

Bill No.: SF0088 **Effective:** Immediately

LSO No.: 17LSO-0359

Enrolled Act No.: SEA No. 0081

Chapter No.: [Chapter Number_RO]

Prime Sponsor: Scott

Catch Title: Palliative care.

Subject: Palliative care advisory council.

Summary/Major Elements:

- Palliative care means care that optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing and treating suffering caused by serious illness. Palliative care can mean end-of-life care, but does not include treatments that are meant to hasten death.
- This bill creates the Advisory Council on Palliative Care, within the Department of Health, unless the Governor specifies a different place for the Council to be housed. The Council consists of nine to thirteen members, appointed by the Governor, including health care professionals, a pharmacist, law enforcement personnel with experience in illegal drug offenses, persons experienced in counseling seriously ill patients and a person active in the faith community. After staggered initial terms, members serve three year terms.
- The Council must meet not less than two times per year for the purpose of: maximizing effective palliative care in Wyoming, consulting and advising the Department of Health on palliative care issues and on palliative care options for patients in Department of Health facilities, advising the Governor and Legislature, seeking opportunities to work with law enforcement and regulatory bodies on the legitimate use of drugs for palliative care and advising the Board of Pharmacy, the Attorney General, DCI and local law enforcement on the prescription drug needs of palliative care patients.
- The Council is prohibited from advocating for or legitimizing assisted suicide.
- The bill imposes duties on the Department of Health to assist the Council and to enhance palliative care in Wyoming by publishing information and resources on its website.
- Funding for the Council is from the Department of Health's budget, unless the Governor otherwise transfers funds from other sources.

Comments:

- Reports Due: The Department of Health shall report and make recommendations to the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Interim Committee on or before July 1, 2022. Other concerned parties may also submit reports.
- The Council and its authorizing law is repealed, effective July 1, 2023.

The above summary is not an official publication of the Wyoming Legislature and is not an official statement of legislative intent. While the Legislative Service Office endeavored to provide accurate information in this summary, it should not be relied upon as a comprehensive abstract of the bill.