

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Smokebusters program-employment opportunities.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Haroldson

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to fire protection; specifying protections
2 relating to appointment, employment and volunteer service
3 as a firefighter for persons who have acquired wildland
4 fire or forestry experience through specified inmate
5 firefighting programs as specified; making conforming
6 amendments; and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 36-2-111 is created to read:

11

12 **36-2-111. Forestry conservation program; employment**
13 **opportunities.**

1 **36-2-111. Forestry conservation program; employment**
2 **opportunities.**

3
4 The state forester, a board of county commissioners
5 providing fire protection pursuant to W.S. 18-3-509, a
6 municipality or any other governmental entity that provides
7 fire protection shall not disqualify an applicant for
8 appointment, employment or volunteer service as a
9 firefighter solely because the applicant has been convicted
10 of a crime if the applicant has acquired wildland fire or
11 forestry experience through the forestry conservation
12 program administered by the forestry division of the office
13 of state lands and investments or a substantially similar
14 inmate firefighting program administered by another state
15 or the federal government. Nothing in this subsection shall
16 prohibit consideration of the nature and circumstances of a
17 specific conviction or disqualification of an applicant if
18 the conviction is reasonably related to the duties and
19 responsibilities of the position.

20
21 **Section 2.** W.S. 15-5-114(a) (intro) is amended to
22 read:

1 15-5-114. Persons not eligible for appointment;
2 criminal history record information; exceptions.

3

4 (a) Except as provided in W.S. 36-2-111, no person
5 may be appointed or employed as a regular policeman or
6 officer of the police department or as a fireman or officer
7 of a fire department who:

8

9 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2027.

10

11 (END)