W.S. 21-13-307(b), correct the information reported by districts as necessary to fairly and accurately reflect the data type, classification and format required to administer this section in accordance with law and department rule and regulation.

21-13-338. Career and technical education supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment; criteria; limitations.

(a) ~~Commencing with school year 2025-2026,~~ To augment amounts within the education resource block grant model available to districts for career and technical education programs, the department of education shall distribute career and technical education supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment funding in accordance with this section.

(c) Amounts distributed to each school district for career and technical education supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment funding under this section shall be calculated as follows:

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection, the product of each school's FTE career and technical education teachers reported under subsection (b) of this section multiplied by ~~fourteen thousand one hundred eighty-four dollars and sixty-eight cents ($14,184.68)~~ fourteen thousand three hundred thirty-six dollars ($14,336.00);

(ii) If a school's FTE career and technical education teachers reported in subsection (b) of this section is less than two (2), the amount of funding for the school's career and technical education supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment funding shall be equal to ~~twenty-eight thousand three hundred sixty-nine dollars and thirty-six cents ($28,369.36)~~ twenty-eight thousand six hundred seventy-two dollars ($28,672.00);

(iii) The department shall further adjust the amounts for career and technical education supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment funding in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection by any external cost adjustment enacted by the legislature for the educational materials category of the educational resource block grant model.

(e) Each district shall report to the department on the expenditure of amounts distributed under this section and shall provide other information as required by rule of the department. Amounts distributed under this section shall only be expended on supplies, materials, equipment and repair of equipment for career and technical education programs.

21-13-504. Special reserve fund.

(a) Except as prohibited under subsection (b) of this section, the board of trustees of each Wyoming school district may create a special reserve fund of a specified amount, for the purpose of purchasing or replacing specified equipment or a depreciation reserve for equipment and school building repair. The board may annually include in its budget for the ensuing fiscal year, the amount so designated, as a special fund, expendable only for the purposes stated and segregated as such, from general and other special school funds, disbursements therefrom to be made from time to time by the school clerk's warrants drawn against said special fund, as duly ordered by said board; provided, that said amount so specially budgeted for any fiscal year shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total amount budgeted for the same year; and further provided, that any difference in the amount so specially budgeted for any such year and the amount expended from said fund during such year, may be retained in and carried over as a part of the special reserve fund.

(b) In no event shall any funds generated by the school foundation program, defined by W.S. 21-13-101(a)(v), that are transferred to a special reserve fund be expended by the board of trustees of a school district for major building and facility repair or replacement, as defined under W.S. 21-15-109(a)(iii), for a project, as defined under W.S. 21-15-111(a)(iv) or for any educational building, office building, portable building, teacherage or warehouse building, as defined under W.S. 21-15-109(a).

Section 3. W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvi)(A)(I), (B)(I), (C)(I) and (xvii), 21-13-309(m)(v)(B)(I), (V), (C), (F)(III) and (G)(III), 21-13-320(g)(v)(B) and (h)(i) are repealed.

Section 4. 2011 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 185, ATTACHMENT "A", 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 99, Section 3, 2017 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 205, Sections 3 and 4, 2018 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 137, Sections 2 and 3 and 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 108, Section 3 are repealed.

Section 5.

(a) The select committee on school finance recalibration as created by 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140 is hereby continued. As specified in subsection (b) of this section, the select committee shall continue the recalibration study of the education resource block grant model as required by W.S. 21-13-309(t) to ensure the model remains cost-based. The study shall include any potential responses to judicial directives. The legislative service office shall staff the select committee.

(b) At a minimum, the select committee on school finance recalibration shall study the following areas in the context of K-12 public education:

(i) Mental health supports, including core counselors, nurses and at-risk pupil support resources. The study shall include consideration of data collected from school years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 for amounts distributed pursuant to 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 331 to schools for mental health services;

(ii) School safety and security personnel, including employment of school resource officers;

(iii) School nutrition programs, including the school lunch programs;

(iv) Technology, including the necessity of one (1) computer for each student for all K-12 public students and district and school-level technology infrastructure and cyber security.

(c) The select committee on school finance recalibration shall report its recommendations and any associated legislation to the legislature. The select committee may sponsor and introduce legislation as provided in W.S. 28-8-104(e).

(d) The select committee on school finance recalibration shall remain in existence until December 31, 2026. Composition of the select committee and appointment of members shall be as contained in 2025 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140, Section 1(a) and (b). Any vacancy occurring on the select committee shall be filled without delay by the president of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives, as appropriate.

(e) The department of education, other state agencies, school districts and the school data advisory committee established under W.S. 21-2-203(d) shall collect and provide information requested by the select committee or professional consultant experts working with the select committee.

Section 6.

(a) Notwithstanding any other law, for school years 2026-2027 through 2028-2029, each school district shall establish a teacher salary schedule, including pay tables, experience steps and educational lanes, that ensures that teacher salaries paid by the school district are equal to the greater of:

(i) The average teacher salary for each school district as calculated pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309.1; or

(ii) Up to one hundred ten percent (110%) of the average teacher salary paid by the district for the preceding school year.

Section 7. Two hundred seventy-five million sixty-five thousand nine hundred fifty-five dollars ($275,065,955.00) is appropriated from the public school foundation program account to the department of education-school finance for purposes of making payments to school districts in accordance with this act and to supplement amounts otherwise appropriated by the 2026 legislature in 2026 Senate File 0001 for the school foundation program. It is the intent of the legislature that twenty million five hundred sixty-five thousand nine hundred fifty-five dollars ($20,565,955.00) not be included in the department of education-school finance's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 8.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 5, 6 and 8 are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 9, 2026.

Chapter 83

LONG-TERM HOMEOWNER TAX EXEMPTION-REVISIONS

Original House Bill No. 45

AN ACT relating to taxation; revising the deadline to apply and the exemption amount for the property tax exemption for long-term homeowners; providing a method to claim the property tax exemption in subsequent years; establishing a limitation on the long-term homeowner tax exemption; amending definitions; repealing the sunset date of the property tax exemption; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xlv)(A), (B), (C)(II) and by creating new subparagraphs (D) and (E) is amended to read:

39-11-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following property is exempt from property taxation:

(xlv) A portion of property used as a primary residence by long-term homeowners as provided in this paragraph. The following shall apply to this exemption:

(A) For residential real property used as a primary residence, if the owner or their spouse is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and the owner or their spouse has paid residential property tax in Wyoming for twenty-five (25) years or more on any residential property, the amount of the exemption shall be fifty percent (50%) of the ~~assessed value~~ fair market value of the residential real property, provided that the exemption shall only apply to the first three million dollars ($3,000,000.00) of the fair market value of the residential real property;

(B) Except as provided by subdivision (C)(II) of this paragraph, not more than one (1) exemption under this paragraph shall apply to the same property in any year and no owner shall claim more than one (1) exemption under this paragraph in any year including property that houses more than one (1) family. To claim an exemption under this paragraph the owner of the residential real property shall submit a claim to the county assessor not later than ~~the fourth Monday in May~~ March 1 each year on forms provided by the department of revenue demonstrating that the person is the owner of the property, that the person or the person's spouse is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and has paid residential property tax in Wyoming for twenty-five (25) years or more on any residential property and that the property is the person's primary residence. A surviving spouse of a person who qualified under this paragraph and who would not otherwise qualify under this paragraph shall continue to qualify for the exemption under this paragraph. False claims are punishable as provided by W.S. 6-5-303;

(C) As used in this paragraph:

(II) "Primary residence" means residential real property in Wyoming where the person claiming the exemption actually resides for not less than eight (8) months of the year. If a primary residence is sold and another property is purchased within the state of Wyoming, the months residing in both owner-occupied residences shall apply to the requirements of this exemption;

(D) After filing a sworn claim pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, in subsequent years the claimant shall remain qualified for the tax exemption provided by this paragraph if the claimant contacts the assessor's office by telephone, mail or other communication method on or before March 1 and confirms that the claimant continues to meet the requirements set forth in this paragraph;

(E) If the secretary of state certifies to the department of revenue that the voters have approved an initiative implementing a homeowner's property tax exemption and the exemption is enacted into law, an owner who qualifies and applies for an exemption under this paragraph shall not qualify for the exemption under the initiative.

Section 2. 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 106, Section 2 is repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 84

FORESTRY DIVISION WILDLAND FIRE MODULES

Original House Bill No. 36

AN ACT relating to the state forester; authorizing positions; providing for an appropriation for wildland fire suppression modules; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The state forestry division of the office of state lands and investments is authorized twenty-four (24) employee positions for purposes of this section. Of the positions authorized in this subsection, four (4) shall be full-time employee positions consisting of regional fire managers and suppression module leaders, four (4) shall be nine-month temporary full-time employee positions and sixteen (16) shall be six-month temporary full-time employee positions. It is the intent of the legislature that the positions authorized in this subsection be included in the office of state lands and investments' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated five million one hundred forty-four thousand dollars ($5,144,000.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for two (2) wildland fire suppression modules for the state forestry program. Funds appropriated in this subsection shall be for the positions authorized in subsection (a) of this section, support costs, equipment and costs associated with hiring, training, certifying and supervising two (2) specialized teams to support wildfire suppression and hazardous fuels reduction projects in the state. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that, of this appropriation, one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) not be included in the office of state lands and investments' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 2. This act is effective April 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 85

STATE FUNDED CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

Original House Bill No. 111

AN ACT relating to state funded capital construction; providing definitions; providing appropriations for purposes related to state funded capital construction and major maintenance; making appropriations subject to terms and conditions as specified; amending prior appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Appropriation" means the authorizations granted by the legislature under this act to make expenditures from and to incur obligations against the general and other funds as specified;

(ii) "FF" means federal funds;

(iii) "Major maintenance" means as defined by W.S. 9-2-3001(b)(ix);

(iv) "PR" means private funding sources;

(v) "SR" means an agency's account within the special revenue fund;

(vi) "S0" means other funds identified by footnote;

(vii) "This appropriation," when used in a footnote in this act, shall be construed as a reference to that portion of the appropriated funds identified in the footnote.

(b) Appropriations for projects in this act remain in effect until the project is completed, unless otherwise provided. The amounts appropriated for projects in this act shall be expended only on the projects specified and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining upon completion of a project shall revert to the accounts from which they were appropriated, unless otherwise provided. The amounts appropriated in this act are intended to provide a maximum amount for each project from any source, excluding contingency funding, and shall not be construed to be an entitlement or guaranteed amount. This subsection shall not apply to appropriations for major maintenance in this act, except as specifically provided.

[CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION]

Section 2.

(a) The following sums of money are appropriated for the capital construction projects specified:

(i) Appropriations and authorization for projects administered through the state construction department:

Section 027. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PROGRAM					
SCD - Level I/II [1.]	1,200,000				1,200,000
SBC - Contingency	5,962,485				5,962,485
MIL – WYARNG Modernization	5,000,000	5,000,000			10,000,000
MIL - WYARNG Trng. Brrcks.		42,000,000			42,000,000
AGR - Fair Show Ctr. Floor			2,000,000	PR	2,000,000
DOH - VHW Remodel [2., 3.]	87,000,000				87,000,000
LCCC - Auto Tech. Reno.			4,435,824	PR	4,435,824
LCCC – Science Ctr. Reno.	4,397,855		3,546,658	PR	7,944,513
LCCC – Crossroads Bldg. Reno.	4,298,887		3,466,844	PR	7,765,731
LCCC - Comm. Ctr. Reno.	4,178,114		3,369,447	PR	7,547,561
NWCCD - Science Bldg. Reno	15,194,676		12,253,775	PR	27,448,451
CWC - Indust. Fac. Reno.			4,086,049	PR	4,086,049
CWC – Jackson [4.]	750,000		750,000	PR	1,500,000
GCCD - Enzi Center [5.]	6,000,000		6,000,000	PR	12,000,000
TOTALS	133,982,017	47,000,000	39,908,597		220,890,614

1. (a) This appropriation is for level I, level II and master plan studies, including any combination thereof, for the following projects:

(i) Department of agriculture – state fair dormitories;

(ii) Office of state lands and investments, division of forestry - facilities in or near Newcastle, Wyoming;

(iii) Wyoming community college commission – industrial technology building at Casper college;

(iv) Wyoming community college commission – health science facility at Casper college.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, after funds are obligated for all studies specified in subsection (a) of this footnote, any remaining unobligated funds from this appropriation are authorized for expenditure on any level I, level II and master plan studies approved by the state building commission.

2. The state construction department is authorized to retain a qualified owner's

representative for the veterans' home of Wyoming remodel. From this general fund appropriation, the department may expend an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars ($500,000.00) for retention of the qualified owner's representative.

3. (a) Federal funds received by the state of Wyoming for state run veterans' home facilities shall:

(i) Be deposited to the legislative stabilization reserve account in an equivalent amount of expended general funds to the extent funds from this appropriation have been expended; and

(ii) Reduce this appropriation by one dollar ($1.00) for each one dollar ($1.00) in federal funds for any remaining federal funds received in excess of the amount deposited to the legislative stabilization reserve account in accordance with this footnote.

4. Expenditures of this general fund appropriation shall be conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated funds from the general fund to not less than one dollar ($1.00) from private funding sources from any other source from the requesting community college.

5. (a) This appropriation is for the development and construction of the Enzi applied learning center at Gillette college, provided that:

(i) Funds from this appropriation shall not be expended unless Gillette college provides for a levy of four (4) mills in accordance with W.S. 21-18-205(a)(ii);

(ii) Funds from this general fund appropriation shall be conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar ($1.00) from any nonstate source.

(ii) Appropriations and authorization for projects administered through the department of state parks and cultural resources:

Section 024. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PROGRAM					
SPCR - Outdoor Rec.			6,600,000	SR	6,600,000
SPCR – Terr. Prison			250,000	SR	250,000
SPCR – Water Fac.			430,000	SR	430,000
SPCR - Quebec 01 Fac.			50,000	SR	50,000
TOTALS			7,330,000		7,330,000

[MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUNDING FOR STATE FACILITIES, STATE PARKS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES, UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES]

Section 3.

(a) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2026, and subject to W.S. 9-4-207(d)(iv), there is appropriated two hundred thirty-three million three hundred fifty-four thousand nine hundred forty-three dollars ($233,354,943.00) from the general fund for major maintenance to the entities and in the amounts specified as provided in this subsection. This appropriation shall be distributed as follows:

(i) Thirty-seven and six tenths percent (37.6%) to the state construction department for state buildings, facilities and sites managed by the state building commission and state institutions;

(ii) Seven and ninety-nine hundredths percent (7.99%) to the department of state parks and cultural resources to fund major maintenance requests submitted by the department of state parks and cultural resources as approved by the state building commission;

(iii) Thirty-six and thirty-four hundredths percent (36.34%) to the University of Wyoming for university buildings, facilities and sites, excluding student housing, the student union and auxiliary services areas, the latter being those areas funded by university self-sustaining revenues;

(iv) Eighteen and seven hundredths percent (18.07%) to the state construction department for community college district buildings, facilities and sites.

[WYOMING STATE PENITENTIARY CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT - APPROPRIATION AMENDMENTS]

Section 4.

(a) 2023 Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 10(a) by creating a new paragraph (iv) and by creating a new subsection (c) is amended to read:

Section 10.

(a) There is appropriated an amount not to exceed ten million dollars ($10,000,000.00) from the Wyoming state penitentiary capital construction account to the state construction department for, in consultation with the department of corrections:

(iv) Acquiring land for a future state penitentiary under subsection (c) of this section.

(c) Prior to the acquisition of land under paragraph (a)(iv) of this section the state construction department shall consult with the office of state lands and investments and the department of corrections to identify and evaluate potential land acquisitions taking into account location, price, geotechnical conditions, soil quality and any other factors determined relevant by the department of corrections and the office of state lands and investments. Any land acquisitions under this section shall be subject to approval of the state building commission.

(b) 2023 Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 10(b) is repealed.

[WYOMING STATE SHOOTING COMPLEX]

Section 5.

(a) As used in this section, "Wyoming state shooting complex" means a facility located in Park county, near Cody, that is described in the state shooting complex development and oversight task force final recommendation that was submitted to the governor, the joint appropriations committee and the joint travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim committee, dated August 8, 2024.

(b) From the unexpended, unobligated balance of the state shooting complex account appropriated under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a)(ii) and the expenditure of which requires additional action of the legislature, up to two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, is hereby authorized for expenditure in accordance with this section.

(c) From the unexpended, unobligated balance of the state shooting complex account appropriated under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a)(iii) and the expenditure of which requires additional action of the legislature, up to two million five hundred thousand dollars ($2,500,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, is hereby authorized for expenditure in accordance with this section.

(d) Notwithstanding 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(b), funds authorized for expenditure under this section shall be expended, without delay and as directed by the Wyoming state shooting complex joint powers board through the department of state parks and cultural resources, for costs related to the Wyoming state shooting complex that are described in and subject to the terms of a memorandum of understanding between the Wyoming state shooting complex joint powers board and the department of state parks and cultural resources executed on September 3, 2025.

