

Rural Health Transformation - Proposed Bill Draft

January 6th, 2026

This document provides the suggested bill language to implement Rural Health Transformation in Wyoming. The bill would:

- Set up the statutory framework for the Perpetuity vehicle that would receive ~70% of RHTF funds;
- Establish the allowable uses of Perpetuity revenue funding that have been approved by the Trump administration;
- Set up the advisory committee of stakeholders to provide input on Rural Health Transformation activities into the future; and,
- Establishes auditing and reporting requirements.

Section 1. W.S. 9-2-3301 through 9-2-3305 is created to read:

ARTICLE 33 WYOMING RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

9-2-3301. Definitions

(a) "Annual required distribution" means:

(i) From the year 2026 to 2036, four percent (4%) of the cumulative total of funds entering the perpetuity since inception, as calculated on September 1st of each year;

(ii) After the year 2036, four percent (4%) of the five (5) year average total value of the perpetuity, as calculated on September 1st of each year.

(b) "Purpose-dedicated share" means a discrete fraction of the annual required distribution that is allocated to a specific allowable purpose enumerated in section 9-2-3303(a).

(c) "Department" means the department of health.

9-2-3302. Establishment of perpetuity; investment by state treasurer

(a) A fund is established which shall be referred to as the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity. The perpetuity shall consist of those funds designated to the perpetuity by law and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations to the perpetuity.

(b) Each \$1,000,000 of monies initially entering the perpetuity shall be allocated to one (1) specific purpose-dedicated share by the department, or fractional value thereof.

(c) The monies deposited into the perpetuity established pursuant to this section shall be transmitted to the state treasurer for credit to the fund. The state treasurer, or his 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, may invest the unobligated, unencumbered balance of the perpetuity account in equities, including stocks of corporations. Investments under this subsection shall be in accordance with W.S. 9-4-715(a) and (c) through (e) and 9-4-716. In adopting investment policy statements for the perpetuity, the state loan and investment board, in consultation with the investment funds committee, shall seek to preserve the balance of the account 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.

(d) The annual required distribution shall be continuously appropriated and annually credited by the state treasurer not later than September 30 of each year into a separate account, which is hereby created, and expended by the department in accordance with the allowable purposes enumerated in section 9-2-3303.

(e) The total amount of the annual required distribution expended on each allowable purpose shall be calculated based on the total number of purpose-dedicated shares initially allocated to that purpose, divided by the total number of all purpose-dedicated shares in the perpetuity.

9-2-3303. Allowable purposes.

(a) The following expenditure types are allowable purposes from the annual required distribution:

(i) Healthcare workforce individual awards to pay for education and training costs, including stipends, as determined by the department, for applicants entering the following professions:

- (A) Nursing;
- (B) Emergency medical services;
- (C) Physician; and,
- (D) Behavioral health.

(ii) Physician post-graduate medical education individual awards, including both residency and fellowship costs, as determined by the department.

(iii) Incentive payments to critical access hospitals that meet requirements established by the department regarding service delivery.

(iv) Incentive payments to emergency medical services providers that meet regionalization requirements established by the department.

9-2-3304. Wyoming rural health transformation advisory committee

(a) The committee shall be composed of (9) 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. The governor may remove any member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) The director of the department shall serve as an ex officio member of the committee, having the right to speak but not to vote.

(c) The board shall select one (1) of its voting members to serve as chairman.

(d) The committee shall meet twice per year. 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.

(e) The committee shall review the operations of the perpetuity and provide any formal written recommendations to the department regarding the annual required distribution and allowable purposes. The department shall review any recommendations from the committee and provide a written response.

9-2-3305. Biennial audit and reporting

(a) The director of the department of audit or his designee shall audit the perpetuity created by W.S. 9-2-2302 biennially.

(b) Until 2032, the department of health shall annually report to the governor, the joint appropriations committee and the joint labor, health and social services interim committee no later than October 1 with respect to all:

(i) Federal grants, state appropriations and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations received and credited to the Wyoming rural health transformation perpetuity during the preceding fiscal year; and

(ii) Allowable expenditures awarded from the annual required distribution.