SENATE FILE NO. SF0151

Tax free enterprise zones.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Meier

A BILL

for

establishment of a tax free enterprise zone program;

1 AN ACT relating to economic development; providing for

3 authorizing tax credits for certain manufacturers as

4 specified; providing definitions; providing rulemaking

5 authority; and providing for an effective date.

6

2

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

8

- 9 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-12-1401 through 9-12-1403 are
- 10 created to read:

11

- 12 ARTICLE 14
- 13 TAX FREE ENTERPRISE ZONES

14

- 9-12-1401. Tax free enterprise zone program; purpose;
- 16 creation; rulemaking.

17

1 (a) It is the purpose of this article to promote

2 economic development at the city, town and county level in

3 order to create additional economic health and a stronger

4 state economy.

5

6 (b) The council shall establish and administer a tax

7 free enterprise zone program as provided by this article.

8 Any city, town or county may submit an application to the

9 council for certification of a tax free enterprise zone on

10 forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the

11 council. The council may certify a tax free enterprise zone

12 if it determines that the area to be designated as a tax

13 free enterprise zone has the necessary infrastructure to

14 support manufacturing including, but not limited to,

15 utilities and sewer or water infrastructure.

16

17 (c) If a tax free enterprise zone is certified under

18 subsection (b) of this section, the council may by rule and

19 regulation authorize a tax credit for property tax paid by

20 a manufacturer conducting manufacturing activity within a

21 tax free enterprise zone. Any tax credit under this article

22 shall be referred by the council to the state loan and

23 investment board for final approval or disapproval. The

2

1 state loan and investment board may adopt rules as

2 necessary to implement its duties under this article.

3

4 (d) A tax credit shall only be provided under this
5 article if the manufacturer applies to the business council
6 and demonstrates that the tax free enterprise zone program
7 enticed the manufacturer to begin or continue manufacturing

8 within the tax free enterprise zone.

9

(e) A tax credit authorized under this article shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of any tax paid under W.S. 39-13-104(a)(iv) in the first year and shall decrease twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) every year thereafter so that after year eight (8) the property of the manufacturer shall no longer be eligible for any credit under this program.

17

(f) In addition to any tax credit under subsection

(e) of this section, a city, town or county may grant a tax

credit to the manufacturer who applies to the city, town or

county for any property tax paid to the city, town or

county in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of any

tax paid to the city, town or county in the first year. The

credit shall decrease twelve and one-half percent (12.5%)

1 every year thereafter so that after year eight (8) the

2 property of the manufacturer shall no longer be eligible

3 for any credit under this subsection. No city, town or

4 county shall grant a tax credit under this subsection

5 unless the city, town or county commits to provide revenue

6 to the tax free enterprise zone account equal to the amount

7 of the credit for each year that the credit is authorized.

8

9 (g) If a tax credit is authorized under this article

10 and the council does not have funds available in the tax

11 free enterprise zone account to pay the credit, no credit

12 shall be allowed under this article. Nothing in this

13 article shall be deemed to create an enforceable right

14 against the council or the state of Wyoming.

15

16 (h) As used in this article "manufacturing" means as

17 defined in W.S. 39-15-101(a)(xxi).

18

19 9-12-1402. Tax free enterprise zone account.

20

21 (a) There is created the tax free enterprise zone

22 account. Funds shall be credited to the account as provided

23 by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated

4

1 to the council to be used only for tax credits authorized

2 under this article.

3

4 (b) The council may accept, and shall deposit to the

5 account, any gifts, contributions, donations, grants or

6 federal funds specifically given to the division for the

7 tax free enterprise zone program.

8

9 9-12-1403. Council duties; actions on tax credit

10 applications.

11

12 All complete applications for a tax credit under this

13 article which conform with the criteria established by law

14 and rules promulgated under this article which are

15 submitted to the council shall be considered by the

16 council. The council shall approve or disapprove each

17 application for a tax credit it considers in accordance

18 with this article and rules of the council. The council

19 shall not approve any tax credit unless it determines that

20 the benefit to the community, the state or both is of equal

21 or greater value than the value of the credit.

22

23 **Section 2.** W.S. 39-13-109(d) by creating a new

5

24 paragraph (ii) is amended to read:

1	
2	39-13-109. Taxpayer remedies.
3	
4	(d) Credits. The following shall apply:
5	
6	(ii) The following shall apply to the credit
7	under W.S. 9-12-1401:
8	
9	(A) The Wyoming business council shall
10	provide reimbursement for any credit allowed from the tax
11	free enterprise zone account created pursuant to W.S.
12	9-12-1402.
13	
14	Section 3. The Wyoming business council shall request
15	that the governor, pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1005(b), transfer
16	funds to the tax free enterprise zone account created under
17	section 1 of this act from funds previously appropriated to
18	the Wyoming business council.
19	
20	Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2013.
21	
22	(END)