

**Bill No.:** HB0005 **Effective:** **Immediately**

**LSO No.:** 22LSO-0050

**Enrolled Act No.:** HEA No. 0045

**Chapter No.:** 97

**Prime Sponsor:** Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands & Water Resources Interim Committee

**Catch Title:** **Wild horse and burro management.**

**Subject:** Management of excess populations of wild horses and burros through multiple means and cooperative undertakings.

**Summary/Major Elements:**

- This act addresses management of wild, feral and stray horses in three ways:
  - Requires the Office of State Lands and Investments to calculate and send notice to federal land management agencies of the costs of wild horse grazing on state lands and to request reimbursement;
  - Authorizes enforcement by writ of mandamus or other appropriate action for removal of wild horses from nonfederal lands;
  - Authorizes the Governor to enter into cooperative agreements with among state and local agencies and with the United States Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe, an official cooperative tribal governing body, adjacent states, nongovernmental organizations or other private entities for state management of wild horses and burros. Cooperative agreements shall address the long term management of wild horse populations that are in excess of high appropriate management levels.
- The act provides an appropriation. The act provides that any revenue generated as a result of general fund expenditures shall be remitted to the state as allowed by law.

**Comments:**

- Creates a major program: creates a program to invoice the federal government for wild horse grazing on state lands and authorizes the Governor to enter into cooperative management projects.
- Appropriates funds from the general fund to the office of the Governor for state endeavors to manage wild horses in the state, including on the Wind River Indian Reservation, pursuant to cooperative agreements.
- Requires a report not later than October 1, 2022 and again October 1, 2023 from the Governor to the Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands and Water Resources Interim Committee regarding expenditures, cooperative agreements, and projects made or pursued.

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