



## STATE of WYOMING LEGISLATURE

# Memorandum

**DATE** March 17, 2026

**TO** Members, Management Council

**FROM** Senator Stephan Pappas, Co-Chairman  
Representative Landon Brown, Co-Chairman

**SUBJECT** 2026 Interim Topics Proposed for the Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee

The Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee (Committee) met on March 4, 2026, to discuss proposed interim study topics. This memorandum represents the list of proposed priorities for the Committee for the 2026 interim. If approved, the Committee intends to study these topics over three meetings, prior to the 2027 General Session.

### 2026 INTERIM TOPICS

#### **Priority #1 – Transportation and Highways (Est. Time Required: 4-6 hours each meeting)**

The Committee proposes to study transportation and highway related issues that the Wyoming Department of Transportation identified. The Committee will study how the Wyoming Department of Transportation is currently funded and explore solutions to reduce the department's current budget shortfall. The Committee will study the license plate replacement cycle. The Committee will review highway safety issues, including but not limited to, discussing commercial motor vehicle inspections, studying tire chain laws, and increasing safety in work zones on highways. The Committee will also determine if statutory updates are necessary to reflect outdated statutes and references.

#### **Priority #2 – Military Affairs (Est. Time Required: 4-6 hours each meeting)**

The Committee proposes to study issues that the Wyoming Military Department presented to the Committee. The Committee will study barriers for military members and their families who have TRICARE insurance coverage in accessing mental health services. The Committee will study what death benefits are available to members of the Wyoming National Guard, including differences between benefits offered under state and federal law. The Committee will also determine if statutory updates are necessary to reflect outdated statutes and references.

#### **Priority #3 – Other Topics (Est. Time Required: 4-6 hours each meeting)**

The Committee proposes to study several additional issues, including strengthening statewide coordination of the geographic information system to improve consistency and data governance across agencies, reviewing Wyoming's state-specific Workers' Compensation Experience Modification Rate and the rate's impacts on a company's safety record when bidding on projects or entering into master service agreements, and evaluating potential statutory updates to the Wyoming Underground Facilities Notification Act,

including liability, enforcement, and exemptions. The Committee will examine the costs associated with contracting with the Wyoming Department of Transportation and evaluate how those costs affect Wyoming contractors during the bidding process.

**Priority #4 – Reports from Agencies, State, and Local Entities (Est. Time Required: 1-2 hours each meeting)**

The Committee will receive reports from agencies, including the Wyoming Department of Transportation, Wyoming Highway Patrol, Wyoming Transportation Commission, Public Safety Communications Commission, Wyoming Military Department, and Wyoming Veterans Commission. The Committee will review the reports and consider any necessary legislation in response to the reports received.

**Meeting Schedule and Budget**

The Committee requests the standard budget to accomplish this work and hold the following meetings:

Meeting 1: May 4-5 (Casper)

Meeting 2: August 20-21 (Evanston)

Meeting 3: November 9-10 (Cheyenne)

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

Signature



Senator Stephan Pappas, Co-Chairman

Signature



Representative Landon Brown, Co-Chairman

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**State of Wyoming Legislature Memorandum**