

**SESSION
LAWS
OF
WYOMING**

**2024
Budget Session**

**SESSION LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF WYOMING
PASSED BY THE
SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
2024 BUDGET SESSION**

**CONVENED AT CHEYENNE, February 12, 2024
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USERS NOTES

Under W.S. 8-1-105 and 28-8-105, the Legislative Service Office is responsible for providing for the publication of the Wyoming Statutes. This includes conforming statutes which have been amended by more than one chapter of the Session Laws and providing appropriate numbering. For example, two chapters may use the same statute section number when creating a new section. These will be appropriately numbered in the Wyoming Statutes Annotated. The Wyoming Statutes Annotated will also reflect and give effect to amendments to a statute when the amendments are made by more than one chapter of the Session Laws. Note however that if a section is both repealed and amended by operation of more than one chapter, the repealer is controlling and the section is repealed.

Legislative Service Office



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CHAPTERS

CHAPTER	HB/SF	PAGE
1	SF0004	Rehiring retired firefighters-continued retirement benefits. 3
2	SF0015	Acceptance of retrocession-federal military installations..... 4
3	SF0017	Plane coordinates system-amendments. 4
4	HB0073	Abandoned mine reclamation accounts..... 7
5	HB0071	Broadband development subaccount-amendments. 8
6	HB0072	Worker's compensation-provision for adverse deviation..... 9
7	HB0040	School district trustee oath of office..... 10
8	HB0046	Chancery court-timeline for resolution of disputes. 11
9	HB0027	DFS and law enforcement-cross reporting. 11
10	HB0026	Emergency protective services-effective period. 12
11	HB0021	Charter school leasing. 13
12	HB0016	Sutton state archaeological site-legal description..... 13
13	HB0010	Grace period-state land lease renewals. 14
14	HB0011	State land lease amendments. 14
15	SF0030	Influencing jurors and witnesses-judges amendment. 15
16	SF0021	Public utilities-net power cost sharing ratio. 16
17	HB0066	Firefighter-cancer screening benefits..... 17
18	SF0003	State employee leave for volunteer emergency services. 19
19	HB0014	Prior authorization regulations. 20
20	HB0023	Vehicle registration e-certificate and grace period. 28
21	HB0008	Commercial driver license-hazardous materials endorsement. ... 29
22	HB0035	Limitation on environmental rulemaking. 30
23	HB0033	Mining operations-blasting requirements. 31
24	HB0025	Medicaid-third party payor conditions. 34
25	HB0013	Flow-through pools-exemption. 35
26	HB0012	Wyoming dairy marketing act-repeal..... 35
27	SF0005	Organ transplant recipient protection..... 36
28	HB0054	Wyoming Reads Day..... 37
29	HB0074	Public health nursing-budget requests. 38
30	HB0015	Health insurance-reimbursement of overpayments. 38
31	HB0032	Geologic sequestration-unitization amendments..... 39
32	HB0034	Solid waste municipal cease and transfer funding..... 44
33	HB0081	Public officer training-amendments. 46
34	SF0009	Parental rights in education-1. 47
35	SF0115	Behavioral health redesign amendments-2..... 50
36	SF0007	Behavioral health redesign-vulnerable adults. 51

37	HB0086	Vehicle lien-amendments.....	51
38	HB0070	Local government distributions.	52
39	HB0064	Fire prevention and electrical safety-amendments.....	57
40	HB0009	Fuel tax-licensee information deadline.	58
41	HB0031	Peace officers-records and reporting.	60
42	HB0067	Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration-2..	62
43	SF0081	Hospital or healthcare district created entities-immunity.	68
44	SF0059	Federal unemployment compensation trust fund-adjustment.	69
45	SF0058	Investment of state unemployment insurance trust fund.	70
46	SF0049	Judicial retirement program-contributions.	71
47	SF0048	Patrol, warden and investigator retirement-contributions.	72
48	SF0038	Financial reporting amendments-2.	74
49	SF0066	Water exchange amendments.	76
50	SF0050	Unincorporated nonprofit DAO's.....	77
51	SF0060	2024 large project funding.	93
52	SF0037	Indian child welfare act-delinquency amendments.....	95
53	SF0045	Vulnerable adults-civil cause of action-2.	96
54	SF0079	Malt beverage franchise agreements.....	97
55	SF0012	Meat processing plants-hides and carcasses.	100
56	SF0032	Hemp-limitations on psychoactive substances.	101
57	SF0018	Indian child welfare act-safe haven amendments.	104
58	SF0022	Public service commission-electricity reliability.....	105
59	SF0002	Legislative budget.	106
60	HB0083	Public retirement-actuarially determined contributions.	111
61	HB0116	Sage grouse implementation-notice to landowners.....	119
62	SF0008	Health insurance for volunteer emergency responders.....	120
63	HB0145	Open banking-amendments.....	123
64	HB0141	State land oil and gas leases-operator requirement.....	124
65	HB0093	Animal reimbursement program account amendments-2.	125
66	HB0020	School finance-regional cost adjustment study.	125
67	HB0197	Sales tax administration revisions.....	127
68	HB0043	State forestry good neighbor-positions.	131
69	HB0036	Natural Resource Protection Act.....	132
70	SF0020	Electricity rates for costs that do not benefit Wyoming.	133
71	SF0114	Contractor licenses-reciprocal recognition requirements.	134
72	SF0077	Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.	136
73	SF0100	Prompt payment of insurance claims.	139
74	SF0080	Solid waste management-definition amendments.....	142
75	SF0042	Low-carbon reliable energy standards-amendments.	143
76	SF0023	Public utilities-energy resource procurement.	146
77	SF0014	State fair board-powers and responsibilities.....	148
78	SF0113	Light and high profile vehicle closures-2.	149
79	SF0053	Sixth judicial district-number of judges.....	150
80	SF0096	Trusts and bank assets in bankruptcy-clarification.	151
81	SF0026	Special district vacancies.	155
82	SF0083	Revisor's bill.....	156
83	SF0090	State-managed local government equity investment pool.	161
84	HB0126	Child care is a residential use of property.	162

