

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0094

Environmental health study.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health and Social Services
Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to health care and the state health
2 officer; authorizing a study of how environmental health
3 and safety issues confronting the citizens of Wyoming are
4 coordinated among various local, state and federal
5 agencies; specifying duties of the department of health in
6 conducting the study; requiring the cooperation of state
7 and local agencies as specified; requiring reports and
8 recommendations; providing an appropriation; and providing
9 for an effective date.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.**

14

15 (a) The state health officer and the department of
16 health in collaboration with the Wyoming department of

1 agriculture and the Wyoming department of environmental
2 quality shall convene a multi-disciplinary task force to
3 conduct a study of environmental health issues currently
4 identified, the state and federal agencies to whom those
5 issues are currently assigned, those environmental health
6 threats identified but not clearly assigned to a particular
7 state agency.

8

9 (b) The study shall examine overlapping governmental
10 jurisdiction and jurisdictional gaps in environmental
11 health matters and, to the extent needed, shall recommend
12 solutions to these problems.

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14 (c) In conducting the study, the department of health
15 shall consult with and have the cooperation of the
16 department of agriculture, the department of environmental
17 quality and any other state and local agencies as
18 appropriate, and shall consult with public and private
19 stakeholders as appropriate.

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21 (d) The department shall produce a comprehensive plan
22 to coordinate and clarify agency responsibility for
23 environmental health issues. The report of the study and
24 plan with recommendations for any initial legislation shall

1 be submitted to the joint labor, health and social services
2 interim committee by November 15, 2005.

3

4 (e) The department may contract with a consultant to
5 act as facilitator of the study described in subsection (a)
6 of this section. The department shall widely disseminate
7 requests, including through electronic media, for the
8 active participation of private groups and organizations in
9 the development of the plan. Before submitting the final
10 plan to the joint labor, health and social services interim
11 committee, the department shall issue a draft of the plan
12 for public review and hold at least one (1) public meeting
13 in a central location in the state to receive public
14 comments on each plan.

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16 (f) In addition to the appropriation contained in
17 subsection (g) of this section, the department of health
18 may utilize existing resources and apply for any federal or
19 private grants that may be available to augment funding for
20 the study and plan required under this act.

21

22 (g) There is appropriated from the general fund to
23 the department of health fifty thousand dollars
24 (\$50,000.00) to implement the purposes of this act.

1

2 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
3 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
4 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
5 Constitution.

6

7

(END)