

**DRAFT ONLY  
NOT APPROVED FOR  
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Pandemic response review task force.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections & Political  
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health; creating the pandemic  
2 response review task force; specifying duties of the task  
3 force; requiring a report; providing a termination date for  
4 the task force; providing appropriations; and providing for  
5 an effective date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.**

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11 (a) There is created the Wyoming pandemic response  
12 review task force to consist of the following:

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2 (i) One (1) representative of the department of  
3 health, appointed by the governor;

4

5 (ii) One (1) representative of the state's K-12  
6 educational community, appointed by the governor;

7

8 (iii) One (1) representative of the state's  
9 business community, appointed by the governor;

10

11 (iv) Five (5) members of the Wyoming house of  
12 representatives, including two (2) members of the joint  
13 labor, health and social services interim committee and two  
14 (2) members of the joint corporations, elections and  
15 political subdivisions interim committee, appointed by the  
16 speaker of the house. The speaker of the house shall  
17 designate a cochairman of the task force;

18

19 (v) Five (5) members of the Wyoming senate,  
20 including two (2) members of the joint labor, health and  
21 social services interim committee and two (2) members of  
22 the joint corporations, elections and political  
23 subdivisions interim committee, appointed by the president

1 of the senate. The president of the senate shall designate  
2 a cochairman of the task force.

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4 (b) The task force shall study the state's response  
5 to the COVID-19 pandemic and the state's ability to respond  
6 to pandemics and other disease outbreaks generally. This  
7 study shall include evaluation of:

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9 (i) The development of Wyoming statutes governing  
10 public health orders since statehood;

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12 (ii) The authority granted in W.S. 35-1-240 to  
13 the department of health to issue public health orders;

14

15 (iii) The distribution of statutory authority  
16 provided to the department of health and local health  
17 officers to address disease outbreaks;

18

19 (iv) The effectiveness of public health orders  
20 issued during the COVID-19 pandemic to mitigate the spread  
21 of the disease;

22

1           (v) Consistency or inconsistency of local health  
2 officer efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic to mitigate  
3 the spread of the disease;

4

5           (vi) State and local law enforcement authorities'  
6 responsibilities to enforce public health orders;

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8           (vii) The impact of public health orders issued  
9 during the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses, communities and  
10 the state's economy; and

11

12           (viii) The response of Wyoming K-12 schools and  
13 institutions of higher education to the COVID-19 pandemic  
14 and the impact of public health orders issued during the  
15 COVID-19 pandemic on Wyoming K-12 schools and institutions  
16 of higher education.

17

18           (c) The goal of the task force is to develop  
19 legislative recommendations to improve the state's response  
20 to future pandemics and other disease outbreaks. The task  
21 force shall report its findings and any recommendations to  
22 the joint labor, health and social services interim  
23 committee, the joint corporations, elections and political

1 subdivisions interim committee and the governor on or  
2 before July 1, 2022.

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4 (d) The legislative members of the task force shall  
5 receive compensation, per diem and travel expenses in the  
6 manner and amount prescribed by W.S. 28-5-101. Task force  
7 members who are not legislators and are not state employees  
8 shall receive the compensation, per diem and mileage paid  
9 members of the Wyoming legislature under W.S. 28-5-101.

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11 (e) The task force shall be staffed by the legislative  
12 service office and the department of health.

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14 (f) The task force shall terminate December 31, 2022.

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16 **Section 2.**

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18 (a) There is appropriated ten thousand dollars  
19 (\$10,000.00) from the general fund to the governor's office  
20 to pay compensation, mileage and per diem for  
21 nonlegislative members of the task force. This  
22 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the  
23 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2023. This

1 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any  
2 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds  
3 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided  
4 by law on June 30, 2023.

5

6 (b) There is appropriated fifty thousand dollars  
7 (\$50,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative  
8 service office to pay for salary, mileage and per diem of  
9 legislative members appointed to the task force. This  
10 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the  
11 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2023. This  
12 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any  
13 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds  
14 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided  
15 by law on June 30, 2023.

16

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

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22

(END)