(e) Funds authorized for expenditure under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, the authority to expend funds under this section shall remain in effect and not lapse at the end of the fiscal period except upon further legislative action. Funds authorized for expenditure under this section shall be reduced by one dollar ($1.00) for every one dollar ($1.00) appropriated to the state shooting complex account in 2026 House Bill 0001 or Senate File 0001, if enacted into law.

(f) Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining in the state shooting complex account from appropriations under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a) and not otherwise authorized for expenditure under this section shall revert to the accounts from which they were appropriated.

[EFFECTIVE DATE]

Section 6. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 86

WHP, DCI AND WARDEN RETIREMENT BENEFITS-AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 41

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; providing a monthly death benefit for specified law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-613 by creating a new subsection (d) is amended to read:

9-3-613. Payment on death; duty related.

<u>(d) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, if a member of the retirement program is killed in the line of duty, any surviving spouse of the member shall receive a monthly death benefit payment of ninety percent (90%) of the member's salary, plus six percent (6%) of that salary for each child under the age of eighteen (18).</u>

Section 2. This act shall apply to the distribution of death benefits subject to this act made on or after the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 87

CARRYING OF CONCEALED WEAPONS-AGE REQUIREMENT

Original House Bill No. 96

AN ACT relating to weapons; amending the age requirement for a qualified person to be issued a permit to carry a concealed weapon; making conforming amendments; repealing obsolete provisions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-8-104(b)(ii) and (aa) is amended to read:

6-8-104. Wearing or carrying concealed weapons; penalties; exceptions; permits.

(b) The attorney general is authorized to issue permits to carry a concealed firearm to persons qualified as provided by this subsection. The attorney general shall promulgate rules necessary to carry out this section no later than October 1, 1994. Applications for a permit to carry a concealed firearm shall be made available and distributed by the division of criminal investigation and local law enforcement agencies. The permit shall be valid throughout the state for a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance. The permittee shall carry the permit, together with valid identification at all times when the permittee is carrying a concealed firearm and shall display both the permit and proper identification upon request of any peace officer. The attorney general through the division shall issue a permit to any person who:

(ii) Is at least ~~twenty-one (21)~~ eighteen (18) years of age;

(aa) Notwithstanding the provisions of W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112, the attorney general and members of the division of criminal investigation are immune from personal liability for issuing, for failing to issue and for revoking any concealed firearms permit under this section. A sheriff, police chief, employee of a sheriff or police chief's office shall not be personally liable for damages in a civil action arising from any information submitted pursuant to subsections (g) ~~through (j)~~ and (h) of this section. Nothing in this section shall relieve any governmental entity of any liability pursuant to W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120.

Section 2. W.S. 6-8-104(j) is repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 88

PROHIBIT RED FLAG GUN SEIZURE ACT-PENALTY AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 98

AN ACT relating to protection of constitutional rights; providing a misdemeanor offense for violations of the Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-14-303 by creating a new subsection (d) is amended to read:

9-14-303. Civil actions permitted, remedies; criminal offense.

<u>(d) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than two thousand dollars ($2,000.00), or both.</u>

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 89

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

Original House Bill No. 43

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; creating the offenses of money laundering and illegal investments; providing definitions; providing penalties; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-3-1101 through 6-3-1103 are created to read:

ARTICLE 11
MONEY LAUNDERING AND ILLEGAL INVESTMENT

6-3-1101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Financial or business institution" includes a foreign or domestic money transmitter or an authorized agent thereof, casino, check casher, person engaged in a trade or business or any other person required by state or federal law to report regarding currency transactions or suspicious transactions.

6-3-1102. Money laundering; penalties.

(a) A person is guilty of money laundering if the person:

(i) Transports or possesses property the person knows or reasonably should know to be derived from criminal activity or represent proceeds of criminal activity;

(ii) Directs, organizes, finances, plans, manages, supervises or controls the transportation of or transactions in property the person knows or reasonably should know to be derived from criminal activity or represent proceeds of criminal activity; or

(iii) Engages in a transaction involving property the person knows or reasonably should know to be derived from criminal activity or represent proceeds of criminal activity:

(A) With the intent to facilitate or promote the criminal activity; or

(B) Knowing that the transaction is designed, in whole or in part:

(I) To conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership or control of the property derived from criminal activity; or

(II) To avoid a transaction reporting requirement under the laws of this state, any other state or of the United States. For purposes of this subdivision, the transaction or transactions shall not be required to exceed any transaction reporting threshold under state or federal law at any single financial or business institution on any single day.

(b) Money laundering is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(c) This section shall not apply to a financial institution whose deposits are insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or the national credit union share insurance fund or to its employees with respect to transactions for depositors or borrowers unless an employee conducts those transactions with the intent to do one (1) or more of the following:

(i) To facilitate or promote criminal activity;

(ii) To conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership or control of property derived from criminal activity;

(iii) To avoid a transaction reporting requirement under the laws of Wyoming, the United States or another state.

6-3-1103. Illegal investment; penalties.

(a) A person is guilty of illegal investment if, with the intent to evade a transaction reporting requirement of this state or of 31 U.S.C. § 5311 et seq. or 31 C.F.R. § 1010.100 et seq., or any rules or regulations adopted under those chapters and sections, the person:

(i) Causes a financial or business institution to fail to report or to file a report that contains a material omission or misstatement of fact; or

(ii) Structures or assists in structuring any transaction with one (1) or more financial or business institutions. For purposes of this paragraph, "structures" or "structuring" means that a person, acting alone, or in conjunction with or on behalf of other persons, conducts one (1) or more currency transactions, in any amount, at one (1) or more financial or business institutions, on one (1) or more days, in any manner, for the purpose of evading currency transaction reporting requirement of this state or of 31 U.S.C. § 5311 et seq. or 31 C.F.R. § 1010.100 et seq., or any rules or regulations adopted under those chapters and sections. For purposes of this paragraph, the transaction or transactions need not exceed any reporting threshold under state or federal law at any single financial or business institution on any single day.

(b) Illegal investment is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 90

IDENTIFICATION CARDS-RENEWAL FOR CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS

Original House Bill No. 80

AN ACT relating to identification cards; authorizing the renewal of identification cards by residents of nursing care facilities and assisted living facilities without appearing in person as specified; specifying limitations on the renewal of identification cards; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-8-103(d) and by creating a new subsection (e) is amended to read:

31-8-103. Expiration; records; new cards; renewal by persons living in care facilities.

(d) The division shall send a notification for an identification card to the last known address of every eligible registrant, or notify by electronic means if the eligible registrant has consented to receive notices electronically, within one hundred twenty (120) days prior to expiration of the registrant's identification card. The notification shall conspicuously advise registrants of the requirement that in person voters present acceptable identification immediately before voting at the polling place or absentee polling place and that an identification card is a form of acceptable identification. <u>The notice shall also state that persons living in nursing care facilities and assisted living facilities may renew the identification card by mail in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.</u> Every identification card is renewable upon application and payment of the required fee. As used in this section, "last known address" means the address, email address or other electronic contact information, as applicable according to the sending method, on file with the division.

<u>(e) A person who is a resident of a nursing home or assisted living facility may renew an identification card issued under this article without appearing in person, subject to all of the following:</u>

<u>(i) The person renewing the identification card:</u>

<u>(A) Is a full-time resident of a nursing care facility as defined by W.S.</u>

35-2-901(a)(xvi) or an assisted living facility as defined by W.S. 35-2-901(a)(xxii);

(B) Submits an application, the required fee and a notarized attestation as part of the application from an administrator or manager of the nursing care facility or assisted living facility that the person is a full-time resident of the facility;

(C) Furnishes all documentary evidence necessary to verify any material change to information listed on the original identification card.

(ii) No person shall be authorized to renew an identification card under this subsection if the person has renewed the card under this subsection two (2) times in the last sixteen (16) years unless the person's most recent photograph taken by the department of transportation is not more than sixteen (16) years old on the date of renewal;

(iii) No person shall renew an identification card under this subsection if the person is changing any of the personal identifying information on the identification card in accordance with W.S. 31-8-103(c).

Section 2. The Wyoming department of transportation shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(b) Section 1 of this act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 91

PROTECTING KIDS FROM DEEPFAKES AND EXPLOITATIVE IMAGES

Original House Bill No. 102

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; specifying that using artificial intelligence to commit a criminal offense shall not be a defense to the offense; establishing criminal offenses concerning the use of synthetic sexual material or artificial intelligence against children; establishing criminal offenses concerning the use of artificial intelligence to promote self-harm or to censor political speech; providing immunity for developers of artificial intelligence systems as specified; specifying penalties; providing and amending definitions; providing causes of action; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-1-143, 6-1-206, 6-4-307, 6-4-308 and 6-4-701 are created to read:

1-1-143. Developers of artificial intelligence systems; liability; limitations.

(a) As used in this section, "artificial intelligence system" means as defined by W.S. 6-1-104(a)(xix).

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the developer of an artificial intelligence system shall not be liable for damages arising from the use of an artificial intelligence system when another person used the system with the intent to commit or engage in illegal or illicit activities or to cause harm.

(c) The immunity provided in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply if the artificial intelligence system was developed with the knowledge or intent that the primary purpose of the system would be for illegal or illicit activities.

6-1-206. Artificial intelligence; liability and defense.

(a) Nothing in the Wyoming Criminal Code shall be construed to prohibit the application of this code against activity facilitated by an artificial intelligence system.

(b) The use of an artificial intelligence system by a person to commit a criminal offense shall not be a defense to a criminal charge.

6-4-307. Unlawful distribution of nonconsensual synthetic sexual material.

(a) A person commits the offense of unlawful distribution of nonconsensual synthetic sexual material if:

(i) The person:

(A) Knowingly, distributes, transmits or otherwise makes available synthetic sexual material that realistically depicts another identifiable person without that person's knowledge or consent;

(B) At the time of the distribution or transmission, knows that the synthetic sexual material was created or altered without the knowledge or consent of the depicted person and under circumstances in which the depicted person had a reasonable expectation of privacy; and

(C) The distribution of the synthetic sexual material causes harm to the depicted person or is intended to cause harm to the depicted person.

(ii) The person promotes synthetic sexual material on an internet website, social media website or other digital platform knowing the character and content of the synthetic sexual material; or

(iii) The person intentionally threatens to distribute synthetic sexual material that depicts a person's intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual conduct without that person's consent and makes the threat to obtain a benefit in:

(A) Return for not making the disclosure; or

(B) Connection with the threatened disclosure.

(b) It shall not be a defense to prosecution under this section that the person depicted in the synthetic sexual material:

(i) Created or consented to the creation of the synthetic sexual material, unless the depicted person is the person who distributes, transmits or otherwise makes the material available for lawful purposes; or

(ii) Voluntarily transmitted the synthetic sexual material to the defendant.

(c) Unlawful distribution of synthetic sexual material is:

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection, a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both;

(ii) For a second or subsequent conviction under this section or of a substantially similar law of any other jurisdiction, a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than twelve (12) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(d) Nothing in this act shall be construed to impose liability on interactive computer services as defined in 47 U.S.C. 230(f)(2) or on information services or telecommunications services as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153 for content provided by another person.

6-4-308. Unlawful development or distribution of artificial intelligence system for child pornography.

(a) As used in this section, “child pornography” means as defined by W.S. 6-4-303(a)(ii).

(b) A person commits the offense of unlawful development or distribution of an artificial intelligence system for child pornography if the person:

(i) Knowingly develops or distributes an artificial intelligence system specifically designed to create, distribute or promote child pornography or to create, distribute or promote synthetic sexual material; and

(ii) Develops or distributes the artificial intelligence system with the intent that the system be used by other persons to create, distribute or promote child pornography or with knowledge that the system will be used to create, distribute or promote child pornography.

(c) This section shall not apply:

(i) To any artificial intelligence system that produces content that promotes child pornography solely as a result of user prompts or inputs and without the developer’s intent to encourage or promote child pornography;

(ii) To conduct taken in the course of bona fide school, college, university, museum or public library activities or in the course of employment of such an organization;

(iii) To conduct taken in the course of law enforcement and judicial activities;

(iv) To an interactive computer service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 230(f)(2) or to an information service or telecommunications service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153 for content provided by another person.

(d) Unlawful development or distribution of an artificial intelligence system for child pornography is a felony punishable by imprisonment not to exceed ten (10) years, a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

ARTICLE 7
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFENSES

6-4-701. Unlawful development or distribution of artificial intelligence systems intended to promote self-harm.

(a) As used in this section, "self-harm" means any behavior or action that is self-directed and that deliberately results in bodily injury, serious bodily injury or death or the potential of bodily injury, serious bodily injury or death to oneself.

(b) A person commits the offense of unlawful development or distribution of an artificial intelligence system intended to promote self-harm if the person:

(i) Knowingly develops or distributes an artificial intelligence system specifically designed to promote self-harm; and

(ii) Develops or distributes the system with the intent that the system will be used by others to promote self-harm or with knowledge that the system will be used to promote self-harm.

(c) This section shall not apply:

(i) To any artificial intelligence system that produces content that promotes self-harm solely as a result of user prompts or inputs and without the developer's intent to encourage or promote self-harm;

(ii) To conduct taken in the course of bona fide school, college, university, museum or public library activities or in the course of employment of such an organization;

(iii) To conduct taken in the course of law enforcement and judicial activities;

(iv) To licensed health care providers providing legitimate medical or therapeutic services;

(v) To an interactive computer service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 230(f)(2) or to an information service or telecommunications service as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153 for content provided by another person.

(d) Unlawful development or distribution of an artificial intelligence system to promote self-harm is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

Section 2. W.S. 6-1-104(a) by creating a new paragraph (xix) and by renumbering (xix) as (xx), 6-4-301(a) by creating new paragraphs (vi) and (vii) and 6-4-303(a)(ii)(intro), (b) by creating new paragraphs (v) and (vi) and (c) through (e) are amended to read:

6-1-104. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act, unless otherwise defined:

(xix) "Artificial intelligence system" means any machine learning-based system that can, for any given set of objectives, generate outputs that include images, audio content, video content, digitally generated text, three-dimensional models, predictions, recommendations or decisions influencing physical or virtual environments;

~~(xix)~~(xx) "This act" means title 6 of the Wyoming statutes.

6-4-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(vi) "Intimate parts" means as defined by W.S. 6-2-301(a)(ii);

(vii) "Synthetic sexual material" means material that has been created, altered or manipulated through the use of an artificial intelligence system or another digital method to realistically depict the intimate parts of a specific person.

6-4-303. Sexual exploitation of children; penalties; definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(ii) "Child pornography" means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, computer or computer-generated image, film, video or picture, whether or not made or produced by electronic, mechanical or other means, of explicit sexual conduct, where:

(b) A person is guilty of sexual exploitation of a child if, for any purpose, he knowingly:

(v) Uses an artificial intelligence system to generate or create child pornography;

(vi) Possesses child pornography that the person knows was generated by an artificial intelligence system.

(c) The sexual exploitation of a child pursuant to paragraphs (b)(i) through (iii) and (v) of this section is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than twelve (12) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(d) The sexual exploitation of a child by possession of sexually exploitive material pursuant to paragraph (b)(iv) of this section or by possession of child pornography generated by an artificial intelligence system under paragraph (b)(vi) of this section is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

(e) A second or subsequent conviction pursuant to paragraphs (b)(i) through ~~(iv)~~ (vi) of this section, or of a substantially similar law of any other jurisdiction, is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than seven (7) years nor more than twelve (12) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00), or both.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 92

REMOVING TRIPLE TAXATION FOR RESIDENT EV DRIVERS

Original House Bill No. 145

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; amending the collection of and process for alternative fuel taxes; providing a per kilowatt hour license tax on electricity used to propel an electric vehicle; amending and providing definitions; reducing the annual decal fee for plug-in hybrid vehicles; requiring display of per kilowatt hour taxes; amending sales of alternative fuels from sales taxation; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-3-102(a)(xxiii) and by creating a new paragraph (xxiv), 39-15-105(a)(v) by creating a new subparagraph (E), 39-17-301(a)(iii), (iv), (vii), (xiii), (xvi), (xxv), (xxviii), (xxxviii), (xlviii) and by creating new paragraphs (l) through (lii), 39-17-303(a) by creating a new paragraph (iii), (c) by creating new paragraphs (ii) and (iii), 39-17-304(a)(intro) and by creating a new paragraph (iv), 39-17-307(a)(i) through (iv), (b)(i) and (iii), 39-17-308(c)(ii) and 39-17-309(c)(i), (ii) and (iv) are amended to read:

31-3-102. Miscellaneous fees.

(a) The following fees shall be collected for the instruments or privileges indicated:

(xxiii) An annual decal ~~which~~ that shall include the bucking horse and rider emblem for ~~a plug-in registered and licensed electric~~ an all-electric vehicle as defined in W.S. ~~39-17-301(a)(xxxviii)~~ 39-17-301(a)(l) .....~~$200.00~~ $100.00

(xxiv) An annual decal that shall include the bucking horse and rider emblem for a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle as defined in W.S. 39-17-301(a) (xxxviii).. $50.00

39-15-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following sales or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(v) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property which are alternatively taxed, the following are exempt:

(E) Sales of alternative fuels taxed under W.S. 39-17-301 through 39-17-311.

