

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0027

Wyoming main street program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Parady, Cooper, Martin,
McOmie, Petersen, Walsh and Warren and
Senator(s) Anderson, J., Boggs and Decaria

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to economic development; providing for the
2 creation of a main street program as specified; providing
3 for the creation of a main street advisory board; providing
4 for membership and duties as specified; specifying duties
5 of the department of agriculture; providing for a revolving
6 loan fund; providing an appropriation; providing for
7 transfer of funds; authorizing positions; providing for a
8 continuous appropriation; and providing for an effective
9 date.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-45-101 through 11-45-105 are
14 created to read:

15

16

CHAPTER 45

1 WYOMING MAIN STREET PROGRAM

2

3 **11-45-101. Definitions.**

4

5 (a) As used in this article:

6

7 (i) "Board" means the Wyoming main street
8 advisory board;

9

10 (ii) "Business area" means a commercial area
11 existing at the time services under the Wyoming main street
12 program are requested by a municipality;

13

14 (iii) "Municipality" means a city, town, county
15 or district;

16

17 (iv) "Pilot program" means a temporary program
18 to last for no longer than three (3) years created by the
19 department for the purpose of providing the board and the
20 department experience in conducting the Wyoming main street
21 program;

22

23 (v) "Revitalization" means the process of
24 engaging in activities to increase economic activity while

1 preserving and building upon a location's historically
2 significant characteristics.

3

4 **11-45-102. Wyoming main street advisory board.**

5

6 (a) There is created a Wyoming main street advisory
7 board. The board shall consist of seven (7) members
8 appointed by the governor, not more than four (4) of whom
9 shall be from the same political party. Board members
10 shall elect from their membership a chairman, vice-chairman
11 and secretary.

12

13 (b) The governor may remove any member of the board
14 as provided by W.S. 9-1-202.

15

16 (c) Board members shall serve a three (3) year term
17 provided that of the initial board, two (2) members shall
18 be appointed for a one (1) year term, two (2) members for
19 two (2) year terms and three (3) members for three (3) year
20 terms. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by
21 appointment of the governor for the unexpired term.

22

23 (d) Members of the board shall receive the same per
24 diem, expenses and travel allowance as members of the

1 legislature while in actual attendance at meetings of the
2 board and the performance of their duties relative thereto.

3

4 (e) The department shall provide staff services as
5 required by the board to carry out the board's duties.

6

7 (f) The board shall meet as often as necessary to
8 conduct business, but not less than three (3) times each
9 year. Meetings shall be called by the chairman. A
10 majority of members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

11

12 **11-45-103. Duties of the board.**

13

14 (a) The board shall:

15

16 (i) Assist the department in developing a plan
17 to operate the Wyoming main street program;

18

19 (ii) Annually review the program and report
20 findings and recommendations, including recommendations for
21 future legislation, to the governor;

22

23 (iii) Provide a comprehensive evaluation of the
24 Wyoming main street pilot program annually to the joint

1 minerals, business and economic development interim
2 committee, if a pilot program is commenced, and after the
3 expiration of the pilot program, provide to the interim
4 committee a review of the Wyoming main street program in
5 the same manner as in paragraph (ii) of this subsection.

6

7 **11-45-104. Duties of the department.**

8

9 (a) The department shall establish and administer a
10 Wyoming main street program to coordinate state and local
11 participation in programs offered by the national main
12 street center, created by the national trust for historic
13 preservation, to assist municipalities in planning,
14 managing and implementing programs for the revitalization
15 of business areas.

16

17 (b) In carrying out subsection (a) of this section,
18 the department shall:

19

20 (i) Enter into contracts to obtain business area
21 revitalization services provided by the national main
22 street center;

23

1 (ii) Subject to legislative authorization,
2 employ any staff necessary to operate the Wyoming main
3 street program;

4
5 (iii) With advice from the board, develop a plan
6 describing the objectives of the Wyoming main street
7 program and methods by which the department shall:

8
9 (A) Coordinate the activities of that
10 program with private and public sector revitalizations of
11 business areas;

12
13 (B) Solicit and use private sector funding
14 for revitalization of business areas;

15
16 (C) Assist municipalities engaged in the
17 revitalization of their business areas.

18
19 (iv) Coordinate with other state and local
20 public and private entities that provide services to
21 municipalities undertaking projects for the revitalization
22 of business areas;

23

1 (v) Provide training, technical assistance and
2 information on the revitalization of business areas to
3 municipalities which do not participate in the Wyoming main
4 street program;

5
6 (vi) Administer a revolving loan fund consisting
7 of available federal, state and private sector funding.
8 The fund shall be used to provide a source of monies for
9 storefront renovations. The department shall have
10 authority to seek and accept federal, state and private
11 funding for purposes of establishing the revolving loan
12 fund and all such federal, state and private funds so
13 received are continuously appropriated to the department
14 for purpose of this paragraph.

15
16 (c) The department shall promulgate rules necessary
17 to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

18
19 **11-45-105. Pilot program.**

20
21 (a) Upon recommendation of the board, the department
22 may initiate a pilot program.

23

1 (b) Upon initiation of a pilot program, the
2 department with advice from the board shall select five (5)
3 municipalities to participate in the Wyoming main street
4 pilot program. The department shall select pilot program
5 participants that represent different geographical regions
6 or populations. The department shall hold at least one (1)
7 public hearing before making selections under this
8 subsection.

9

10 (c) The department shall commence the pilot program
11 for the five (5) municipalities selected with the advice of
12 the board for three (3) consecutive years. Upon the
13 completion of the three (3) year period, the five (5)
14 municipalities may continue to participate in the Wyoming
15 main street program.

16

17 (d) In making its selection pursuant to subsection
18 (b) of this section, the department, with the assistance of
19 the board, shall develop criteria for use in selecting
20 pilot program participants which relate to at least the
21 following issues:

22

1 (i) Private and public sector interest in and
2 commitment to revitalization of a business area selected by
3 the municipality;

4
5 (ii) Potential private sector investment in a
6 business area selected by the municipality;

7
8 (iii) Local organizational and financial
9 commitment to employ a pilot program manager for not less
10 than three (3) years;

11
12 (iv) Local assistance in paying for the services
13 of a design consultant recommended by the advisory board;

14
15 (v) Local commitment to assist in training
16 programs to direct activities related to business areas in
17 municipalities that do not participate in the Wyoming main
18 street program.

19
20 (e) After conducting the pilot program for three (3)
21 years, the department shall expand the Wyoming main street
22 program to include other municipalities demonstrating a
23 commitment to participate in the program.

24

1 **Section 2.**

2

3 (a) There is appropriated three hundred fifty
4 thousand dollars (\$350,000.00), or as much thereof as is
5 necessary, from the general fund to the department of
6 agriculture for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, to
7 implement the purposes of this act. Of this appropriation:

8

9 (i) Not more than fifty thousand dollars
10 (\$50,000.00) may be expended for contract services under
11 W.S. 9-12-804(b) (i);

12

13 (ii) Three hundred thousand dollars
14 (\$300,000.00) shall be allocated for facade design and
15 renovation of main street storefronts.

16

17 (b) The department of agriculture is authorized one
18 (1) full-time equivalent position and one (1) part-time
19 equivalent position for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
20 2004, to implement the provisions of this act.

21

22 (c) Of the general fund appropriation to the Wyoming
23 business council contained in 2004 House Bill 1, two
24 hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) appropriated for the

1 main street program shall be transferred to the department
2 of agriculture and expended only for the purpose of the
3 main street program.

4

5 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2004.

6

7

(END)