

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0248

Select committee on elections.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Zwonitzer and Lindholm and
Senator(s) Rothfuss

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; creating the select committee
2 on elections; providing for a study; requiring a report;
3 providing appropriations; and providing for an effective
4 date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) There is created the select committee on
11 elections consisting of the following members:

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13 (i) Five (5) members of the Wyoming senate
14 appointed by the president of the senate, one (1) of whom
15 shall be designated as cochairman;

1

2 (ii) Five (5) members of the Wyoming house of
3 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, one
4 (1) of whom shall be designated as cochairman.

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6 (b) The select committee shall identify, study and
7 make recommendations on:

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9 (i) Voter access including consideration of
10 alternative ballot distribution methods and emerging
11 technology for casting votes;

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13 (ii) Election results including consideration of
14 alternative voting methods;

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16 (iii) Voter eligibility and voting rights
17 restoration and enfranchisement;

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19 (iv) The electoral college and presidential
20 primary caucus processes;

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1 (v) Campaign finance reporting and oversight
2 including consideration of penalties for noncompliance and
3 enforcement mechanisms;

4
5 (vi) Elections and duties of precinct
6 committeemen and committeewomen;

7
8 (vii) Methods and procedures for redistricting;

9
10 (viii) Transparency and auditing of candidate
11 and lobbyist financial disclosures including consideration
12 of whether such requirements should be imposed on members
13 of the executive or judicial branch of government;

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15 (ix) Election processes of any county, city,
16 town, school district, special district or any other
17 political subdivision of the state;

18
19 (x) Specific changes to Wyoming law which may be
20 necessary to modernize elections in the state.

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22 (c) The select committee may limit its consideration
23 of the issues specified in subsection (b) of this section

1 to only those issues which can be properly studied, giving
2 preference to issues that have the largest impact on the
3 public and on elections and for which a solution might be
4 reasonably available.

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6 (d) In making any recommendations, the select
7 committee shall rank any recommended changes in order of
8 importance. The select committee shall also provide a plan
9 and timeline for the implementation of each recommended
10 change into law, giving due preference to the early
11 implementation of changes that will have the greatest
12 impact and changes which reasonably can be accomplished
13 with available resources.

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15 (e) The select committee shall submit a report
16 summarizing its studies, findings and recommendations to
17 the joint corporations, elections and political
18 subdivisions interim committee on or before October 15,
19 2017. The joint corporations, elections and political
20 subdivisions interim committee shall consider the
21 recommendations and develop any legislation it deems
22 appropriate for consideration by the legislature.

23

1 (f) The select committee shall hold at least four (4)
2 meetings. The select committee shall be staffed by the
3 legislative service office. State agencies shall provide
4 information and assistance to the select committee as
5 requested by the select committee.

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7 (g) The select committee shall exist until December
8 31, 2017. Members of the select committee shall be paid
9 salary, per diem and mileage, but no salary for preparation
10 as provided in W.S. 28-5-101(e)(iii), for their official
11 duties as members of the select committee.

12
13 **Section 2.** There is appropriated from the general
14 fund for the purposes of this act forty-five thousand
15 dollars (\$45,000.00) to the legislative service office for
16 providing the payments to members of the select committee
17 as authorized in section 1 of this act. Funds appropriated
18 in this section shall be for the period beginning with the
19 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2018.
20 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
21 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
22 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds

1 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
2 by law on June 30, 2018.

3

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

8

9

(END)