39-17-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iii) "Alternative fuels" includes pure methanol, ethanol and other alcohols, blends of eighty-five percent (85%) or more of alcohol with gasoline, natural gas, liquid fuels produced from natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas or propane, coal-derived liquid fuels, hydrogen, electricity sold or dispensed at a DC fast charging station, pure biodiesel (B100), fuels other than alcohol which are derived from biological materials, renewable diesel and P-Series fuels. The state of Wyoming may designate by rule other fuels as alternative fuels if not previously defined as fuels under this chapter;

(iv) "Billed gallons" means the gallons, gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE), ~~or~~ diesel gallon equivalent (DGE) or kilowatt hours billed to the customer;

(vii) "Bulk alternative fuel" means thirty-five (35) gallons or more or the gasoline gallon equivalent~~,~~ or the diesel gallon equivalent, ~~or gasoline gallon equivalent for electricity delivered at one (1) time,~~ excluding alternative fuels delivered into the attached tanks or auxiliary tanks of a licensed motor vehicle;

(xiii) "Dealer" means any person who dispenses, sells or offers to sell alternative fuel at a specific location in this state, including any person selling or offering to sell alternative fuel at Wyoming airports;

(xvi) "Dispenser" means the point of taxation for compressed natural gas, ~~and~~ liquefied natural gas and any other alternative fuel designated by the department. The "dispenser" is the point where the ~~gas~~ alternative fuel is delivered into the fuel supply tank of a motor vehicle;

(xxv) "Gasoline gallon equivalent" or "GGE" means the gasoline gallon equivalent applied to nonliquefied compressed natural gas in the amount of five and sixty-six hundredths (5.66) pounds of compressed natural gas;~~. The gasoline gallon equivalent applied to electricity is 33.56 kilowatt hours (kWh);~~

~~(xxviii)~~ "Hybrid electric vehicle" means a vehicle that uses two (2) or more distinct power sources to move the vehicle neither of which can be recharged from any external source of electricity including a wall socket. "Hybrid electric vehicle" includes a vehicle which includes an internal combustion engine and one (1) or more electric motors but vehicles ~~which~~ that use other mechanisms to capture and use energy may also be included. "Hybrid electric vehicle" does not include an all-electric vehicle or a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle;

~~(xxxviii)~~ "Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle" means any motor vehicle that uses two (2) or more distinct power sources to move the vehicle and one (1) of which can be recharged from any external source of electricity, including a wall socket, and the electricity stored in the rechargeable battery drives or contributes to drive the wheels of the vehicle. "Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle" does not include a hybrid electric vehicle, an all-electric vehicle, a motorcycle as defined in W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xv)(E) or a multipurpose vehicle as defined in W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xv)(M);

(xlviii) "User" means any person who uses alternative fuel within this state ~~in an internal combustion engine~~ for the generation of power to propel a motor vehicle upon a highway;

(l) "All-electric vehicle" means a motor vehicle that uses only electric energy to propel the vehicle, can be recharged from an external source of electricity and can use stored electricity to drive or contribute to driving the wheels of the motor vehicle. "All-electric vehicle" shall not include a hybrid electric vehicle, a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, a motorcycle as defined in W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xv)(E) or a multipurpose vehicle as defined in W.S. 31-1-101(a)(xv)(M);

(li) "Charge" means to receive and store electric energy;

(lii) "DC (direct current) fast charging station" means a device used to charge a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or an all-electric vehicle that meets the definition of "DC Level 1," "DC Level 2" or "DC Level 3" as defined in Standard J1772 of the SAE International standards and any future updates to those standards, or an equivalent power output level.

39-17-303. Imposition.

(a) Taxable event. The following shall apply:

(iii) There is levied and shall be collected a license tax on all electric energy sold or dispensed for sale or use in this state for charging a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or an all-electric vehicle at a DC fast charging station.

(c) Taxpayer. The following shall apply:

(ii) Each dealer dispensing or selling electricity for charging motor vehicles at a DC fast charging station shall collect the license tax imposed by this article and is liable for the entire amount of license taxes imposed. Each DC fast charging station shall be metered as to the amount of electric energy sold or dispensed for charging;

(iii) Every person who sells or offers to sell to the retail trade electricity at a DC fast charging station for use in motor vehicles shall conspicuously display the price per kilowatt hour including all applicable taxes.

39-17-304. Taxation rate.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section and W.S. 39-17-305, the total tax on alternative fuel used to propel a motor vehicle shall be twenty-four cents ($.24) per gallon. The gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) shall be used for compressed natural gas~~;~~ or liquid petroleum gas. ~~or electricity.~~ The diesel gallon equivalent (DGE) shall be used for liquefied natural gas or renewable diesel. The rate shall be imposed as follows:

(iv) Notwithstanding paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this subsection, there is levied and shall be collected a license tax of three and one-half cents ($.035) per kilowatt hour on all electricity sold or dispensed for sale or use in this state to propel a motor vehicle except for electricity exempted under W.S. 39-17-305.

39-17-307. Compliance; collection procedures.

(a) Returns and reports. The following shall apply:

(i) On ~~or before the last day of each month~~ a date required by department rule:

(A) When alternative fuel is purchased to propel a motor vehicle or distributed in Wyoming from a Wyoming licensed supplier, the supplier shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons or kilowatt hours sold in the state ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit all taxes due for alternative fuel sold to an end user;

(B) When alternative fuel is purchased out of Wyoming for use, sale or distribution to propel a motor vehicle in Wyoming, the Wyoming licensed supplier shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons or kilowatt hours used, sold or distributed ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit all taxes due under this article for fuel sold to an end user;

(C) Each Wyoming licensed supplier with a Wyoming retail location shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons or kilowatt hours of alternative fuel used to propel a motor vehicle ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit taxes due under this article for fuel sold to an end user or a retail location;

(D) When alternative fuel is purchased in Wyoming from a Wyoming licensed refiner, the refiner shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons used, sold or distributed ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit all taxes due for fuel sold to an end user;

(E) Each Wyoming licensed distributor, importer, exporter with Wyoming retail locations shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons or kilowatt hours of alternative fuel imported and used to propel a motor vehicle ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit taxes due under this article for fuel sold to an end user or a retail location;

(F) Each Wyoming licensed importer shall report, using the appropriate equivalency formula, to the department all gallons <u>or kilowatt hours</u> imported and used to propel a motor vehicle ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ and remit taxes due under this article for fuel sold to an end user unless the tax has been paid to an out-of-state licensed supplier;

(G) Any person acquiring biodiesel (B100), ethanol or other alcohols, methanol, butane or other blending components to blend with gasoline, diesel or alternative fuels shall report to the department all gallons of biodiesel (B100) ethanol or other alcohols, and methanol, butane or other blending components, purchased and blended during ~~the preceding calendar month~~ <u>any period as required by department rule</u> and remit all additional taxes due.

(ii) Each person transporting, conveying or bringing alternative fuel used to propel a motor vehicle into this state for sale, use or distribution in this state shall furnish the department a verified statement showing the number of gallons <u>or kilowatt hours</u>, using the appropriate equivalency formula, of alternative fuel delivered during ~~the month~~ <u>any period as required by department rule and</u> preceding the report, the name of the person to whom the delivery was made and the place of delivery;

(iii) Each person who exports alternative fuel from this state shall report the number of gallons <u>or kilowatt hours</u> exported, using the appropriate equivalency formula, the destination state and the name of the person to whom exported;

(iv) On ~~or before the last day of each month~~ <u>a date required by department rule</u>:

(A) Each dealer, who is not licensed as a distributor, shall submit a statement to the department in a format required by the department showing the number of gallons, gasoline gallon equivalent<u>, kilowatt hours</u> or diesel gallon equivalent of alternative fuel acquired, the person who supplied the alternative fuel and the total gallons<u>, kilowatt hours</u> or gallon equivalents sold ~~during the preceding calendar month~~ <u>or dispensed</u> and remit any taxes due if the point of taxation is at the dispenser;

(B) Each distributor or importer shall, if applicable, submit a statement to the department in a format required by the department ~~for the preceding calendar month~~ for the purpose of obtaining a refund from the department for taxes paid pursuant to this section.

(b) Payment. The following shall apply:

(i) On ~~or before the last day of each month~~ <u>a date required by department rule,</u> every supplier, refiner, terminal operator, importer and dealer shall pay to the department all license taxes imposed by this article which are due based upon the statement submitted under W.S. 39-17-307(a)(i). Payment may be made by electronic funds transfer;

(iii) A distributor or importer who owns a bulk plant in this state may take a shrinkage credit of one percent (1%) on gross gallons, if applicable, of bulk alternative fuel purchased directly from a terminal and delivered in this state for use, sale or distribution. This credit may be claimed on ~~the monthly~~ any tax return required by department rule. A distributor or importer who does not own a bulk plant, but owns retail locations and distributes alternative fuel to those locations only shall be entitled to the shrinkage credit on gross gallons, if applicable, of bulk alternative fuel delivered. The shrinkage credit may not apply to some alternative fuels. The department shall promulgate rules which specify the applicability of the credit and provide an application process for the credit.

39-17-308. Enforcement.

(c) Penalties. The following shall apply:

(ii) If any person fails or refuses to file ~~the monthly~~ a statement as required by department rule and remit the tax as provided by W.S. 39-17-307(a)(i), the department shall make a statement for that person from the best information available and from such statement shall determine the amount of license taxes required to be paid and add thereto a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the taxes due. The department shall notify the delinquent taxpayer of the total amount due by serving written notice upon such person personally or by United States mail to the last known address as shown on the records of the department. If the delinquent taxpayer proves to the department that the delinquency was due to a reasonable cause, the department shall waive the penalty provided in this paragraph. If the delinquent taxpayer after receiving the statement prepared by the department later renders to the department a true statement covering the same ~~calendar month~~ period, the department shall use such statement, adding the penalty of ten percent (10%) and interest of one percent (1%) per month on the license taxes from the due date until payment. The penalty shall be waived by the department upon satisfactory written proof the delinquency was due to a reasonable cause;

39-17-309. Taxpayer remedies.

(c) Refunds. The following shall apply:

(i) On ~~or before the last day of each month~~ a date required by department rule, every distributor shall, if applicable, submit a statement to the department on forms furnished by or in a format required by the department ~~for the preceding calendar month~~ for the purpose of obtaining a refund from the department for taxes paid pursuant to W.S. 39-17-307(a)(i);

(ii) Any person exporting alternative motor vehicle fuel from Wyoming for which the license tax has been paid is subject to a refund of the license tax paid. The refund request shall be submitted on or before ~~the last day of the month~~ a date required by department rule on forms provided by or in a format required by the department. The refund request is invalid if not submitted within one (1) year of the date of purchase;

(iv) The department shall by rule promulgated pursuant to W.S. 39-17-302(a) prescribe procedures under which an alternative fuel user who is entitled to at least a two hundred fifty dollar ($250.00) refund of tax under this article for purchases and use of alternative fuel to propel a motor vehicle ~~in any calendar month~~ may apply for and receive the refund ~~at any time after the last day of that month~~ according to a timeline required by the department pursuant to department rule;

Section 2. The department of transportation and the department of revenue shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 93

ENERGY PRODUCT RECLASSIFICATION AND SOVEREIGNTY ACT

Original House Bill No. 120

AN ACT relating to administration of the government; providing duties for the Wyoming energy authority; providing for the establishment of industrial sovereign zones to encourage the production of value-added manufactured products using natural gas; authorizing a board of county commissioners to nominate an area as an industrial sovereign zone; providing for certification of value-added manufactured processes; providing for an expedited licensing and permit process; providing tax exemptions; making conforming amendments; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-20-201 through 9-20-203 are created to read:

ARTICLE 2
ENERGY PRODUCT RECLASSIFICATION AND SOVEREIGNTY ACT

9-20-201. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Authority" means the Wyoming energy authority;

(ii) "Manufactured product" or "value-added manufactured product" means natural gas that undergoes substantial molecular transformation in Wyoming to produce a new product;

(iii) "Methane intensity" means the measure of methane emissions relative to the natural gas that is processed;

(iv) "Substantial molecular transformation" includes, without limitation:

(A) The thermal decomposition of natural gas into hydrogen and solid carbon, also known as methane pyrolysis or turquoise hydrogen production;

(B) The conversion of natural gas and nitrogen into anhydrous ammonia, also known as ammonia synthesis or blue or turquoise ammonia production;

(C) Any other process that transforms natural gas to produce hydrogen, ammonia or another valuable product that is chemically distinct from methane or from other gases that are part of the natural gas stream including carbon dioxide, nitrogen, hydrogen sulfide and helium.

9-20-202. Industrial sovereign zones.

(a) A board of county commissioners may nominate an area within its jurisdiction as an industrial sovereign zone. Two (2) or more counties may jointly nominate a contiguous or related area as a single sovereign zone. Each county shall adopt a formal resolution approving the nomination of an industrial sovereign zone under this subsection. Nominations under this section shall be made in the form required by the authority and shall include:

(i) A defined geographic boundary describing the nominated industrial sovereign zone;

(ii) Evidence of access to natural gas resources;

(iii) Information required by the authority to evaluate the suitability of the area for the production of value-added manufactured products under this article.

(b) The authority shall establish an industrial sovereign zone in an area nominated as an industrial sovereign zone under subsection (a) of this section if the authority determines there is an opportunity for the production and distribution of value-added manufactured products due to a reduced price paid for sales of natural gas in that area or other factors determined by the authority. The authority may modify the boundaries of an industrial sovereign zone by decreasing the size of the zone as determined necessary by the authority. The boundaries of an industrial sovereign zone shall not be enlarged unless each affected county formally consents to the enlargement of the zone outside of the boundaries defined in the nomination under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) For any industrial sovereign zone established under subsection (b) of this section, the following shall apply:

(i) Any person seeking to establish a facility for the production of a value-added manufactured product in the industrial sovereign zone:

(A) May apply to the authority for assistance in establishing the facility including, without limitation, identification and assistance in complying with state licensing applications or requirements;

(B) Shall be eligible for the expedited permit process as provided by W.S. 35-11-109(a)(xvi).

(ii) If a facility is established for the production of a value-added manufactured product in the zone, machinery sold or purchased for use in the facility shall be eligible for the tax exemptions under W.S. 39-15-105(a)(viii)(O)(V) and 39-16-105(a)(viii)(D)(V).

9-20-203. Gold standard certification.

(a) The authority shall establish standards of certification for any value-added manufactured product that is produced in Wyoming to promote the special attributes of the manufactured product. The authority shall establish a certification for any manufactured product that certifies that the product is a gold standard Wyoming product if the producer of the manufactured product demonstrates that the product is produced with not more than two-tenths percent (0.2%) methane intensity.

(b) The use of any certification standards established under subsection (a) of this section by any producer of a manufactured product shall be on a voluntary basis. The authority may collect fees on an annual basis, not exceeding the cost of administering the certification program under subsection (a) of this section, from producers participating in the voluntary certification program. Any fees collected under this subsection may be retained by the authority and shall only be expended to administer the certification program under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The authority may suspend or revoke a certification granted under this section if the recipient of the certification fails to meet all of the requirements adopted by the authority.

Section 2. W.S. 35-11-109(a) by creating a new paragraph (xvi), 35-12-119(a), 37-5-503 by creating a new subsection (k), 39-15-105(a)(viii)(O) and by creating new subdivisions (IV) and (V) and 39-16-105(a)(viii)(D) and by creating new subdivisions (IV) and (V) are amended to read:

35-11-109. Powers and duties of director.

(a) In addition to any other powers and duties imposed by law, the director of the department shall:

<u>(xvi) Establish an expedited process to issue all permits or licenses required under this act that are necessary for the establishment or operation of a facility for the production of a value-added manufactured product in an industrial sovereign zone established under W.S. 9-20-202. The expedited process under this paragraph shall be prioritized ahead of all other permit applications and expedited to the extent that the process does not adversely impact primacy of permitting programs or reduce public health and environmental protections provided for in the Environmental Quality Act. The issuance of licenses or permits shall not be unreasonably delayed. In addition to an expedited process established under this paragraph, the director may, by rule, establish a pre-permitting process for any permit or license required under this act for the</u>

establishment or operation of a facility for the production of a value-added manufactured product in an industrial sovereign zone established under W.S. 9-20-201 through 9-20-203.

35-12-119. Exemptions; information required.

(a) Nonmineral processing facilities to be constructed in existing industrial parks, as designated by local governments, and industrial sovereign zones established under W.S. 9-20-202 are exempt from payment of fees and certification procedures but shall furnish the information required by W.S. 35-12-109(a)(iii), (iv) and (v) to the division if included in W.S. 35-12-102(a)(vii).

37-5-503. Purposes; report.

(k) The authority shall administer the energy product reclassification and sovereignty act as created by W.S. 9-20-201 through 9-20-203. The authority, consistent with the purposes of this section, may take any action necessary to encourage the production of value-added manufactured products as defined in W.S. 9-20-201(a)(ii).

39-15-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following sales or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(viii) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property as an economic incentive, the following are exempt:

(O) The sale or lease of machinery to be used in this state directly and predominantly in manufacturing as follows:

(IV) Until December 31, 2042, the sale or lease of machinery to be used in this state directly and predominantly in manufacturing tangible personal property;

(V) The sale or lease of machinery to be used in an industrial sovereign zone established under W.S. 9-20-202 and used directly and predominantly in the production of a value-added manufactured product as defined in W.S. 9-20-201(a)(ii).

