

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0271

Public shooting ranges funding.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hinckley, Diercks, Luthi,
Morgan and Samuelson and Senator(s) Jennings

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public shooting ranges; providing for
2 awarding of grants for development of public shooting range
3 facilities and programs as specified; providing for an
4 advisory board; providing for rules and regulations;
5 providing an appropriation; providing for the continuous
6 appropriation of funds; requiring a report; and providing
7 for an effective date.

8

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

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11 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-1001 through 23-1-1007 are
12 created to read:

13

14

ARTICLE 10

15

PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

16

1 **23-1-1001. Definitions.**

2

3 (a) As used in this article:

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5 (i) "Board" means the Wyoming public shooting
6 range development advisory board created by W.S. 23-1-1003;

7

8 (ii) "Public shooting program" means a program
9 conducted at a public shooting range which increases the
10 public appreciation, enjoyment or development of skills in
11 shooting disciplines;

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13 (iii) "Public shooting range" means a shooting
14 range that is available and accessible to the general
15 public. If a facility is owned, managed and operated by a
16 nongovernmental organization, the facility shall provide
17 unlimited public memberships or day use fees at a
18 reasonable rate as determined by the commission to qualify
19 as a public shooting range under this article;

20

21 (iv) "Shooting range" means an indoor or outdoor
22 facility for shooting disciplines including trap, skeet and
23 sporting clays, facilities for practice firing of air gun,
24 rim fire, center fire, small bore and large bore rifles,

1 pistols or handguns, black powder firearms or facilities
2 for practice firing of archery equipment.

3

4 **23-1-1002. Powers and duties; rules and regulations;**
5 **funds and grant awards; development of public shooting**
6 **facilities and programs.**

7

8 (a) The commission shall:

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10 (i) Adopt rules and regulations necessary to
11 implement this article;

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13 (ii) Receive and disburse funds authorized by
14 this article, including funds appropriated by the
15 legislature, or from private gifts or grants to be used for
16 purposes of this article;

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18 (iii) Ensure that any grant award and any
19 disbursement of grant funds are utilized in accordance with
20 this article;

21

22 (iv) Upon request from a public shooting range
23 facility or local government, assist in the planning and

1 development of public shooting range facilities and
2 programs;

3

4 (v) Assist in the planning and development of
5 programs to educate the public on the shooting disciplines.

6

7 **23-1-1003. Wyoming shooting range development**
8 **advisory board created.**

9

10 There is created the Wyoming shooting range development
11 advisory board. The board shall advise the commission in
12 determining the award of grants under W.S. 23-1-1007.

13

14 **23-1-1004. Wyoming shooting range development**
15 **advisory board; members; expenses.**

16

17 (a) The Wyoming shooting range development advisory
18 board shall consist of five (5) members, as follows:

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20 (i) The director of the department or his
21 designee;

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23 (ii) The hunter education coordinator with the
24 department;

1

2 (iii) One (1) member of the commission or his
3 designee;

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5 (iv) Two (2) members of the shooting sports
6 community appointed by the governor.

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8 (b) The terms of members appointed under paragraph
9 (a)(iv) of this section shall be for four (4) years. Of
10 the initial appointees under paragraph (a)(iv) of this
11 section, one (1) member shall be appointed for two (2)
12 years and one (1) member shall be appointed for four (4)
13 years. The governor may remove any member appointed under
14 paragraph (a)(iv) of this section as provided in W.S.
15 9-1-202. A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the
16 balance of the unexpired term. The board shall select one
17 (1) of its members to serve as chairman.

18

19 (c) The board shall meet not less than two (2) times
20 each year. Members shall serve without compensation but
21 shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the
22 performance of their official duties in the manner and
23 amounts provided by law for state employees. Members who
24 are government employees or public officials shall be

1 considered on official business of their agency when
2 performing duties as members of the board.

3

4 **23-1-1005. Board; duties and responsibilities.**

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6 (a) The Wyoming shooting range development advisory
7 board shall:

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9 (i) Review innovative program grants and grant
10 proposals for the development of new public shooting range
11 facilities and the expansion of existing public shooting
12 range facilities;

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14 (ii) Advise the commission on criteria for grant
15 categories and grant applications, which shall be
16 implemented through rules and regulations promulgated by
17 the commission to meet the following public purposes:

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19 (A) To meet the demands of Wyoming's
20 shooting sports population for public shooting range
21 facilities;

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23 (B) To enhance the availability of public
24 shooting programs;

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(C) To be cost effective in the provision of public shooting range facilities and programs; and

(D) To increase public access, including access for persons with disabilities to public shooting range facilities.

(iii) Consult with and advise the commission on the awarding of grants pursuant to W.S. 23-1-1007;

(iv) Consult with and advise the commission in the promulgation of reasonable rules and regulations in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this article; and

(v) Consider other necessary matters.

23-1-1006. Wyoming shooting range development account; establishment of account; use of funds.

(a) A separate account is established which shall be referred to as the Wyoming public shooting range development account. The account shall consist of those

1 funds designated to the account by law and other
2 contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations to the
3 account.

4
5 (b) The funds deposited in the Wyoming public
6 shooting range development account are continuously
7 appropriated to and shall be administered by the commission
8 with the advice and counsel of the Wyoming public shooting
9 range development advisory board to fund grants in
10 accordance with W.S. 23-1-1007 and to pay expenses of the
11 board authorized under W.S. 23-1-1004(c).

12

13 **23-1-1007. Disbursement of grants.**

14

15 (a) From the funds available for distribution, the
16 board may advise the commission on the awarding of grants
17 and the commission may award grants to public shooting
18 range facilities throughout the state to support the
19 purposes specified in W.S. 23-1-1005(a)(ii), in accordance
20 with rules and regulations promulgated by the commission.

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22 (b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-207, unobligated or
23 unencumbered funds retained by the commission under this
24 section shall not lapse at the end of a fiscal period and

1 shall remain available for distribution as provided in this
2 section.

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4 **Section 2.** W.S. 23-1-302(a) by creating new
5 paragraphs (xxx) and (xxxi) is amended to read:

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7 **23-1-302. Powers and duties.**

8

9 (a) The commission is directed and empowered:

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11 (xxx) To promulgate rules and regulations in
12 consultation with the Wyoming public shooting range
13 development advisory board created under W.S. 23-1-1003, to
14 establish a formula for distribution of funds available for
15 distribution under W.S. 23-1-1007;

16

17 (xxxi) To maintain, manage and be responsible
18 for the awarding of grants and distribution of the funds
19 appropriated for distribution under W.S. 23-1-1007.

20

21 **Section 3.**

22

23 (a) There is appropriated thirty thousand dollars
24 (\$30,000.00) to be used by the shooting range development

1 advisory board to analyze the extent of the need for
2 shooting range development in Wyoming. This analysis may
3 include an inventory of existing shooting ranges in
4 Wyoming, their funding needs, availability to the public,
5 and an inventory of locations where adequate ranges do not
6 exist to meet public demand. The analysis may also include
7 an investigation of other funding sources available for
8 shooting range creation and development. By September 1,
9 2005, the board shall provide a report to the joint travel,
10 recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim
11 committee summarizing its analysis and providing
12 recommendations regarding future funding of a public
13 shooting range development program.

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15 (b) By September 1, 2005, and annually thereafter,
16 the game and fish commission shall provide a report to the
17 joint travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources
18 interim committee specifying a detailed list of the
19 projects funded and the amount provided for each project
20 from the Wyoming public shooting range development account.

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

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(END)