

WORKING DRAFT

SENATE FILE NO. _____

State lands trust responsibilities.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, Public Lands and Water
Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public lands; creating a task force to
2 review the trust responsibilities of the office of state
3 lands and investments as specified; creating a trust land
4 preservation and enhancement account; providing for funding
5 the trust responsibilities out of trust revenues; providing
6 appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.**

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12 (a) There is created the joint legislative and
13 executive task force on review of the office of state lands
14 and investments' trust and non-trust responsibilities.

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1 (b) The task force shall be comprised of:

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3 (i) The governor or his designee;

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5 (ii) The secretary of state or his designee;

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7 (iii) The state auditor or his designee;

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9 (iv) The state treasurer or his designee;

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11 (v) The state superintendent of public

12 instruction or his designee;

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14 (vi) One (1) representative shall be a person
15 working for an organization created for the purpose of
16 advocacy on behalf of the Wyoming public schools, appointed
17 by the Wyoming senate president.

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19 (vii) One (1) representative of grazing and
20 agriculture lessees on state trust lands, appointed by the
21 Wyoming senate president;

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1 (viii) One (1) representative of the mineral
2 lessees on state trust lands, appointed by the Wyoming
3 senate president;

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5 (ix) One (1) representative of public
6 recreational users of state trust lands, appointed by the
7 Wyoming speaker of the house of representatives;

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9 (x) One (1) representative from either the
10 forest products industry or the forestry profession,
11 appointed by the Wyoming speaker of the house of
12 representatives; and

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14 (xi) One (1) at-large representative, appointed
15 by the Wyoming speaker of the house of representatives.

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17 (c) The public school advocacy representative shall
18 serve as chairman of the task force and the director of the
19 office of state lands and investments shall serve as the
20 secretary to the task force.

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22 (d) The task force shall be paid salary, travel and
23 per diem for the performance of their official duties as
24 members of the task force. State employees shall be paid

1 salary and travel expenses out of their agency's budget in
2 the performance of their duties on the task force. The
3 members of the task force who are not state employees shall
4 be paid per diem and travel expenses in the same manner as
5 state employees.

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7 (e) The task force shall:

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9 (i) Familiarize itself with the trust and non-
10 trust responsibilities of the office of state lands and
11 investments;

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13 (ii) Conduct a comprehensive review of the
14 office of state lands and investments' budget and its
15 expenditures for trust and non-trust responsibilities to
16 determine if any change to the funding of the office of
17 state lands and investments' trust responsibilities is
18 necessary;

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20 (iii) Conduct a comprehensive review of the
21 yearly revenues, by source, generated by state trust
22 surface and mineral lands to determine if any change to the
23 funding of the office of state lands and investments' trust
24 responsibilities is necessary;

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2 (iv) No later than December 1, 2005, prepare and
3 submit a report to the legislative management council, the
4 joint appropriations committee, the joint education
5 committee, the joint agriculture, public lands and water
6 resources committee and the joint minerals, business and
7 economic development committee. The report shall detail
8 the task force's findings, recommend whether any change in
9 the manner or source of funding for the office of state
10 lands and investments' trust responsibilities is necessary,
11 recommend whether the trust responsibilities should be
12 funded out of trust revenues, recommend whether the trust
13 land preservation and enhancement account should continue
14 to be funded and recommend any statutory changes required
15 to implement any task force recommendations; and

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17 (v) Recommend to the joint agriculture, public
18 lands and water resources committee any statutory changes
19 that may be required to implement the task force's final
20 recommendations.

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22 (f) There is created an account for trust land
23 preservation and enhancement:

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1 (i) Seven hundred fifty thousand dollars
2 (\$750,000.00) is appropriated from the general fund to the
3 office of state lands and investments to be used for the
4 trust land preservation and enhancement account;

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6 (ii) Funds in the trust land preservation and
7 enhancement account shall be used by the office of state
8 lands and investments to fund projects which preserve and
9 enhance the market value of the trust surface and mineral
10 lands;

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12 (iii) The task force shall review proposals for
13 use of funds in the trust land preservation and enhancement
14 account and make funding recommendations to the board of
15 land commissioners;

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17 (iv) Funds from the trust land preservation and
18 enhancement account shall only be expended by the office of
19 state lands and investments on projects recommended by the
20 task force and approved by the board of land commissioners.

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22 (g) Staff support for the task force shall be
23 provided by the office of state lands and investments staff
24 and by any state agency upon request.

1

2 (h) This act shall terminate June 30, 2006.

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4 **Section 2.** Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) is
5 appropriated from the general fund to the office of state
6 lands and investments to fund the interim meetings and
7 activities of the task force and to contract with
8 appropriate professionals as necessary to complete the task
9 force study. Expenditure of these funds shall be subject
10 to management council approval.

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12 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
13 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
14 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
15 Constitution.

16

17 (END)