39-16-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following purchases or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(viii) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property as an economic incentive, the following are exempt:

(D) The purchase or lease of machinery to be used in this state directly and predominantly in manufacturing as follows:

(IV) Until December 31, 2042, the purchase or lease of machinery to be used in this state directly and predominantly in manufacturing tangible personal property;

<u>(V) The purchase or lease of machinery to be used in an industrial sovereign zone established under W.S. 9-20-202 and used directly and predominantly in the production of a value-added manufactured product as defined in W.S. 9-20-201(a)(ii).</u>

Section 3. If nominated by the board of county commissioners under W.S. 9-20-202(a) as created by section 1 of this act, the Wyoming energy authority shall first consider establishing an industrial sovereign zone under W.S. 9-20-202 as created by section 1 of this act in the area of the Opal natural gas hub if the Wyoming energy authority determines that the price of natural gas that is sold from the Opal natural gas hub is reduced compared to other sales of natural gas in other areas of the United States.

Section 4. There is appropriated one hundred eighty thousand dollars ($180,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming energy authority for purposes of providing for personnel expenses within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to implement this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming energy authority's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

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

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 94

SECRETARY OF STATE-EXPEDITED FILINGS

Original House Bill No. 16

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; allowing the secretary of state to charge a fee to expedite filings of documents as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-305(a) by creating a new paragraph (viii) is amended to read:

9-1-305. Fees; amounts; collection; exceptions.

(a) The secretary of state shall collect the following fees in advance for:

(viii) Expediting the filing of any document filed pursuant to title 17, title 34 or title 40, chapters 1 and 2 of the Wyoming statutes, an amount not more than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00). Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the secretary of state may charge a fee as specified in this paragraph to expedite the filing of a document filed with the secretary of state's office pursuant to title 17, title 34 or title 40, chapters 1 and 2 of the Wyoming statutes upon the request of the filer. The fee and process for requesting an expedited filing shall be established by rule of the secretary of state taking into account the impact the cost of the filing fee may have on total filings, the costs of expediting the filing and deadlines for responding to filings as required by law. The expedition of a filing under this paragraph shall not alter the prioritization of rights determined by the timing of the filing.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 95

FIREARMS RIGHTS-RESTORATION AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 39

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; clarifying the effect of an out-of-state restoration of rights for purposes of rights in Wyoming; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-8-102(a) and (c) and 6-10-106(a)(iii), (iv) and by creating a new paragraph (v) are amended to read:

6-8-102. Use or possession of firearm by person convicted of certain felony and misdemeanor offenses; penalties; exception.

(a) Any person who has previously pleaded guilty to or been convicted of committing or attempting to commit a violent felony, and has not been pardoned or has not had the person's rights restored pursuant to W.S. 7-13-105(a) or (f) or the laws of the jurisdiction in which the conviction was entered and who uses or knowingly possesses any firearm is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00), or both.

(c) Any person who has previously pleaded guilty to or been convicted of committing or attempting to commit a felony that is not a violent felony and has not been pardoned or has not had the person's rights restored pursuant to

W.S. 7-13-105(a) or (f) or the laws of the jurisdiction in which the conviction was entered and who uses or knowingly possesses any firearm is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars ($750.00), or both.

6-10-106. Rights lost by conviction of felony; restoration.

(a) A person convicted of a felony is incompetent to be an elector or juror or to hold any office of honor, trust or profit within this state or to use or knowingly possess any firearm, unless:

(iii) His rights are restored pursuant to W.S. 7-13-105(a) or (f);~~ or~~

(iv) His rights as an elector are restored pursuant to W.S. 7-13-105(b) and (c), in which case the person shall remain incompetent to be a juror or to hold any office of honor, trust or profit within this state;~~.~~ or

(v) His rights to use and possess firearms are restored pursuant to the laws of the jurisdiction in which the conviction was entered. This paragraph shall not be construed to restore rights to be an elector or juror or to hold any office of honor, trust or profit, unless the laws of the jurisdiction in which the conviction was entered restore these rights.

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

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 96

REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS PROHIBITED FROM PUBLIC OFFICE

Original House Bill No. 92

AN ACT relating to administration of the government; establishing qualifications for specified public offices; specifying that sex offenders are ineligible to hold those public offices; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-104 is created to read:

9-1-104. Qualifications for office; ineligibility of candidates convicted of certain sex offenses.

(a) In addition to any other qualifications to hold public office, no sex offender shall be eligible to be a candidate for, or be appointed to, any of the following offices:

(i) Trustee of a school district;

(ii) Community college district board member;

(iii) County attorney or district attorney;

(iv) County commissioner;

(v) Member of the governing body of a city or town;

(vi) Mayor of a city or town;

(vii) County sheriff;

(viii) Any office of an elected statewide official;

(ix) Member of the legislature;

(x) Member of the board of trustees of the University of Wyoming;

(xi) Clerk of district court;

(xii) Member of the state board of education;

(xiii) County clerk;

(xiv) County treasurer;

(xv) County coroner;

(xvi) City attorney.

(b) The secretary of state, county clerk or other appropriate election official shall refuse to certify a candidate's name if the candidate is ineligible to hold public office under this section. If a person in office is disqualified from office under this section, the office shall be deemed vacant as provided in W.S. 22-18-101(a)(iv).

(c) As used in this section, "sex offender" means a person who is currently registered on the central registry of offenders under W.S. 7-19-301 through 7-19-310.

Section 2. This act shall apply to any person elected or appointed to public office on or after July 1, 2026.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 97

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-LAND TRANSFERS

Original House Bill No. 69

AN ACT relating to state lands; providing for the disposition of specified land parcels from the department of health as specified; requiring reports; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The department of health, in consultation with the city of Lander, the board of land commissioners and the office of state lands and investments, is authorized and directed to convey its right, title and interest in the surface estate of the following described parcel of land in Fremont county, containing twenty-eight and ninety-four hundredths (28.94) acres, more or less, held for the Wyoming state training school, to the Wyoming department of transportation: a parcel of land located in section 17, township 33 north, range 99 west, sixth principal meridian, Fremont county, Wyoming, described more particularly as follows: begin at an iron rod marking the southeasterly corner of Leda enterprise park, as per plat thereof recorded in plat book 8, page 193, in the public records of Fremont county; thence, north 00 degrees, 03 minutes, 48 seconds west (bearing basis), along the easterly boundary of said subdivision, for a distance of 292.53 feet to an iron rod; thence, north 70 degrees, 00 minutes, 00 seconds east, along said easterly boundary, for a distance of 312.19 feet to an iron rod; thence, north 05 degrees, 00 minutes, 00 seconds west, along said easterly boundary, for a distance of 486.41 feet to the southerly right-of-way line of Enterprise boulevard; thence, south 78 degrees, 51 minutes, 23 seconds east, along said right-of-way line for a distance of 184.68 feet to a point, said point being on a circular curve concave to the north; thence, counterclockwise to the left, along the arc of said curve, having a radius of 90.56 feet, for an arc distance of 207.14 feet, chord bearing and chord distance of south 68 degrees, 10 minutes, 24 seconds east, 164.84 feet, to the end of said curve; thence, north 36 degrees, 19 minutes, 29 seconds east, for a distance of 708.32 feet to the north line of section 17; thence, north 88 degrees, 58 minutes, 31 seconds east along the north line of said section for a distance of 26.13 feet; thence, departing said section line, south 45 degrees, 44 minutes, 42 seconds east, for a distance of 257.40 feet; thence, north 43 degrees, 46 minutes, 16 seconds east, for a distance of 257.74 feet to the north line of said section; thence, north 88 degrees, 58 minutes, 31 seconds east, along the section line, for a distance of 262.94 feet; thence, south 22 degrees, 03 minutes, 52 seconds west, for a distance of 1448.41 feet; thence, south 88 degrees, 36 minutes, 52 seconds west, for a distance of 1112.35 feet to the point of beginning.

(b) The conveyance authorized in this section shall be made without impacting other rights or estates associated with the parcels or the portions thereof to be conveyed under this section and subject to easements, setbacks and restrictions of record.

(c) The conveyance authorized under this section shall be made without the payment of consideration, except all costs associated with any necessary survey, title insurance and closing shall be paid by the department of transportation for the parcel conveyed in subsection (a) of this section.

Section 2.

(a) The department of health, in consultation with the city of Lander, the board of land commissioners and the office of state lands and investments, is authorized and may convey its right, title and interest in the surface estate of the following described parcel of land in Fremont county, containing ninety and eighty-seven hundredths (90.87) acres, more or less, held for the Wyoming state training school, in accordance with the requirements of this section: a parcel of land located in the northeast quarter of section 17, township 33 north, range 99 west, sixth principle meridian, Fremont county, Wyoming, described as follows: begin at the northeast corner of section 17, as marked by an existing stone; thence, south 00 degrees, 38 minutes, 00 seconds east (basis of bearings) along the east line of said northeast 1/4 for a distance of 1985.07 feet to the southeast corner of the north 1/2 of the southeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, south 88 degrees, 30 minutes, 12 seconds west along the south line of said north 1/2 of southeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 for a distance of 1321.33 feet to the southwest corner of said north 1/2 of southeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, south 00 degrees, 21 minutes, 43 seconds west along the east line of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 for a distance of 665.35 feet to the southeast corner of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, south 88 degrees, 20 minutes, 50 seconds west along the south line of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 for a distance of 922.54 feet to a point 402.0 feet east of the southwest corner of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, north 00 degrees, 05 minutes, 38 seconds west along the east line of a parcel of land described in document number 2015-1378525, for a distance of 520.0 feet; thence, south 88 degrees, 20 minutes, 50 seconds west along the north line of said parcel for a distance of 402.0 feet to the west line of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, north 00 degrees, 05 minutes, 38 seconds west along the west line of said southwest 1/4 of northeast 1/4 for a distance of 818.05 feet to the northwest corner of the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4; thence, north 89 degrees, 55 minutes, 41 seconds east along the south line of Leda enterprise park, as per plat thereof recorded in plat book 8, page 193, in the public records of Fremont county, for a distance of 90.0 feet to an iron rod; thence, north 88 degrees, 36 minutes, 52 seconds east for a distance of 1112.35 feet; thence, north 22 degrees, 03 minutes, 52 seconds east for a distance of 1448.41 feet to the north line of the northeast 1/4; thence, north 88 degrees, 58 minutes, 31 seconds east, along said line for a distance of 874.95 feet to the point of beginning.

(b) The conveyance of the parcel specified in subsection (a) of this section shall be in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The conveyance shall be completed in accordance with title 36, chapter 9 of the Wyoming statutes, except as otherwise provided in this subsection;

(ii) The conveyance authorized in this section shall be made without impacting other rights or estates associated with the parcel or the portions thereof to be conveyed under this section and subject to easements, setbacks and restrictions of record;

(iii) One (1) or more conveyances may be made to dispose of the parcel, or portions thereof, identified in subsection (a) of this section;

(iv) All costs associated with any necessary survey, title insurance and closing shall be paid by the purchaser;

(v) No conveyance shall be made under this section unless the purchaser of the parcel or any portion thereof agrees that the sole use of the parcel or any portion thereof shall be for residential housing. Each conveyance shall include clauses for the state to claim and receive liquidated damages if a purchaser violates the agreement or covenant required under this paragraph.

Section 3. The department of transportation shall report to the joint transportation, highways and military affairs interim committee as the land transfers authorized by sections 1 and 2 of this act are being finalized and after the land transfers occur.

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

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 98

REVISOR'S BILL

Original House Bill No. 44

AN ACT relating to the revision of statutes and other legislative enactments; correcting statutory references and language resulting from inadvertent errors and omissions in previously adopted legislation; amending obsolete references; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-1-138(c), 1-1-140(d), 1-23-107(a), 6-8-104(aa), 7-6-103(k), 7-13-402(g), 7-13-1401(h), 7-13-1501(j), 7-13-1502(j), 7-18-106(c), 9-1-404, 9-1-406, 9-1-407(a) and (b), 9-2-3204(b)(xii) and (xiii), 11-20-201(b), 13-12-104(a)(intro), 14-12-104, 15-1-125(c), 15-4-304, 15-4-308, 17-32-126(b)(i)(C), 18-2-111, 18-3-510(a), 18-3-513(b), 35-2-1108 and 37-12-306(e) are amended to read:

1-1-138. Donation of emergency responder equipment; exemption from civil and criminal liability; definitions; relation to other law.

(c) Should any grant of immunity, exception or imposition of liability within the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120,~~ conflict with any provision of this section, the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act shall prevail.

1-1-140. Public utility exemption from civil liability; catastrophes caused by an act of God.

(d) Should any grant of immunity, exception or imposition of liability within the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120,~~ conflict with any provision of this section, the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act shall prevail.

1-23-107. Individual liability of members of governmental agencies.

(a) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ <u>any provision of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act</u>, the members of any governmental board, agency, council, commission or governing body are not individually liable for any actions, inactions or omissions by the governmental board, agency, council, commission or governing body.

6-8-104. Wearing or carrying concealed weapons; penalties; exceptions; permits.

(aa) Notwithstanding the provisions of W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112, the attorney general and members of the division of criminal investigation are immune from personal liability for issuing, for failing to issue and for revoking any concealed firearms permit under this section. A sheriff, police chief, employee of a sheriff or police chief's office shall not be personally liable for damages in a civil action arising from any information submitted pursuant to subsections (g) through (j) of this section. Nothing in this section shall relieve any governmental entity of any liability pursuant to ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ <u>the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act</u>.

7-6-103. Creation of office of state public defender; appointment of state public defender and assistants; duties; removal.

(k) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any attorney providing services for the office of the state public defender in the defense of a criminal case shall, for matters arising out of such services, be considered a state employee for purposes of coverage and representation under the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 13-9-101 through 1-39-120,~~ and the state self-insurance program, W.S. 1-41-101 through 1-41-111.

7-13-402. General powers and duties of board; eligibility for parole;

immunity.

(g) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-119~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the board and its members are immune from any liability, either as a board or individually, for any actions, inactions or omissions by the board or any member thereof, pursuant to W.S. 7-13-401 through 7-13-424.

7-13-1401. Petition for expungement; records of arrest, dismissal of charges, disposition; eligibility; no filing fee.

(h) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ any provision of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the division of criminal investigation and its employees are immune from liability, either as an agency or individually, for any actions, inactions or omissions by the agency or any employee thereof, pursuant to this section.

7-13-1501. Petition for expungement of records of conviction of certain misdemeanors; filing fee; notice; objections; hearing; definitions; exceptions.

(j) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ any provision of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the division of criminal investigation and its employees and any prosecuting attorney are immune from liability, either as an agency or individually, for any actions, inactions or omissions by the agency or any employee thereof, pursuant to this section.

7-13-1502. Petition for expungement of records of conviction of certain felonies; filing fee; notice; objections; hearing; definitions; restoration of rights.

(j) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ any provision within the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the division of criminal investigation and its employees and any prosecuting attorney are immune from liability, either as an agency or individually, for any actions, inactions or omissions by the agency or any employee thereof, pursuant to this section.

7-18-106. Powers and duties of boards.

(c) Notwithstanding ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ any provision within the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, or any other provision of law and except for intentional torts or illegal acts, a corrections board and its members are immune from any liability, either as a board or individually, for any actions or omissions by the board or any member thereof pursuant to this act.

9-1-404. Specified claims against state to be presented within one year.

Except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, persons having claims against the state shall document the claim and submit it to the state auditor within one (1) year after the claim accrues, to be audited, settled and acted upon.

9-1-406. Taking evidence concerning settlement of accounts.

Except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the state auditor may examine the parties, witnesses or others, on oath or affirmation, relating to any matters material to the settlement of accounts, including information which is declared confidential by law, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas and compel witnesses to attend before him and give evidence in the same manner and by the same means allowed by law to courts of record. The state auditor shall take all reasonable measures necessary to protect the confidentiality of all confidential information obtained pursuant to this section.

9-1-407. Certificate of auditor's decision; claims against state in absence of appropriation or authorization.

(a) At the request of a person who is dissatisfied with the decision of the auditor on any claim, account or credit except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, the auditor shall certify his findings and decision.

(b) Except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, when the law recognizes a claim for money against this state and no appropriation or authorization is made by law to pay the claim, upon demand, the auditor shall audit and adjust the claim and give the claimant a certificate of the amount of the claim.

9-2-3204. General services division.

(b) For the purpose of this subsection the term "agencies" does not include the University of Wyoming, community college districts, or school districts. It does not include the department of transportation except as to paragraphs (xi), (xii) and (xiii) of this subsection. The department through the general services division shall:

(xii) Secure and maintain insurance against the risks of fire and theft and other insurance deemed necessary or required by law on all motor vehicles, trailer attachments and aircraft owned by the state of Wyoming or any of its agencies. The insurance secured and maintained shall be in an amount which is adequate to protect the interest of the state but not less than the amounts required by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act. In securing insurance the department shall take full advantage of experience ratings and groupings or master policies to the end that the insurance may be secured at the lowest possible beneficial rates and for the best interest of the state;

(xiii) Secure personal liability and surety bonds for Wyoming peace officers, employees and state officials as required by statute, secure professional liability insurance for Wyoming doctors and nurses employed by the state, and secure liability insurance for all property owned by the state or any of its agencies as required by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ <u>the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act</u>;

11-20-201. Designation of contract services to implement brand inspection laws; bond required; bond of inspectors; interstate cooperative agreements.

