

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0054

Wyoming meat packing initiative.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands &  
Water Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture and economic development;  
2 amending the duties of the Wyoming business council to  
3 require support for Wyoming producers in the agriculture  
4 and meat processing industry; expanding permissible loans  
5 and grants to Wyoming meat producers and processors;  
6 authorizing rulemaking; requiring a report; and providing  
7 for effective dates.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-12-109(b) and by creating new  
12 subsections (c) and (d) is amended to read:

13

14 **9-12-109. Promotion of agriculture.**

15

1           (b) The council shall meet not fewer than two (2)  
2 times per year to solicit input from industry groups, ~~and~~  
3 ~~in consultation with the economically needed diversity~~  
4 ~~options for Wyoming (ENDOW) executive council the~~  
5 department of agriculture and the Wyoming governor's office  
6 to:

7  
8           (i) ~~Develop~~Maintain a strategy to create small  
9 regionally located ~~beef~~meat processing plants inspected by  
10 the United States department of agriculture ~~or Wyoming~~  
11 department of agriculture and mid-to-large sized processing  
12 plants for in-state, interstate and international sales;

13  
14           (ii) Market Wyoming grown and produced  
15 agricultural products in-state, regionally, nationally and  
16 internationally, through market development, trade shows  
17 and social media and other media outlets;

18  
19           (iii) Enhance the council's website to promote  
20 Wyoming grown or produced agricultural products including  
21 match making services between key food system partners;

22

1           (iv) Contingent on available funds, provide  
2 loans or grants to be used to fund infrastructure for  
3 mid-sized meat processing plants for international,  
4 in-state and interstate sales. Loans or grants under this  
5 paragraph shall ~~be~~:

6  
7           (A) ~~Limited to~~ Provide funding to create,  
8 maintain or expand infrastructure for plants processing  
9 meat products for export and for in-state or interstate  
10 sale;

11  
12           (B) Be provided through a program  
13 administered by the council, including the Wyoming business  
14 ready community program, and subject to all applicable  
15 statutes and rules governing the program~~;~~

16  
17           (C) Not exceed six million dollars  
18 (\$6,000,000.00) per project and, for loans, have an  
19 interest rate not lower than three percent (3%) per annum.

20  
21           (v) Coordinate strategies to improve meat  
22 processing facilities and capabilities in Wyoming,  
23 including by providing technical assistance or expertise

1 to assist producers and processors with constructing,  
2 maintaining, expanding, marketing and seeking federal  
3 grants and loans.

4  
5 (c) Any meat processing facility receiving assistance  
6 under this section shall comply with all applicable state  
7 and federal regulations.

8  
9 (d) The council shall submit a comprehensive report  
10 of the programs, objectives, activities and conditions  
11 covering the previous fiscal period to the joint  
12 agriculture, state and public lands and water resources  
13 interim committee not later than October 1 annually.

14  
15 **Section 2.** The Wyoming business council may  
16 promulgate rules as necessary to carry out the purposes of  
17 this act.

18

1           **Section 3.**

2

3           (a)    Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section, this act is effective July 1, 2021.

5

6           (b)    Section 2 of this act is effective immediately  
7 upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become  
8 law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
9 Constitution.

10

11

(END)