TABLE OF CONTENTS

vii

85	HB0058	Forensic genetic genealogy pilot program.	163
86	HB0029	Cold case database and investigations.	164
87	HB0138	State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.	165
88	SF0035	Public records-DOC investigations.	167
89	SF0074	Special districts-reversal of dissolution for noncompliance.	168
90	SF0036	Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.	169
91	SF0123	Minor name changes.	178
92	SF0052	Wyoming Stable Token Act-amendments.	178
93	SF0027	Special districts bond elections exception.	180
94	SF0057	Wyoming adult hearing aid program.	182
95	SF0019	Developmental preschool funding.	184
96	SF0047	Law enforcement retirement-contributions.	186
97	SF0024	Public service commission-integrated resource plans.	188
98	HB0104	Omnibus water bill-planning.	189
99	SF0075	Omnibus water bill-construction.	195
100	SF0041	Banking division-classification and salary exemptions.	214
101	SF0089	Veterans ad valorem exemption-amount.	215
102	SF0034	Sex offender registration-registerable offenses.	216
103	SF0069	Hospice care reimbursements.	218
104	SF0125	Pari-mutuel wagering activities-amendments.	219
105	SF0118	Bighorn and domestic sheep relocation-federal action.	223
106	HB0003	Property tax exemption for long-term homeowners.	226
107	HB0045	Property tax exemption-residential structures and land.	228
108	HB0166	Education savings accounts-1.	231
109	HB0004	Property tax refund program.	242
110	HB0092	Protection of parental rights.	245
111	SF0006	Nursing home administrators-temporary licenses.	246
112	HB0090	Newborn child safe havens-age of child.	247
113	SF0099	Children gender change prohibition.	248
114	SF0073	Concealed firearms-permit eligibility.	250
115	SF0105	Wyoming Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.	251
116	SF0109	Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act.	254
117	SF0086	School safety and security-funding.	257
118	HB0001	General government appropriations.	258

LAWS
PASSED BY THE
SIXTY-SEVENTH
WYOMING LEGISLATURE
2024 BUDGET SESSION

Chapter 1

**REHIRING RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS-CONTINUED RETIREMENT
BENEFITS**

Original Senate File No. 4

AN ACT relating to firemen pensions; allowing retired firefighters to be rehired while continuing to receive retirement benefits; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 15-5-423 is created to read:

15-5-423. Rehiring a retired member.

Rehiring a retired member under this article shall be in accordance with the Wyoming Retirement Act, W.S. 9-3-415(g) through (j).

Section 2. W.S. 15-5-204 by creating a new subsection (j) is amended to read:

15-5-204. Pensions; amounts; qualifications; when paid; disability benefits; disqualifications; examinations; disallowance; actions; adjustment; rehiring.

(j) Rehiring a paid fireman retired under this article shall be in accordance with the Wyoming Retirement Act, W.S. 9-3-415(g) through (j).

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 1, 2024.

Chapter 2

ACCEPTANCE OF RETROCESSION-FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Original Senate File No. 15

AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; authorizing the governor to accept retrocession over military reservations and lands as specified; correcting obsolete references; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-7-301(a) and by creating a new subsection (g) is amended to read:

19-7-301. Jurisdiction of United States over certain military reservations; retrocession.

(a) Exclusive jurisdiction is ceded to the United States over all the territory owned by the United States within the limits of the United States military reservations known as ~~Fort Francis E. Warren F.E. Warren Air Force Base~~, Fort Washakie, Camp Sheridan, Camp Pilot Butte, and the United States powder depot at Cheyenne, together with such other lands in the state as are now or hereafter acquired or held by the United States for military purposes, either as additions to the posts above named or as new military posts or reservations, established for the common defense.