(b) The agency, or the board may contract for inspectors as the board deems necessary to carry out specified duties. The board may contract for inspectors through an individual at-will contract. The board may contract to provide the inspector salary, mileage, per diem and other necessary reimbursable expenses, membership in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV) and 9-3-207, and the state retirement system in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1. The board shall be authorized to establish mileage rates without regard to the limitations provided in W.S. 9-3-103. During the time that inspectors are acting within the scope of their duties on behalf or in service of the state in their official capacity, inspectors are covered by the provisions of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 13-9-120,~~ and the state self-insurance program, W.S. 1-41-101 through 1-41-111. It may assign inspectors inside or outside of this state as it deems appropriate. A blanket bond or individual bonds shall be executed to the state with good and sufficient surety in an amount determined by the board, conditioned for the full and faithful performance and discharge of the inspector's duties. The bond shall be approved by and filed in the office of the board.

13-12-104. Requirements relating to depositors; nature of business.

(a) ~~Except as otherwise provided by subsection (d) of this section,~~ <u>N</u>o depositor shall maintain an account with a special purpose depository institution or otherwise receive any services from the institution unless the depositor meets the criteria of this subsection. A depositor shall:

14-12-104. Applicability of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act and state self-insurance program.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any attorney providing services for the office pursuant to the guardian ad litem program shall, for matters arising out of such services, be considered a state employee for purposes of coverage and representation under the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 13-9-120,~~ and the state self-insurance program, W.S. 1-41-101 through 1-41-111.

15-1-125. Presentation and payment of claims; when warrant draws interest; exception.

(c) This section does not apply to claims under ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-119 [§ 1-39-120]~~ <u>the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act</u>.

15-4-304. Claims; appeals; exception; definition.

Except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, if any claim against the city is disallowed in whole or in part, the claimant may appeal from the decision of the governing body to the district court of the district in which the city or town is situated pursuant to Rule 12 of the Wyoming Rules of Appellate Procedure. "Claim" as used in this section means claims as are presented for audit and not claims for salaries of officers and employees or other fixed charges against the city or town, nor claims covered by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act.

15-4-308. Conditions causing injury; defects.

No action may be maintained against the city or town on account of injuries received by means of any defect in the condition of any bridge, street, sidewalk or thoroughfare except as provided by ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-119~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act.

17-32-126. Winding up; termination.

(b) In winding up a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, the members:

(i) Shall discharge the nonprofit association's debts, obligations and other liabilities, settle and close the nonprofit association's business and distribute any remaining property:

(C) If neither ~~subdivision~~ subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph applies, in accordance with the law of unclaimed property contained in W.S. 34-24-101 through 34-24-140.

18-2-111. Judgment against county to be paid by tax levy; when execution to issue.

Except as provided in ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, when a judgment is rendered against the board of county commissioners or any county officer the judgment shall be paid by a tax levied for that purpose and when collected shall be paid by the county treasurer to the judgment creditor upon the delivery of a proper voucher. Execution may issue on the judgment if payment is not made within sixty (60) days after the time required for the payment of county taxes to the county treasurer.

18-3-510. Claims against county to be itemized and verified; penalty.

(a) No claim against the county shall be allowed by the board of county commissioners unless it is properly dated and itemized and the value of each item specifically described, and when no specified fees are allowed by law, the date that such services were rendered and the time actually and necessarily devoted to the performance of any service. Each claim shall be accompanied by an affidavit, stating that the claim is just and correct and that no part of the claim has been paid by the county or other person. The board of county commissioners may disallow any account, in whole or in part, when so rendered and verified, and may require further evidence of the truth and propriety of the claim. This section does not apply to claims under ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act.

18-3-513. Appeal on disallowance of claim.

(b) When the appeal is perfected, the clerk of the board shall immediately give notice to the county attorney. The clerk shall make a brief return of the proceedings before the board with the decision properly certified and file the same together with the bond and all papers in the case in his possession with the clerk of the district court. The appeal shall be entered, tried and determined and costs awarded the same as appeals from circuit courts. This section does not apply to claims under ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120~~ the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act.

35-2-1108. Receiver's liability.

(a) The liability of the department shall be limited as set forth in the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120,~~ for the operation of medical facilities and the provision of health care.

(b) If a person is designated to act as a receiver pursuant to W.S. 35-2-1103(f) and is not covered by the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, ~~W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120,~~ the designated receiver shall only be held liable in a personal capacity for the designated receiver's own gross negligence, intentional acts or breach of fiduciary duty.

37-12-306. Civil penalties; applicability.

(e) This section shall not apply to any governmental entity as defined by W.S. 1-39-103(a)(i), which participates in the notification center as provided by this act. Nothing in this article shall affect any provision of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act.~~, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120.~~

Section 2. W.S. 1-39-103(a)(ix) is amended to read:

1-39-103. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 1-39-101 through ~~1-39-123~~ 1-39-124.

Section 3. W.S. 39-16-105(a)(xi), as created by 2026 Senate Enrolled Act 0059, 2026 Senate File 0061, section 1, is repealed.

Section 4. Section 2 of this act shall not be effective if 2026 Senate File 0101 is enacted into law.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 99

FORESTHEALTH GRANT PROGRAM

Original House Bill No. 78

AN ACT relating to state forestry; creating the forest health grant program; specifying duties of the state forester; creating an account; requiring the attorney general to approve grants; requiring reports; creating an account; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-1-601 is created to read:

ARTICLE 6
FOREST HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM

36-1-601. Forest health grant program; duties of state forester; account created; eligible entities; attorney general approval.

(a) There is created the forest health grant program. The grant program shall be administered by the state forester, who shall establish the application process and any other requirements of the grant program not otherwise provided by this section.

(b) The state forester may only grant funds to nonprofit and governmental organizations for the purposes specified in this section.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of this section, grants under the forest health grant program shall pay for not more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the cost of an eligible forest health project as specified in this subsection. Any other source of funds, cash or in-kind contributions may be used as matching funds to cover the remainder of a project's costs and the state forester may require that matching funds be obligated to pay for a portion of any project. Forest health projects eligible for grant funding under this section shall be conducted on state, federal government, local government or private land, shall be necessary in the public interest and shall be designed to accomplish one (1) or more of the following:

(i) Enhancement of water yield or quality;

(ii) Reduction of the risk of catastrophic wildfire damage;

(iii) Increased production of forest products;

(iv) Improvement of habitat conditions for wildlife and livestock;

(v) Any other project that is beneficial to forest health, that is substantially beneficial to the interest of the state and that has a public purpose as determined by the state forester.

(d) Any grant under the forest health program that is used on federal land shall not pay for more than fifty percent (50%) of the cost of an eligible forest health project as specified under subsection (c) of this section. Any other source of funds, cash or in-kind contributions may be used as matching funds to cover the remainder of a project's costs and the state forester may require that matching funds be obligated to pay for a portion of any project. If a forest health project is conducted through good neighbor authority, receipts collected through implementation of the project may be used as matching funds under this subsection.

(e) No forest health grant shall be made under this section without the attorney general's review and approval of the grant.

(f) There is created the forest health grant program account. The account shall consist of those funds designated to the account by law. Funds in the account shall be used for grants authorized to be made under this section. Any person may also grant, give, transfer, bequest or donate funds to the account. Funds in the account shall be invested as provided by law. Any funds remaining in the account at the end of any fiscal year shall not lapse or revert as provided by W.S. 9-4-207 but shall remain in the account and be used to implement the purposes of this section. Accrued interest and other earnings on unexpended funds within the forest health grant program account shall be credited to the account.

(g) The state forester shall annually report to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee not later than September 1 on all grants awarded under this section including the amounts of the grants and the projects the grants were authorized to fund.

Section 2. There is appropriated three million five hundred thousand dollars ($3,500,000.00) from the general fund to the forest health grant program account for purposes of implementing this act and making grants authorized by this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose without further legislative authorization. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall remain in effect and not lapse or revert at the end of any fiscal period except upon further legislative action. It is the intent of the legislature that additional funding for this purpose be included in the state forester's next standard budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 100

VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Original Senate File No. 84

AN ACT relating to water within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River basin; establishing a voluntary water conservation program; providing an application and approval process for the program; providing an appeal process; authorizing the storage and release of water conserved under the program; establishing a sunset date; providing legislative findings; requiring a report; requiring rulemaking; authorizing positions; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 41-3-117 through 41-3-119 are created to read:

41-3-117. Definitions; short title.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Colorado River basin" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Colorado River Compact and in the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact;

(ii) "Colorado River Compact" means the document signed on November 24, 1922, by representatives from the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and codified at W.S. 41-12-301;

(iii) "Colorado River system" shall have the same meaning as defined in the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact;

(iv) "Conservation project" means a voluntary project approved by the state engineer that reduces consumptive use within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River basin or that may help satisfy Wyoming's interstate compact obligations through interstate agreements or under a valid court order entered by a court of competent jurisdiction;

(v) "Consumptive use" means the depletion of water for domestic and agricultural beneficial uses as those terms are defined and referred to in the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact. "Consumptive use" also includes the full amount of water:

(A) Consumed in association with the production of electrical power other than hydropower;

(B) Diverted from the Upper Colorado River system for which there are no return flows to that system, including diversions outside the natural Colorado River watershed.

(vi) "Curtailment" means the curtailment of water use under the terms of the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact;

(vii) "Involuntary water use regulation" means the regulation of water rights by a Wyoming hydrographer or water commissioner as authorized by law and in accordance with established priorities or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction;

(viii) "Program" means the voluntary water conservation program authorized pursuant to this act;

(ix) "Upper Colorado River Basin Compact" means the document signed on October 11, 1948, by representatives from the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and codified at W.S. 41-12-401;

(x) "Upper Colorado River Commission" means the administrative agency created by article VIII of the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact;

(xi) "This act" means W.S. 41-3-117 through 41-3-119.

(b) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Voluntary Water Conservation Program Act".

41-3-118. Conservation project applications and approval; sunset.

(a) Any person with a right to beneficially use water under a valid water right that diverts water from within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River basin may apply to the state engineer for approval of a conservation project. Conservation project applications submitted under this section shall be in writing and filed in the office of the state engineer on a form provided by the state engineer. Conservation project applications may include multiple water rights and multiple appropriators, and shall be accompanied by any information that the state engineer may require. If the applicant is not the owner of the applicable water right, the applicant shall provide written consent from the water right owner.

(b) For the purpose of providing notice of the program and of conservation project applications to water right owners and other interested persons, the state engineer shall provide the opportunity for water right owners and other interested persons to request notice of conservation project applications by regular mail or by electronic means. Any person requesting notice of conservation project applications under this subsection shall identify the water district or districts for which their request applies and shall provide a valid mailing or email address.

(c) The state engineer shall publish notice of each conservation project application filed under subsection (a) of this section on the state engineer's website and shall provide the regular mail or electronic notice required under this section not less than thirty (30) days before the state engineer issues a decision on the application. The state engineer shall provide notice of each conservation project application to all persons who have requested notice of applications within that water district and have provided a valid mailing or email address. Additionally, not less than thirty (30) days before the state engineer issues a decision on any conservation project application that proposes to forgo the diversion and use of water for irrigation, the applicant shall certify to the state engineer that the applicant made a good faith effort to provide notice of the conservation project by personal contact or regular mail to all owners of land adjacent to conservation project lands and any contiguous lands owned by the applicant. The certification shall include a list that identifies all adjacent landowners that were notified by the applicant. The owners of valid water rights whose water rights may be injured by the proposed conservation project, and any person who may be aggrieved or adversely affected in fact by a conservation project, may provide written comments to the state engineer not more than thirty (30) days following the notice required by this subsection.

(d) The state engineer shall review each application submitted under this section and any written comments that are received under this section and shall approve only those conservation project applications that are in compliance with the requirements of this section and the state engineer's regulations. The refusal or approval of an application for a conservation project in accordance with this section shall be endorsed thereon, and a record made of such endorsement in the state engineer's office. The application so endorsed shall be returned to the applicant by regular mail. Approved applications shall also be posted to the state engineer's website.

(e) The state engineer shall not approve a conservation project application if the proposed conservation project will injuriously affect the water rights of other appropriators and will not:

(i) Result in the reduction of historic consumptive use; or

(ii) Help satisfy Wyoming's interstate compact obligations through interstate agreements or under a valid court order entered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(f) The state engineer may refuse any conservation project application that appears to be detrimental to the public interest or that appears to provide for or aid in the interstate marketing of water. The state engineer may approve a conservation project subject to any conditions or limitations that the state engineer determines are necessary, including any conditions or limitations to mitigate any local water impacts that a conservation project may cause.

(g) Approved conservation projects shall not cause the regulation of any other Wyoming water right by the state of Wyoming. However, if an approved conservation project is located on a source of supply that is being regulated by a water commissioner under W.S. 41-3-606, the water commissioner may prevent headgates of all downstream diversions that are subject to the regulation from that source of supply from diverting and using any water conserved by the conservation project during the period of time the source of supply is being regulated.

(h) The state engineer shall not approve a conservation project application unless the applicant demonstrates a recent history of consumptive use made under the applicant's water right or the conservation project helps satisfy Wyoming's interstate compact obligations through interstate agreement or otherwise. A recent history of consumptive use means consumptive use made under the applicant's water right in not less than three (3) of the five (5) years preceding the application. To determine the historic consumptive use made under a water right, the state engineer may utilize the methods adopted by the Upper Colorado River Commission. For any conservation project where the state engineer determines that alternative methods may be better suited to determine the historic consumptive use, including methods to estimate consumptive use incident to the diversion, impounding and conveyance of water, the state engineer shall have the discretion to use those alternative methods. The methods and procedures for determining historic consumptive use under this subsection shall not have application to any other statute of the state of Wyoming.

(j) The state engineer shall not approve any conservation project application, without the written consent of the district, that includes water rights that are appurtenant to lands within:

(i) An irrigation district;

(ii) A conservancy district; or

(iii) A watershed improvement district.

(k) For any conservation project that proposes to temporarily forego the diversion and use of the direct natural flow of water for irrigation purposes, the total period of the conservation project approved under this section shall not exceed five (5) consecutive years. After the expiration of a conservation project approved under this section that participated in the program for not less than two (2) and not to exceed five (5) consecutive years, the water right shall be used for its adjudicated or permitted purpose for a period of not less than two (2) years before becoming eligible for any further participation in the program. This subsection shall not apply to approved conservation projects that forego the diversion and use of the direct natural flow of water for irrigation purposes that also achieve long-term reductions of consumptive use through irrigation system improvements.

(m) No loss, abandonment or impairment of any water rights involved in an approved conservation project shall occur or attach as a result of the conservation project. Upon termination of the conservation project, the water right holder's rights, privileges, uses and purposes held under the original appropriation shall be automatically reinvested.

(n) Any appeal of the state engineer's endorsement upon a conservation project application shall be made in the following manner:

(i) Any applicant who is aggrieved by the endorsement made by the state engineer upon his application may appeal the action of the state engineer to the board of control within thirty (30) days after service by regular mail of the notice of rejection of the application;

(ii) Any owner of a valid water right whose water right will be injuriously affected by the state engineer's approval of a conservation project may appeal the action of the state engineer to the board of control not later than thirty (30) days after the notice of approval of the conservation project is posted on the state engineer's website pursuant to subsection (d) of this section;

(iii) Pursuant to an appeal under paragraph (i) or (ii) of this subsection, the board of control shall appoint a hearing officer and conduct a contested case hearing in accordance with its rules and regulations and the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. The decision of the board of control shall be subject to judicial review under W.S. 16-3-114;

(iv) Any person not entitled to an appeal under paragraph (i) or (ii) of this subsection and who is aggrieved or adversely affected in fact by the state engineer's approval of a conservation project may seek judicial review of the state engineer's action pursuant to W.S. 16-3-114. Judicial review shall be sought within thirty (30) days after the notice of approval of the conservation project is posted on the state engineer's website pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

(o) Conservation project applications or approved conservation projects under this section shall not be considered or construed as applications for use of water outside of the state of Wyoming, or transfers of use of water outside the state of Wyoming, for purposes of W.S. 41-3-115.

(p) The state engineer shall assess a fee not to exceed fifty dollars ($50.00) for the review of conservation project applications under this section. This fee shall accompany a conservation project application and shall be retained and deposited whether the application is approved, refused or withdrawn.

(q) Information provided by an applicant or included as part of a conservation project under this act shall not be subject to W.S. 16-4-203(d)(xiv).

(r) No new conservation project shall be authorized under this section on or after July 1, 2032.

41-3-119. Storage of conserved water.

(a) The state engineer and the Wyoming water development office are hereby authorized to pursue the ability to store water conserved under the program in Fontenelle Reservoir. The state engineer and Wyoming water development office are further authorized, in a manner consistent with contracts entered into with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, to store or facilitate the storage of conserved water in Fontenelle Reservoir.

