



STATE of WYOMING LEGISLATURE

Memorandum

DATE March 17, 2026

TO Management Council

FROM Senator Jared Olsen, Co-Chairman
Representative Art Washut, Co-Chairman

SUBJECT Proposed 2026 Interim Topics for the Joint Judiciary Committee

On March 6, 2026, the Joint Judiciary Committee met to discuss interim topics. This memorandum represents the list of proposed priorities for the Committee for the 2026 interim in an order selected by the co-chairmen. If approved, the Committee intends to study these topics at three meetings before the 2027 General Session.

2026 INTERIM TOPICS

Priority #1 – Public Access to Court Records (2 hours per meeting)

The Committee will study laws governing public access to court records for Wyoming courts and consider whether changes are needed to increase or improve access to public court records.

Priority #2 – Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (2 hours per meeting)

The Committee will study laws concerning strategic lawsuits against public participation, including 2025 House Bill 223 and 2026 House Bill 103.

Priority #3 – Title 6 and Criminal Code Review (5 hours per meeting)

The Committee will review the Wyoming Criminal Code to consider whether penalties for various offenses should be amended or updated. The Committee will also consider the adoption of a classification and gradation system for offenses and penalties in the Wyoming Criminal Code.

Priority #4 – Escape from Adult Community Correctional Facilities (1 hour per meeting)

The Committee will review issues related to escapes from adult community correctional (ACC) facilities and parole eligibility for offenders who escape from ACCs.

Priority #5 – Traffic and Law Enforcement Issues (2 hours per meeting)

The Committee will study issues related to law enforcement and serious traffic-related offenses, including vehicular homicide and driving under the influence and their penalties. The Committee will also consider establishing a blue envelope program for law enforcement encounters with persons with mental health issues.

Priority #6 – Probate Code (2 hours per meeting)

The Committee will review the Wyoming Probate Code and hear from practicing attorneys in the state as to whether changes and modernizations to the probate code are needed. This is a continuation of a topic the Committee considered in 2025.

Priority #7 – Agency Reports and Court Opinions (2 hours per meeting)

The Committee will receive updates from various agencies that report to the Committee, including the Judicial Branch, the Department of Family Services, the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, and the Department of Corrections. The Committee will also study recent opinions where courts interpreted Wyoming statutes, noted the absence of legislative action, or called for legislative action. The Committee will consider any necessary legislation in response to the reports and opinions that are reviewed.

Meeting Schedule and Budget

The Committee requests the standard committee budget to accomplish this work. The Committee has tentatively scheduled three meetings: (1) May 12-13 in Cheyenne; (2) August 10-11 in Casper; and (3) October 26-27 in Cheyenne.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. We look forward to discussing these proposed topics with the members of Management Council.



Representative Art Washut
Co-Chairman



Senator Jared Olsen
Co-Chairman