

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

State forestry division-retirement plans.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sherwood

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; authorizing
2 firefighters to participate as retirement system members as
3 specified; providing appropriations; requiring rulemaking;
4 specifying implementation; and providing for effective
5 dates.

6

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

8

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

11

12 **9-3-402. Definitions.**

13

1 (a) As used in this article:

2

3 (xviii) "Law enforcement officer" or "officer"

4 means any member who is a county sheriff, deputy county

5 sheriff, municipal police officer, duly authorized

6 investigator of the Wyoming livestock board meeting the

7 specifications of W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(E), duly authorized

8 personnel of the Wyoming gaming commission meeting the

9 specifications of W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(P), investigator

10 employed by the Wyoming state board of outfitters and

11 professional guides meeting the specifications of W.S. 7-2-

12 101(a)(iv)(J), Wyoming correctional officer, probation and

13 parole agent employed by the Wyoming department of

14 corrections, Wyoming law enforcement academy instructor,

15 full-time state park ranger, University of Wyoming campus

16 police officer, community college police officer, detention

17 officer, ~~or~~ dispatcher for law enforcement agencies or any

18 person employed on a full-time basis as a correctional

19 forestry crew supervisor, correctional crew supervisor or

20 correctional forestry crew manager by the Wyoming state

21 forestry division of the office of state lands and

22 investments or any other agency;

23

1 (xxv) "Firefighter member" means:

2

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

7

8 (B) Any person employed on a full-time
9 basis in a wildland firefighting occupation by any state
10 agency.

11

12 **Section 2.** There is appropriated one hundred eighty-
13 one thousand dollars (\$181,000.00) from the general fund to
14 the office of state lands and investments for retirement
15 contributions made pursuant to this act. This appropriation
16 shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2026 and ending
17 June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred
18 or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,
19 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall
20 revert as provided by law on June 30, 2028. It is the
21 intent of the legislature that this appropriation be
22 included in the standard budget for the office of state

1 lands and investments for the immediately succeeding fiscal
2 biennium.

3

4 **Section 3.**

5

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

9

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

1 or law enforcement officer member, shall not be included as
2 service credit as a firefighter member or law enforcement
3 member under this act.

4

5 **Section 4.**

6

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

9

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

14

15 (END)