(b) Conserved water stored in any reservoir under this section shall only be released for one (1) or more of the following purposes:

(i) Beneficial consumptive use within the state of Wyoming through direct delivery or exchange;

(ii) Mitigating the impacts of curtailment or involuntary water use regulation on Wyoming water right holders;

(iii) Helping to satisfy any portion of Wyoming's interstate compact obligations through interstate agreements or otherwise, including participating in an Upper Colorado River basin program.

(c) The state engineer is hereby authorized to investigate other reservoirs located within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River basin and assess their suitability for the storage of water conserved under the program. For any reservoir found to be suitable for the storage of water conserved under the program the state engineer is further authorized, in a manner consistent with contracts entered into with the reservoir owner, to store or facilitate the storage of conserved water in such reservoir.

Section 2.

(a) The state engineer is authorized two (2) additional full-time equivalent positions for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028 to implement the requirements of this act. It is the intent of the legislature that these two (2) full-time positions be included in the standard budget request for the state engineer for the 2029-2030 fiscal biennium and thereafter.

(b) There is appropriated five hundred ten thousand dollars ($510,000.00) from the general fund to the state engineer for purposes of funding the positions authorized in subsection (a) of this section and any other expenses necessary to implement this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning within the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget request for the state engineer for the 2029-2030 fiscal biennium and thereafter.

Section 3. The legislature finds that, since 2000, the Colorado River basin has experienced a prolonged period of unusually low water flow conditions and drought, which is considered the worst drought in the past one thousand two hundred (1,200) years. Under federal law and practice, the secretary of the interior must consult with the Colorado River basin states and such state representatives as each governor may designate regarding Colorado River system operations. In order to help inform that federal law and practice, and to foster interstate comity, the voluntary conservation program authorized by section 1 of this act is intended to help support Wyoming's involvement in a broader Upper Colorado River basin program should one be approved by the representative designated by Wyoming's governor and the Upper Colorado River Commission. This act is also intended to help Wyoming water users manage severe and prolonged drought conditions and any associated water use reductions and impacts in Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River basin.

Section 4.

(a) For the purpose of providing notice of the program created in section 1 of this act and of conservation project applications to water right owners and other interested persons, the state engineer shall:

(i) Not later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act, cause to be published in at least three (3) newspapers published within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado river basin one (1) time each week for three (3) consecutive weeks a notice of the Voluntary Water Conservation Program Act and how water right owners and other interested persons may obtain program information;

(ii) Not later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of this act, cause to be published in at least two (2) Wyoming trade publications related to the irrigated agriculture water use sector a notice of the Voluntary Water Conservation Program Act and how water right owners and other interested persons may obtain program information;

(iii) Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the effective date of this act, hold at least three (3) public meetings at different locations within Wyoming's portion of the Colorado river basin that provide notice of the Voluntary Water Conservation Program Act and how water right owners and other interested persons may obtain program information.

Section 5. The state engineer shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 6. Nothing in this act shall be interpreted or construed to impair or otherwise modify existing agreements or any rights, obligations, claims or defenses of the state of Wyoming under the Colorado River Compact, the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact or any other federal law, state law, administrative rule, regulation or guideline.

Section 7. The state engineer shall file a report with the select water committee and the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee on or before October 1, 2026 and on or before October 1 of each year thereafter until 2031, detailing the operation of the program implemented under this act. The report under this section shall include recommendations to each committee regarding the continuance of the program and any advantageous or necessary statutory changes.

Section 8. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided in Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 101

2026 ELECTION HAND COUNT COMPARISON

Original Senate File No. 113

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring the completion of a hand count by the county clerk of each county in the 2026 primary and general elections; specifying requirements of the hand count; requiring reporting; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 22-8-101(d) and 22-8-102 are amended to read:

22-8-101. Notice of election officials needed; county chairmen to submit list of names; municipal clerks list of names appointment.

(d) Not later than June 30, the county clerk on each general election year shall appoint judges of election and counting boards and alternates from lists submitted by the county chairmen of the major and minor political parties. <u>This subsection shall not apply to judges appointed by the county clerk to serve on audit boards.</u>

22-8-102. Qualifications.

Except as otherwise provided by this section, judges of election and members of counting boards shall be registered electors and shall be physically, morally and mentally competent to perform their duties. The county clerk may appoint persons who are at least sixteen (16) years of age to serve as judges of election or members of counting boards if such persons meet all other requirements for qualification of an elector. A judge of election shall not be a member of a counting board at the same election except as provided by W.S. 22-8-108(d) <u>and except as provided in this section. For the 2026 primary and general elections, a judge of election shall not be a member of a counting board at the same election except as provided by W.S. 22-8-108(d) or for the purposes of a hand count audit</u>.

Section 2.

(a) In addition to the audits required under W.S. 22-6-130 and 22-11-109, each county clerk shall conduct a hand count audit of actual ballots cast on election day following the 2026 primary and 2026 general elections. The purpose of the hand count audit is to complete a physical examination of as close to five percent (5%) of the total number of ballots cast on election day per county as possible and compare the results of the hand count audit to the results tabulated by electronic equipment. Each county clerk shall conduct a hand count audit of the ballots for one (1) federal race and one (1) statewide race as selected by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall notify the county clerk of each county which races shall be audited not later than close of business on the Wednesday following the election. The secretary of state may select different federal and statewide races to be audited for each county, but in no instance shall the secretary of state select more than one (1) federal race and one (1) statewide race per county. In addition to the races selected by the secretary of state, the county clerk shall conduct a hand count audit of each legislative race printed on the ballot. The county canvassing board may audit additional races in addition to those selected by the secretary of state pursuant to the requirements of this section. The results of each hand count audit and the electronic count shall be compared to determine if there were any inconsistencies or errors in the electronic voting system count.

(b) For the 2026 primary election and 2026 general election, the county canvassing board shall select a requisite number of electronic tabulating machines whose cumulative number of ballots cast on election day totals as close to five percent (5%) of the total number of ballots cast in their respective county as possible. The county clerk shall audit the ballots tabulated by those electronic tabulating machines selected by the county canvassing board and compare to the hand count audit result. The hand count audit shall be conducted not later than nine (9) days after the county canvass.

(c) Each hand count audit conducted under this section shall be conducted as follows:

(i) The county clerk shall appoint audit boards prior to the conclusion of the county canvass but shall not be required to appoint the boards by the deadline set in W.S. 22-8-101(d). The county clerk may appoint as many audit boards as necessary, provided each audit board shall be made up of not less than three (3) qualified electors with not greater than two (2) judges per audit board being from the same political party;

(ii) In addition to any races selected by the county canvassing board, audit boards appointed by the county clerk shall audit those races selected by the secretary of state and each legislative office printed on the ballot. The audit boards appointed by the county clerk shall audit those races on ballots that were tabulated by the equipment selected by the county canvassing board;

(iii) Audit boards appointed by the county clerk under this section shall tabulate each mark, undervote or overvote as would be counted by electronic tabulating equipment according to the instructions printed on the ballot.

(d) Any inconsistencies or errors between the original count tabulated by the electronic tabulating machines and the hand count audit required under this section shall be reported to the secretary of state not less than nine (9) days after the date of the county canvass.

(e) The hand count audit required under this section shall be reported by the secretary of state to the joint corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim committee on or before May 1, 2027.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 102

PRESCRIPTIVE EASEMENTS FOR ELECTRICITY DELIVERY

Original Senate File No. 99

AN ACT relating to property, conveyances and security transactions; providing legislative findings; providing definitions; providing an easement for electric transmission lines and distributions systems as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The legislature finds that:

(i) During the electrification of rural Wyoming, it was common for multiple landowners to allow the construction of electrical distribution lines across their properties for the purpose of distributing electricity to the area residents. Each landowner benefitted from the permissions given by other landowners. The electrical providers relied on neighborly cooperation and the permissions granted by the various landowners to build and maintain electrical distribution lines that benefitted all the affected landowners;

(ii) In many cases, these arrangements were not supported with written documentation;

(iii) These historic arrangements and permissions were in the public interest and warrant legal protection;

(iv) It is not in the public interest to penalize neighborly cooperation by expanding the scope of the easement or burden on the land beyond the intent of the parties who entered into these agreements.

Section 2. W.S. 34-1-159 is created to read:

34-1-159. Prescriptive easements for electricity delivery and distribution.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Delivery" means the distribution or transmission of electricity;

(ii) "Electric utility" means as defined by W.S. 37-3-401(a)(ii);

(iii) "Electricity user" means a person, or the person's predecessor, that receives or received electricity from a public utility, that is or was a member or customer of a public utility or whose land is crossed by an electric utility's system;

(iv) "Public utility" means as defined by W.S. 37-1-101(a)(vi);

(v) "System" means the physical structures, including overhead power lines and appurtenant structures, that convey electricity from a public utility to an electricity user.

(b) An electric utility shall be granted a nonexclusive easement under this section for a system, and the ability to reattach any existing pole attachments, if:

(i) The electric utility has installed a delivery system;

(ii) The delivery system, or a portion of the system, is visibly installed so as to provide any successors-in-interest to the electricity user constructive notice or actual notice that the delivery system exists on the property;

(iii) The delivery system was installed on the property on or before January 1, 2006;

(iv) The delivery system's use is continuous and uninterrupted. A change of use, cessation of use or de-energization for a period not exceeding one (1) year shall not be deemed an interruption for purposes of this paragraph; and

(v) There is no valid existing written agreement between the electric utility and the landowner establishing any other easement regarding the delivery system or a portion of the delivery system.

(c) Upon the establishment of an easement under this section:

(i) The electric utility shall have the right to reconstruct, re-phase, maintain and repair the existing system and the right to trim and remove trees and other vegetation that is hazardous or that is reasonably likely to become hazardous to the delivery system;

(ii) Access to the easement and ingress and egress shall be limited to the easement to the extent necessary to permit the reasonable enjoyment of the rights and privileges granted by this section unless access or ingress and egress to parts of the easement would be hazardous to or materially encumbered for the electric utility. If access or ingress or egress to parts of the easement would be hazardous or materially encumbered, the easement granted under this section may include other reasonable access that minimizes impacts on the landowner to the extent reasonably possible.

(d) The width of an easement granted under this section shall be consistent with the historical and traditional use by the electric utility of the delivery system but shall not exceed thirty (30) feet in any direction from the location of the existing line or other physical components of the system.

(e) An easement created under this section shall be deemed abandoned if the electric utility fails to use the delivery system for greater than three (3) consecutive years without an agreement with the landowner or the landowner's predecessor allowing the lack of use.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

(i) Interfere with, impair, modify or alter any rights or duties established by any existing easement or other agreement, including an easement for electricity delivery established by written instrument or other law;

(ii) Expand the electric utility's use of the easement beyond adjustments consistent with historic uses or normal development of the dominant and servient estate in a way that would materially increase the burden of the servient estate, except when needed to serve a reasonable expansion of use for neighboring or local land uses. Such exception shall not include industrial and manufacturing related increases in wattage;

(iii) Expand or modify the prescriptive easement laws of this state.

(g) Before an electric utility is granted a nonexclusive easement under this section, the electric utility shall publish a notice prior to the easement's enactment date in a local newspaper or customer newsletter.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 103

WYOMING PHARMACY ACT AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 121

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Pharmacy Act; amending provisions related to the practice of pharmacy; providing definitions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 33-24-124 is amended to read:

33-24-124. Persons deemed practicing pharmacy.

(a) Any person shall be deemed to be practicing pharmacy within the meaning of this act who provides collaborative pharmaceutical care or prepares, or compounds, or processes, or packages, or repackages, or labels, or dispenses, or sells, or offers for sale, at retail or in connection with operation of a health-care facility, any dangerous drugs, medicines, poisons, chemicals, narcotics, or prescriptions, which are identified as such in accordance with this act.

(b) "Practice of pharmacy" means, but is not limited to:

(i) Interpreting, evaluating, compounding, dispensing or administering medical orders or prescriptions;

(ii) Providing patient counseling;

(iii) Assessing the patient for the purpose of prescribing drugs and devices pursuant to board of pharmacy rules;

(iv) Initiating or providing pharmacist care services pursuant to board of pharmacy rules;

(v) Using continuous quality improvement programs, emerging technologies and competency-based education to improve patient safety and the quality of services provided;

(vi) Engaging in collaborative pharmaceutical care.

(c) Regarding collaborative pharmaceutical care:

(i) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require any pharmacist to provide collaborative pharmaceutical care. No employer shall discriminate against a pharmacist on the basis that the pharmacist declines to participate in a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement;

(ii) The practice of collaborative pharmaceutical care shall be governed by board of pharmacy rules.

Section 2. The board of pharmacy shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 104

ELECTIONS-VOTING MACHINE AND VOTING SYSTEM TESTS

Original Senate File No. 28

AN ACT relating to elections; clarifying the procedure for testing voting machines and electronic voting systems; specifying that tests shall be open to the public; specifying rulemaking authority; removing the presumption of proper preparation of voting machines; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 22-10-108, 22-10-110, 22-11-103(c) and 22-11-104(b)(iii) are amended to read:

22-10-108. Procedure for preparing machines for election; inspection and certification.

(a) Before preparing a voting machine for an election, the county clerk shall, not later than two (2) days before a test of a voting machine or not later than twenty-four (24) hours before any re-test of a voting machine, post a public notice in the office of the county clerk and on the website of the county clerk and notify in writing the county chairman of each political party having a candidate on the ballot and all independent candidates, stating the time and place where the voting machine will be prepared for the election. The political party representatives, ~~and~~ representatives of independent candidates, at the county clerk's discretion not less than three (3) members of the public, but not more than a number that will ensure the orderly testing of machines, and members of the public may be present at the preparation of the voting machine for the election, to see that the machine is tested for accuracy and is properly prepared and that all registering counters are set at zero (00000). The county clerk, in the presence of these ~~representatives~~ attendees, shall prepare the voting machine for the election and set all registering counters at zero (00000). He shall then test each registering counter for accuracy by casting votes on it until the registering counter is correctly registering each vote cast on it. The county clerk shall then reset each registering counter to zero (00000) and shall immediately lock and seal the voting machine with a numbered metal seal and make a record of the number of the seal on the certificate for the machine. The seal shall be so placed as to prevent operation of the machine or its registering counters without breaking the seal. The county clerk shall then immediately make a record on the certificate for the machine of the reading shown on the protective counter.

(b) Inspection of voting machines ~~may~~ shall begin not less than two (2) weeks before an election and continue until all machines to be used are publicly tested and sealed. Immediately following testing of a machine, the county clerk shall make a certificate in writing stating the serial number of each machine, whether the machine has all the registering counters set at zero (00000), and whether the machine has been tested by voting on each registering counter to prove that each registering counter is in perfect and accurate condition, the number registered on the protective counter, and the number on the seal with which the machine is sealed against operation. A copy of this certificate shall be filed with the secretary of state and the certificate shall be kept on file in the office of the county clerk.

(c) No voting machine shall be used in any election unless the individual machine is tested and prepared in accordance with this section. Every voting machine used in an election, including but not limited to all electronic ballot marking devices, shall be individually tested.

22-10-110. Objections.

A voting machine prepared for an election and certified by the county clerk ~~shall be conclusively presumed to be properly prepared unless within two (2) days~~ may be challenged within five (5) days after the machine is sealed by filing a complaint in the district court, and ~~certified~~ before the election if a complaint is filed in the district court of the county stating the number of the machine and the grounds for objecting to its use.

22-11-103. Capabilities required.

(c) The secretary of state may from time to time as necessary promulgate rules and regulations consistent with subsection (a) of this section and with all other requirements of this Election Code to govern the characteristics of electronic voting systems that may be used in Wyoming. The rules shall ensure the fairness and accuracy of elections. The rules may govern both the characteristics of the systems and the procedures to be followed in testing and using the systems. The rules shall allow the county clerks to follow appropriate recommendations of the vendors of the systems for maintenance and management of the systems to the extent these recommendations are not inconsistent with this Election Code and with the rules. The rules shall be adopted following consultation with the county clerks.

22-11-104. Conduct of elections in which systems utilized.

(b) The county clerk of each county using an electronic voting system shall:

(iii) Before testing an electronic voting system for an election, not later than two (2) days before a test of an electronic voting system or not later than twenty-four (24) hours before any re-test of an electronic voting system, post a public notice in the office of the county clerk and the website of the county clerk and notify the state chairman and the county chairman of each political party having a candidate on the ballot, stating the time and place of the test. The political party representatives, ~~and~~ representatives of independent candidates, at the county clerk's discretion not less than three (3) members of the public, but not more than a number that will ensure the orderly testing of machines, and members of the public may be present for the test, which shall be held at least two (2) weeks before the election. The test shall ascertain that ~~the~~ all automatic tabulating equipment to be used in the election will accurately count the votes cast on all ballot styles that may be used in the election for all offices and all measures. The test shall be conducted by processing a preaudited group of ~~paper ballots or~~ all ballot ~~cards~~ styles on which are recorded a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each measure and shall include for each office one (1) or more ballots which have votes in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the automatic tabulating equipment to reject such votes. If the county use an electronic ballot marking device in any way, the test shall also be conducted using ballots or ballot cards on each machine that are marked by an electronic ballot marking device. During the test a different number of valid votes shall be assigned to each candidate, including write-in candidates, for an office, and for and against each measure, including at least one (1) undervote and one (1) overvote in each race or measure in each ballot style for each machine type capable of recording an undervote or overvote. If any error is detected, or if the test is not completed in compliance with law, the cause of it shall be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count shall be secured and certified to by the county clerk. On completion of the count, the results, reported in the same manner official election results are reported, shall be retained by the county clerk, posted to the county clerk's website and a copy of the results, reported in the same manner official election results are reported, shall be provided to any person upon request. The programs, test materials and ballots shall be sealed and retained as provided for paper ballots, provided that if a re-test is required the seals may be broken so that an errorless count can be secured and certified as provided in this paragraph;

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

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 105

WASTE AND STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

Original Senate File No. 69

AN ACT relating to water; requiring a study of waste water and storm water infrastructure in the state as specified; requiring reports; specifying ownership of data collected pursuant to the study; providing requirements for production, disclosure and dissemination of data collected; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The department of environmental quality shall enter into a memorandum of understanding or amend an existing memorandum of understanding with the office of state lands and investments to conduct a study to collect information on public waste water and storm water infrastructure in the state. This study shall be conducted in conjunction with the ongoing efforts by the department of environmental quality to collect information on all drinking water infrastructure in the state.

(b) The office of state lands and investments and the Wyoming water development office shall coordinate with and provide any necessary assistance to the department of environmental quality in conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section. Each city, town, special district and county shall provide any data or information on its water, waste water and storm water infrastructure as requested by the department of environmental quality or its designee for the study required under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) All data collected, compiled, created, digitized or otherwise produced pursuant to this section, including any geographic information system (GIS) data layers and associated metadata, shall be the property of the state of Wyoming and subject to the following requirements:

(i) Any contract, memorandum of understanding or agreement with a third party for purposes of performing the study in this section shall include a requirement that delivery of the complete underlying datasets be made using nonproprietary or widely used formats that are suitable for use by governmental entities, including bulk export capability;

(ii) The department of environmental quality shall make data sets available for public access and download through an official state data portal or repository designated by the department;

(iii) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require disclosure of any information that is confidential or privileged under state or federal law.

(d) The department of environmental quality shall report the status of the study required under subsection (a) of this section to the select water committee not later than November 1 of each year beginning in 2026 and ending in 2030.

(e) There is appropriated eight million dollars ($8,000,000.00) from the strategic investments and projects account to the office of state lands and investments for any expenditures necessary to conduct the study required by subsection (a) of this section, subject to subsection (f) of this section. Funds appropriated under this subsection may be used to retain a consultant to assist with the completion of the study. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2030. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2030. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of state lands and investments' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(f) If the strategic investments and projects account is repealed effective on or before July 1, 2026, then the appropriation specified in subsection (e) of this section shall be made from the general fund in the amount specified in subsection (e) of this section. The appropriation from the general fund specified in this subsection shall not be made if funds are appropriated under subsection (e) of this section from the strategic investments and projects account.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 106

WELFARE FRAUD PREVENTION ACT AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 106

AN ACT relating to welfare; amending the intervals at which the department of health and department of family services shall determine specified information of an applicant for or recipient of public welfare and assistance; making conforming amendments; amending the requirements for public welfare and assistance qualification and participation; establishing citizen, noncitizen and qualified alien eligibility for public welfare and assistance; requiring the reporting of illegal alien status; requiring specified hospitals to collect citizenship status information; requiring rulemaking; requiring reporting; providing definitions; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 42-2-115, 42-10-108 through 42-10-110, 42-10-201 and 42-12-101 through 42-12-106 are created to read:

42-2-115. Supplemental nutrition assistance program eligibility recertification frequency.

(a) The department shall assign certification periods of not greater than four (4) months to households that include an able bodied adult without dependents and other households whose circumstances are determined by the department to be unstable, unless otherwise prohibited under federal law for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

(b) The department shall assign certification periods of one (1) or two (2) months to households that the department determines will become ineligible for the supplemental nutrition assistance program in the near future, unless otherwise prohibited under federal law.

(c) Except as provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the department shall assign certification periods of not more than six (6) months to households whose members are not elderly or disabled, unless otherwise prohibited under federal law.

42-10-108. Prohibition on self-attestation.

(a) Except as required under federal law, self-attestation shall not be accepted for any of the following eligibility factors without verification prior to enrollment in the medicaid program:

(i) Income in excess of zero dollars ($0.00);

(ii) Residency;

(iii) Identity;

(iv) Except for any presumptive eligibility period, citizenship or immigration status.

(b) The department shall not rely on self-attestation to establish any medicaid eligibility factor unless expressly required by federal law.

42-10-109. Residency verification; monthly address checks; multistate enrollment; monthly death record checks.

(a) As used in this section, “address change information” means postal change of address data, state address change databases or comparable systems.

(b) On not less than a monthly basis, the department of health shall review address change information to identify potential changes in residency for medicaid recipients.

(c) The department of health shall conduct monthly cross checks of address change information against enrollment records and shall initiate an eligibility redetermination when a change in residency is indicated.

(d) The department of health shall submit enrollment information to any national database used to identify persons enrolled in medicaid in multiple states. Implementation of this subsection shall occur no later than October 1, 2029.

(e) Not later than August 31 of each year, the department of health shall submit a public report to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee of the Wyoming legislature, including:

(i) The number of persons flagged through address change information or out of state benefit activity;

(ii) The number of persons removed from the medicaid program due to enrollment in multiple states;

(iii) The estimated fiscal impact of this section.

(f) On not less than a monthly basis, the department of health shall receive and review information from the vital statistics services and the social security administration master death file to identify any deceased persons enrolled in the medicaid program. Upon confirmation of death, the department shall promptly remove the deceased person from the program.

42-10-110. Retroactive medicaid eligibility; rulemaking; reporting.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) “Retroactive eligibility” means coverage for services furnished prior to the month of application as authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(34);

(ii) “Medicaid eligible population” means persons eligible for medicaid under state or federal law.

(b) Retroactive medicaid eligibility shall not extend more than two (2) months prior to the month in which a completed medicaid application is submitted.

(c) This limitation applies only to initial applications and shall not affect ongoing eligibility.

(d) The department of health shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

(e) Not later than August 1 of each year, the department of health shall submit a report to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee of the Wyoming legislature, including:

(i) The number of medicaid applications processed;

(ii) The number of applicants denied retroactive eligibility under this section; and

(iii) The estimated fiscal impact of the limitation.

(f) This section shall be implemented not later than January 1, 2027.

ARTICLE 2
WAIVER OF WORK REQUIREMENTS

42-10-201. Prohibition on waiver of work requirements and exemptions.

(a) The department of family services shall not seek, apply for, accept or renew any waiver of work requirements under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(o)(4) without first obtaining specific authorization from the legislature. Such authorization shall be provided in a duly enacted statute.

(b) The department of family services shall not exercise the state's option to provide any exemptions from the work requirement under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(o)(6)(F), except for family caregivers as defined in section 2 of the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage Family Caregivers Act of 2017.

CHAPTER 12
CITIZENS AND QUALIFIED ALIENS STATUS VERIFICATION FOR WELFARE

42-12-101. Definition of citizens who are eligible for public assistance.

(a) Unless required by federal law, no person who is not a United States citizen or national of the United States shall be eligible to receive food assistance through the supplemental nutrition assistance program, unless that individual meets the definition of a qualified alien pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1641(b).

(b) No person who is not a United States citizen or national of the United States shall be eligible to receive medical assistance through medicaid, unless that person meets the definition of an eligible alien pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1396b(v) and meets the definition of a qualified alien pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1641(b).

(c) No person who is not a United States citizen or national of the United States shall be eligible to receive assistance through the personal opportunities with employment responsibilities (POWER) program, unless that person meets the definition of a qualified alien pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1641(b).

42-12-102. Verification of citizenship or eligible alien status.

(a) The department of family services shall be required to verify that a person is eligible to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program during enrollment and eligibility recertification by verifying citizenship or eligible alien status by using the United States citizenship and immigration services' systematic alien verification for entitlements (SAVE) online service or requiring the person to provide an acceptable form of proof of citizenship or eligible alien status, including but not limited to certified birth certificates, United States passports and United States customs and immigration services documentation.

(b) The department of health shall be required to verify that a person is eligible for medicaid during enrollment and eligibility redetermination by verifying citizenship or eligible alien status using the SAVE online service or requiring the person to provide an acceptable form of proof of citizenship or eligible alien status, including but not limited to, certified birth certificates, United States passports and United States customs and immigration services documentation.

(c) The department of family services or other applicable agency shall be required to verify that a person is eligible for the POWER program during enrollment and eligibility redetermination by verifying citizenship or eligible alien status using the SAVE online service or requiring the person to provide an acceptable form of proof of citizenship or eligible alien status, including but not limited to, certified birth certificates, United States passports and United States customs and immigration services documentation.

(d) The department of family services shall submit to the United States department of agriculture information concerning any assistance unit member for whom it is unable to verify eligible alien status.

(e) The department of health shall submit to the United States department of health and human services information concerning any person member for whom it is unable to verify eligible alien status.

42-12-103. Referral of illegal aliens to law enforcement.

The department of health and department of family services shall submit to the appropriate law enforcement authorities, including but not limited to the United States department of homeland security, information concerning any household member or assistance unit member who it is determined by the applicable department while applying the requirements of this title to be an unlawfully present alien, regardless of whether such household member or assistance unit member is applying to participate in a public assistance program, including but not limited to, the supplemental nutrition assistance program or medicaid.

42-12-104. Counting of ineligible alien income in determination of benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

The entire income and financial resources of any individual rendered ineligible for participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(f) shall be considered in determining the eligibility and benefit allotment of the household of which such individual is a member.

42-12-105. Reasonable opportunity periods for noncitizens applying for medicaid.

(a) The department of health shall adhere to the following requirements regarding the reasonable opportunity period for verification of United States citizenship or eligible alien status for medicaid:

(i) When an applicant's status cannot be verified through available data sources, the department shall provide only a single reasonable opportunity period, consistent with the minimum period required under federal law, for the applicant to provide verification;

(ii) Medicaid coverage may only be provided provisionally during the reasonable opportunity period;

(iii) Failure to submit acceptable documentation

within the reasonable opportunity period required under federal law shall result in denial or termination of medicaid eligibility, subject to required notice;

(iv) No additional reasonable opportunity period shall be granted to any applicant for medicaid who has previously been denied eligibility at any time due to a failure to verify citizenship or eligible alien status.

42-12-106. Citizenship data collection and presumptive eligibility integrity, medicaid.

(a) The department of health shall require a field for citizenship or eligible alien status on all presumptive eligibility applications. The department shall require hospitals, clinics and other qualified entities authorized to conduct presumptive eligibility determinations to collect and transmit attestations of citizenship or eligible alien status to the department. No presumptive eligibility application shall be approved unless the applicant certifies that they are a United States citizen, United States national, or alien eligible for medicaid pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1398b(v) and W.S. 42-12-101(b).

(b) The department of health shall:

(i) Beginning not later than April 1, 2027, require each hospital that accepts medicaid to include a provision on its patient admission or registration form for the patient or the patient's representative to state or indicate whether the patient is a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States or is not lawfully present in the United States;

(ii) Beginning not later than April 1, 2027, require each hospital that accepts medicaid to inform a patient, at the time this information is collected, that any submission made on an admission or registration form will not affect patient care, as required by federal law;

(iii) Beginning with the calendar year ending on December 31, 2027 and each calendar year thereafter, require that each hospital shall submit an annual report to the department of health within thirty (30) days after the end of each calendar year which reports the total deidentified number of hospital admissions and emergency department visits within the previous calendar year, disaggregated based on whether the patient or the patient's representative indicated that he or she was or was not a citizen of the United States or lawfully present in the United States or declined to answer together with other information required by the department;

(iv) Beginning on April 1, 2028 and each April 1 thereafter, submit a report to the governor and the joint labor, health and social services interim committee, which includes the number of total deidentified hospital admissions and emergency department visits for the previous calendar year, disaggregated based on weather the patient or patient's representative reported that the patient was or was not a citizen of the United States or lawfully present in the United States or declined to answer. The report shall also describe information relating to the costs of uncompensated care for aliens who are not lawfully present in the United States, the impact of uncompensated care on the cost or ability of hospitals to provide services to the public, hospital funding needs and other related information. The report shall also contain information based on the hospital's presumptive eligibility applications that are submitted to the department by participating providers, including the number of persons determined to be presumptively eligible for medicaid in the prior calendar year, the proportion of the persons presumptively eligible for medicaid who were verified as eligible for medicaid and the proportion of the persons presumptively eligible for medicaid who were determined to be ineligible for medicaid;

(v) Adopt rules relating to the format and information to be contained in quarterly reports and the acceptable formats for hospitals to use in requesting information regarding a patients immigration status on hospital admission or registration forms.

Section 2. W.S. 42-2-103(b)(xvi) and 42-10-103(a)(intro), (iii) through (viii), (x) through (xv) and by creating a new subsection (d) is amended to read:

42-2-103. Provision of assistance and services; duties of department; burial assistance; department of health state supplemental security income program.

(b) In carrying out subsection (a) of this section and except as provided under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act, the department shall:

(xvi) Conduct the <u>applicable</u> eligibility and identity verification process as provided in W.S. 42-10-101 through ~~42-10-107~~ 42-10-110.

42-10-103. Enhanced eligibility verification process.

(a) Prior to awarding any public welfare benefit, and ~~on a quarterly basis~~ at the intervals specified in this section after any benefit is awarded, the department shall, to the extent practicable, determine the following information as it relates to each applicant for or recipient of a public welfare benefit:

(iii) Income information maintained by the United States social security administration, reviewed by the department at every application and recertification period;

(iv) Immigration status information maintained by the United States citizenship and immigration services and verified through the SAVE online service or other acceptable documentation;

(v) Death register information maintained by the United States social security administration, reviewed by the department not less than on a monthly basis;

(vi) Prisoner information maintained by the United States social security administration, reviewed by the department of family services at every application and recertification period;

(vii) Public housing and section 8 housing assistance payment information, reviewed by the department of family services at every application and recertification period;

(viii) Fleeing felon, probation or parole violation information, reviewed by the department of family services at every application and recertification period;

(x) Beneficiary records and earnings information maintained by the United States social security administration in the beneficiary and earnings data exchange system, reviewed by the department at every application and recertification period;

(xi) Earnings and pension information maintained by the United States social security administration in the beneficiary earnings exchange record system, reviewed by the department at every application and recertification period;

(xii) Earnings and pension information maintained by the Wyoming retirement system, reviewed by the department of family services at every application and recertification period and by the department of health upon the receipt of applicable information from the Wyoming retirement system;

(xiii) Employment information, ~~maintained by the department of workforce services~~ reviewed by the department at every application and recertification period;

(xiv) Employment information maintained by the United States department of health and human services in the national directory of new hires, reviewed by the department of family services at every application and recertification period;

(xv) Supplemental security income information maintained by the United States social security administration in the social security income state data exchange system, reviewed by the department at every application and recertification period;

(d) On not less than a quarterly basis, the department of family services and department of health shall each make available on their public websites all of the following data from findings on noncompliance and fraud investigations, provided the data is presented in the aggregate and does not include confidential or personally identifying information:

(i) The total number of public benefit cases investigated for intentional program violations or fraud;

(ii) The total number of public benefit cases referred to the attorney general's office for prosecution;

(iii) Total improper payments and expenditures;

(iv) Total monies received;

(v) Aggregate data concerning improper payments and ineligible recipients as a percentage of those recipients investigated and reviewed.

Section 3. This act is effective January 1, 2027.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Chapter 107

WYOMING ENERGY DOMINANCE FUND

Original Senate File No. 123

AN ACT relating to the administration of the government; creating the Wyoming energy dominance fund; specifying authorized uses and requirements of the fund; authorizing grants and loans from funds within the Wyoming energy dominance fund as specified; requiring reports; providing findings; modifying distribution of severance tax revenues; providing for the deposit of funds into the Wyoming energy dominance fund; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-5-503(j) and 39-14-801(b)(v), (vi) and by creating a new paragraph (vii) are amended to read:

37-5-503. Purposes; report.

(j) Before any appropriation is made to the authority, the authority shall submit its budget for review as provided by W.S. 9-2-1010 through 9-2-1014. Except for funds expended from the Wyoming energy dominance fund, any appropriation to the authority shall be expended only for administrative purposes, which shall include planning and research.

39-14-801. Severance tax distributions; distribution account created; formula.

(b) Before making distributions from the severance tax distribution account under subsections (c) through (e) of this section, an amount equal to two-thirds (2/3) of the amount of tax collected under W.S. 39-14-104(a)(i) and (b)(i) and 39-14-204(a)(i) for the same period shall be deposited as follows:

(v) For fiscal year 2023 through fiscal year ~~2028~~ 2026 these funds shall be deposited equally to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund and to the common school account within the permanent land fund;

(vi) For fiscal year ~~2029 and thereafter~~ 2027 these funds shall be deposited ~~two-thirds (2/3) to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund and one-third (1/3) to the common school account within the permanent land fund~~ to the Wyoming energy dominance fund, not to exceed a total of one hundred five million dollars ($105,000,000.00) deposited into the Wyoming energy dominance fund. Funds exceeding one hundred five million dollars ($105,000,000.00) during fiscal year 2027 shall be deposited one-half (1/2) to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund and one-half (1/2) to the common school account within the permanent land fund;~~.~~

(vii) For fiscal year 2028 and thereafter these funds shall be deposited two-thirds (2/3) to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund and one-third (1/3) to the common school account within the permanent land fund.

Section 2.

(a) The legislature finds that:

(i) Wyoming is blessed with an abundance of energy and natural resources that have long powered the state's economy and supported the prosperity of the state's communities;

(ii) Energy is Wyoming's number one (1) industry, contributing up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the state's gross state product over the past decade and generating nearly ninety-five billion dollars ($95,000,000,000.00) in total economic impact since 2015. Wyoming leads the nation in coal production, supplying about forty percent (40%) of the United States total production, and ranks seventh in crude oil production and tenth in natural gas production;

(iii) Wyoming has the world's largest trona deposit, produces two-thirds (2/3) of the United States' bentonite, forty percent (40%) of its uranium and over twenty percent (20%) of the world's helium;

(iv) Wyoming is also a net exporter of electricity and the largest energy exporter in the western interconnection, with the highest net exports per capita;

(v) The mineral and energy industries directly and indirectly support more than sixty thousand (60,000) Wyoming jobs, paying approximately two billion dollars ($2,000,000,000.00) in annual wages, and have generated approximately twenty-eight billion dollars ($28,000,000,000.00) in state and local tax revenue during the last ten (10) years. These revenues fund Wyoming's schools, infrastructure and essential public services through mechanisms like the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund, now valued at over eleven billion dollars ($11,000,000,000.00);

(vi) It is in Wyoming's and the United States' best interest to unlock the full potential of our affordable and reliable energy resources. Doing so will drive economic opportunity across the state, strengthen the communities that have fueled this nation for generations and reinforce economic and national security, ensuring that Wyoming remains the energy backbone of the United States for decades to come.

Section 3.

(a) There is created the Wyoming energy dominance fund to be administered by the Wyoming energy authority. The fund shall consist of those funds designated to the account by law and all funds received from contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations to the fund. All investment earnings from the Wyoming energy dominance fund shall be credited to the fund.

(b) Funds in the Wyoming energy dominance fund are continuously appropriated to the Wyoming energy authority in order to:

(i) Provide grants for private or federal funding for applied research, demonstration, pilot projects or commercial development projects related to Wyoming energy needs, including coal innovation, coal-fired electricity, trona and bentonite development projects, natural gas, enhanced oil recovery, pipeline infrastructure, energy exports, uranium conversion, uranium enrichment, fuel fabrication, rare earth and critical mineral processing, separation and manufacturing, baseload energy development and deployment and grid innovations. Grants shall not be provided for wind or solar energy projects. For purposes of this paragraph:

(A) Expenditure of funds awarded under this paragraph shall be conditioned upon receipt of matching funds in a ratio of one dollar ($1.00) of funds from the Wyoming energy dominance fund to not less than one dollar ($1.00) of nonstate funds;

(B) Project matching funds shall be secured by the applicant before a grant or award is issued pursuant to this paragraph;

(C) In-kind contributions shall not be eligible as matching funds under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(D) Prior investment or capital spent by the applicant before an application for funds is filed shall not be eligible as matching funds under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(ii) Provide loans as determined by the Wyoming energy authority, for applied research, demonstration projects, pilot projects and commercial deployment projects related to Wyoming energy needs, including coal innovation, coal-fired electricity, trona and bentonite development projects, natural gas, enhanced oil recovery, pipeline infrastructure, energy exports, uranium conversion, uranium enrichment, fuel fabrication, rare earth and critical mineral processing and manufacturing, baseload energy development and deployment and grid innovation. Loans shall not be provided for wind or solar energy projects. Loans provided under this paragraph shall at a minimum:

(A) Be made only if the applicant demonstrates before receipt of the loan that all forecasted project costs will be funded. The applicant shall identify the source of all funds to be used for the project in a written feasibility level business case provided to the Wyoming energy authority at the time of loan application;

(B) Be adequately collateralized as determined by the Wyoming energy authority;

(C) Credit all repayments of loans under this paragraph to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account;

(D) Ensure that interest rates, if applicable, shall be consistent with the federal funds rate as of the date of the application, provided that any interest rate for loans set shall be the effective federal funds rate as reported by the federal reserve bank of New York minus one percent (1%), but in no case shall the rate be lower than zero percent (0%);

(E) Charge the applicant a loan origination fee or loan guarantee fee of not less than one percent (1%) of the loan amount made from funds from the Wyoming energy dominance fund;

(F) The maximum loan duration of any loan provided under this paragraph shall be not more than ten (10) years;

(G) The Wyoming energy authority may require other terms and conditions on the loans provided as deemed necessary.

(iii) The Wyoming energy authority shall create an application process where the authority accepts applications not less than one (1) time every four (4) months for all grants and loans provided under this subsection. The application process shall include, at a minimum:

(A) A concept paper phase;

(B) A full application phase;

(C) A public comment period;

(D) Attorney general legal review;

(E) Governor review and determination.

(iv) Grant and loan recipients shall report the expenditures and progress of an energy project funded by, in whole or in part, a grant or loan with funds under this subsection to the Wyoming energy authority on a quarterly basis. At the end of the term of the grant or loan, the recipient shall furnish a comprehensive report to the Wyoming energy authority that shall, at a minimum, include a cumulative financial audit conducted at the recipient's expense and a list of the accomplishments achieved as a result of the grant or loan.

(c) The attorney general shall provide an opinion certifying the legality of each grant or loan involving funds disbursed or used from the Wyoming energy dominance fund created by this section and shall share the opinion with the Wyoming energy authority.

(d) As a condition of expending the funds in the Wyoming energy dominance fund:

(i) The Wyoming energy authority shall notify the management council of the legislature, the joint appropriations committee and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee of all proposed expenditures from monies derived from the fund and the purposes and goals of each expenditure not less than thirty (30) days prior to the expenditure being made; and

(ii) The management council of the legislature shall review and make recommendations on the proposed expenditures of funds from the Wyoming energy dominance fund by a majority vote.

(e) This section shall be repealed on December 31, 2028. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining in the Wyoming energy dominance fund on December 31, 2028 shall revert to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 7, 2026.

Original Senate Resolution No. 1

A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to introduce a bill and enact law to amend the federal Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the state of Wyoming to administer and manage mineral leasing on federal lands located in Wyoming.

WHEREAS, in 1920, Congress enacted into law the Mineral Leasing Act, which authorizes the leasing of federal lands for the exploration and development of minerals owned by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Mineral Leasing Act governs energy minerals, including oil, gas and coal and solid leasable minerals, including phosphate, potassium, sodium and oil shale; and

WHEREAS, the Mineral Leasing Act authorizes the United States Secretary of Interior (Secretary) to lease and regulate the development of minerals owned by the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary delegated authority under the Mineral Leasing Act to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), a federal agency that is part of the United States Department of Interior; and

WHEREAS, the BLM administers the leasing program for minerals on federal lands, including federal lands controlled by the BLM and federal lands under the jurisdiction of other federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the federal administration of mineral leasing on federal lands in Wyoming over the past ten (10) years has been inconsistent, unpredictable and subject to political delays that negatively impact Wyoming's economy, energy industry and citizens; and

WHEREAS, the federal administration of mineral leasing has been subject to prolonged leasing moratoriums, regulatory uncertainty and delayed environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act that have resulted in a decrease in mineral activity on federal lands within Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, even after federal lands in Wyoming are leased, the federal government retains legal title to the federal lands and the federal government receives money from sales, bonuses, royalties and rentals from federal mineral leasing; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's management of mineral leasing on state lands demonstrates that Wyoming can adequately and efficiently manage and administer mineral leasing on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming possesses an unparalleled understanding of land within its borders, making Wyoming better equipped than the federal government to administer and manage mineral leasing on federal lands located within the state; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming could administer and manage mineral leasing on federal lands located within the state more efficiently and at a lower cost than the federal government; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming has knowledge of the state's unique terrain, geology, wildlife habitats and ecosystems, which enables Wyoming to assess site-specific environmental impacts more accurately and quickly and tailor leasing decisions to local conditions; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's state agencies are in constant communication with local governments, landowners and industry stakeholders, which would result in a more responsive, efficient and balanced decision making process regarding mineral leasing and in a manner that reflects Wyoming's policies and priorities; and

WHEREAS, authorizing Wyoming to administer and manage mineral leasing of federal minerals not only respects the principles of federalism and local control but also ensures that decisions are made by those who know the land best and are most invested in its long-term sustainability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1.

(a) That the Wyoming Legislature requests that Congress enact legislation amending the federal Mineral Leasing Act to authorize the United States secretary of the interior to enter into cooperative agreements with the state of Wyoming under which the state may, at its election and subject to federal approval, assume administrative primacy for mineral leasing on specified federal lands located within Wyoming. Any authorization under this subsection shall:

(i) Apply only to federal lands mutually designated by the state and the secretary of the interior under a cooperative agreement;

(ii) Require state administration to be consistent with applicable federal law unless otherwise expressly provided by Congress;

(iii) Allow the state and the secretary of the interior to modify or terminate any cooperative agreement by mutual consent; and

(iv) Provide for revenue distribution consistent with federal statutory formulas, provided that, for mineral resources developed on lands designated under a cooperative agreement with the state of Wyoming, the two percent (2%) administrative cost deduction authorized under 30 U.S.C. § 191(b) shall be allocated to and retained by the state of Wyoming in lieu of retention by the United States government.

Section 2. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation and to each member of the Wyoming Board of Land Commissioners.

Approved February 27, 2026.

Original House Resolution No. 2

A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to introduce a bill and enact law to increase the state of Wyoming's share of federal mineral royalties from fifty percent (50%) to eighty-seven and one-half percent (87.5%).

WHEREAS, in Wyoming, approximately forty-six percent (46%) of the surface land area and more than sixty-nine percent (69%) of the subsurface resources of the state of Wyoming are owned by the federal government; and

WHEREAS, under the federal Mineral Leasing Act, fifty percent (50%) of all money received from sales, bonuses, royalties and rentals from federal mineral leasing is distributed to the states where the lands or deposits are located, excluding Alaska; and

WHEREAS, under the federal Mineral Leasing Act, Alaska receives ninety percent (90%) of all money received from sales, bonuses, royalties and rentals from federal mineral leasing; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2024, Wyoming received five hundred ninety million nine hundred twenty thousand nine hundred seventy-one dollars ($590,920,971.00) in federal mineral royalties; and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted into law the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on July 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act reduces the federal mineral royalty rate for oil and gas leasing on federal lands from sixteen and sixty-seven hundredths percent (16.67%) to twelve and one-half percent (12.5%); and

WHEREAS, the reduction in the federal mineral royalty rate on oil and gas leasing on federal lands is estimated to reduce Wyoming's state share of federal mineral royalties by approximately six hundred thousand dollars ($600,000.00) in fiscal year 2026, increasing annually to approximately four million dollars ($4,000,000.00) in fiscal year 2030; and

WHEREAS, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act reduces the federal mineral royalty rate for coal leasing on federal lands from twelve and one-half percent (12.5) to seven percent (7%); and

WHEREAS, the reduction in the federal mineral royalty rate on coal leasing on federal lands is estimated to reduce Wyoming's state share of federal mineral royalties by approximately fifty million dollars ($50,000,000.00) annually until 2034; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in the federal mineral royalty rates will reduce the revenues available for Wyoming's roads, bridges and highways, kindergarten through grade twelve (12) education, higher education, capital construction, emergency responders and general operations of government; and

WHEREAS, transportation, education and emergency response resources are vital to Wyoming and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1.

(a) That the Wyoming Legislature requests that Congress introduce and enact legislation that:

(i) Will increase the state of Wyoming's share of federal mineral royalties from fifty percent (50%) to eighty-seven and one-half percent (87.5%);

(ii) Will provide for revenue distribution consistent with federal statutory formulas, provided that the two percent (2%) administrative cost deduction authorized under 30 U.S.C. § 191(b) shall be allocated to and retained by the state of Wyoming in lieu of retention by the United States government.

Section 2. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

Approved March 2, 2026.

Original Senate Resolution No. 6

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating April 26 of each year to be shared parenting day in the state of Wyoming.

WHEREAS, children are Wyoming's most important asset; and

WHEREAS, shared parenting is an arrangement under which parents who are separated or divorced are given joint decision-making authority and shared parenting time; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that children benefit greatly if they have a good relationship with both parents who are fit caregivers; and

WHEREAS, shared parenting arrangements offer children the benefit of building a relationship with each parent, provide parents with the opportunity to ensure the healthy mental, physical and emotional development of their children and create venues for parents to engage in positive, collaborative efforts geared toward the well-being of their children; and

WHEREAS, shared parenting arrangements recognize that even though the intimate relationship between the parents has ended, the familial relationships continue and require nurturing and cultivation to support healthy child development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1. To highlight the innumerable benefits of shared parenting, the legislature of the state of Wyoming, designates April 26 of each year to be shared parenting day in Wyoming.

Approved March 6, 2026.

Original Senate Resolution No. 9

A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress recognize the protection of Wyoming's freedom of access to public lands, to allow responsible development of resources, recreation, agriculture, hunting, fishing, trapping, and conservation under multiple-use frameworks, to protect local participation in land management decisions, and to keep public lands available to the people of Wyoming.

WHEREAS, federal public lands are central to Wyoming's heritage, economy, culture and way of life; and

WHEREAS, while Congress and the executive branch have a duty to manage these lands for multiple use and sustained yield in the public interest, disposal of lands should not occur without meaningful input from state and local governments and affected communities; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming residents access our federal public lands more than any other state in the United States, with approximately ninety-one percent (91%) of Wyoming's population utilizing public lands for work, recreation and subsistence; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's natural resource industries have driven the state's economy for over a century, contributing over eleven billion dollars ($11,000,000,000.00) annually to the gross state product (GSP), accounting for roughly between twenty-five percent (25%) and thirty percent (30%) of total GSP and employing nearly fifteen percent (15%) of the state's workforce; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming agriculture is foundational to the state and nation, and continued and improved access to public lands for grazing and agriculture use is essential; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's firearms heritage, which is rooted in responsible ownership, hunting, sport shooting and self-reliance, is strengthened through growing youth shooting sports programs like those offered by 4-H, and supported by the expanding firearms industries in Wyoming, which contributes to education, workforce development, conservation and the state's outdoor economy; and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 39 of the Wyoming Constitution affirms "the opportunity to fish, hunt, and trap wildlife is a heritage that shall forever be preserved to the individual citizens of the state" and is the foundation for a multiple use framework which has led to the highest percentage of hunters of any state and world-class wildlife resources which support a hunting, fishing and tourism economy; and

WHEREAS, although existing federal laws already provide a process for land purchases, exchanges or limited disposals when a clear and justified public purpose exists, including Title 43 of the United States Code governing public lands, and such processes have been used successfully in Wyoming, those processes need to be more efficient and less costly for both public and private landowners; and

WHEREAS, recent proposals and public discussions have raised concern regarding broad, quota-driven or large-scale sales of federal public lands as a policy or revenue mechanism, without sufficient local input or analysis; and

WHEREAS, widespread disposal of public lands without clear criteria shifts significant long-term costs for access, wildfire response, infrastructure and law enforcement onto state and local governments without dedicated funding; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's counties have adopted land-use and natural resource plans through public processes tailored to their unique needs, and actions that disregard these plans erode local governance and the spirit of federalism; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming has a long tradition of collaboration, transparency and locally driven decision making rather than top-down, command-and-control directives; and

WHEREAS, agriculture, natural resource and recreation industries in Wyoming are the best and proudest stewards of public lands; and

WHEREAS, if land disposal is determined to be necessary then Wyoming community input must be a consideration because meaningful improvements to land management are best achieved through stakeholder engagement, streamlining existing processes and community-led solutions grounded in local knowledge with robust local public input and consultation with state and local government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1. That the Wyoming Legislature opposes any state or federal legislation or policy that promotes the broad or indiscriminate sale or exchange of public lands.

Section 2. That the state of Wyoming demands Congress and federal agencies respect existing land management frameworks, county land-use plans and the voices of local communities most directly affected by federal land decisions, especially when evaluating any proposed changes to federal land management or the disposition of lands.

Section 3. That the Wyoming Legislature supports responsible, locally supported land exchanges, adjustments or disposals under existing laws and procedures when they demonstrably enhance public access, natural resource use or community benefit.

Section 4. That the Wyoming Legislature supports adequately funding state and federal agencies and the corresponding programs that exist so that the agencies can efficiently and effectively review land purchases, exchanges or limited disposals under the existing legal framework.

Section 5. That the secretary of state transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to the Wyoming congressional delegation.

Approved March 6, 2026.

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2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 325, as emended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws 94, and as further amended by 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section 318, by creating a new subsection (g)	SF0001	44
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