(g) The governor may accept in writing on behalf of the state full or partial retrocession of jurisdiction, criminal, civil, juvenile or any combination thereof, over any military reservations and lands previously ceded to the United States in subsections (a) through (f) of this section where such retrocession has been offered by the appropriate federal authority. The governor's written acceptance of full or partial retrocession of jurisdiction under this subsection shall become effective upon the filing of the acceptance in the office of the secretary of state. Nothing in this subsection shall alter, amend, diminish or invalidate rights reserved to the state in subsection (f) of this section.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 1, 2024.

Chapter 3

PLANE COORDINATES SYSTEM-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 17

AN ACT relating to the plane coordinates system; updating the plane coordinates system for Wyoming; providing for the use of other datums, systems and networks for the system; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; repealing provisions related to obsolete coordinate standards; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 34-25-109 is created to read:

34-25-109. Definitions.

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) “Metadata” means data that describes other data including utilized geodetic reference system data, applicable epoch, statement or relative accuracy data and date of observation data;

(ii) “NGS” means the national ocean service’s national geodetic survey of the national oceanic and atmospheric administration, United States department of commerce or its successor;

(iii) “NSRS” means the national spatial reference system or its successor;

(iv) “Wyoming Plane Coordinate System” means the system of plane coordinates under this chapter that is identical to the state plane coordinate system as defined for the state of Wyoming by NGS.

Section 2. W.S. 34-25-101(a), 34-25-102, 34-25-103 and 34-25-105 through 34-25-108 are amended to read:

34-25-101. System of plane coordinates adopted.

(a) The system most recent version of the state plane coordinates which coordinate system for the state of Wyoming that has been established by the office of National Geodetic Survey, or its successors NGS, based on the NSRS for defining and stating the positions or locations of points on the surface of the earth within the state of Wyoming is adopted and hereafter shall be known and designated as the “Wyoming Plane Coordinate System,” NAD 1983.” The Wyoming Plane Coordinate System shall be named, and in any land description in which it is used it shall be designated, the “Wyoming Plane Coordinate System” and the zone used shall be specified.

34-25-102. Designation of coordinates.

The plane coordinates of a point on the earth’s surface, to be used in expressing the position or location of such point in the appropriate zone of this system, shall consist of two (2) linear distances, expressed in feet and decimals of a foot, or meters to the nearest millimeter and decimals of a meter. One (1) of these distances, to be known as the “east x-coordinate” or “east-coordinate,” shall give the position in an distance east and west direction of the Y axis; the other, to be known as the “north y-coordinate” or “north-coordinate,” shall give the position in a north-and-south direction. These coordinates shall depend upon and conform to the coordinates, on the Wyoming Coordinate System NAD 1983 of the National Geodetic Survey, or its successors, within the state of Wyoming, as those coordinates have been determined by the survey. distance north of the X axis. The Y axis of any zone shall be parallel with the central meridian of that zone. The X axis of any zone shall be at right angles to the

central meridian of that zone. One (1) foot shall equal three thousand forty-eight ten-thousandths (0.3048) of one (1) meter and shall be used as the standard unit of measurement for the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System. The official geodetic datums to which geodetic coordinates are referenced within the state of Wyoming including latitude, longitude, ellipsoid height, orthometric height or dynamic height shall be defined by the NSRS. Height is the coordinate value of the vertical elements of the NSRS expressed in feet and identified as ellipsoid height or orthometric height.

34-25-103. Land extending into other zones.

When any tract of land to be defined by a single description extends from one (1) zone into a second of the coordinate other zones, specified in W.S. 34-25-101, the positions of all the points on its boundaries may shall be referred to either of the two (2) as only one (1) of the zones, and the zone which is used shall be specifically named in the description and the metadata of the observations shall be included in the description.

34-25-105. Recording coordinates.

~~No~~ Coordinates based on the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System, NAD 1983, purporting to define the position of a point on a land boundary, shall may be presented to be recorded in any public land records or deed records in the office of a county clerk, unless a record and report of survey of the actual survey to establish the plane coordinates of the point has been filed with the county surveyor, the county engineer or the county clerk and in conformity with the standards prescribed in W.S. 34-25-104. ~~When acceptable satellite survey techniques are employed, a minimum of two (2) independent observing sessions shall be executed and shall agree to not less than one (1) part in one hundred thousand (100,000) of the distance between the points. The procedures and results shall conform with the standards in W.S. 34-25-104. The method and source for establishing coordinates shall be described in the land or deed record. In all instances where reference has been made to coordinates in land surveys or deeds, the combined factors shall be stated for the survey lines used in computing ground distances and areas and the metadata of observations shall be included in the record.~~

34-25-106. Reference to system on maps.

The use of the term “Wyoming Plane Coordinate System” ~~NAD 1983~~ on any map, report of survey or other document, shall be limited to plane coordinates based on the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System ~~NAD 1983~~ as defined in this chapter.

34-25-107. Description in other surveys; conflicts.

Wherever coordinates based on the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System ~~NAD 1983~~ are used to describe any tract of land which in the same document is also described by reference to any subdivision, line or corner of the United States

public land surveys, the description by plane coordinates shall be construed as supplemental to the basic description of ~~such~~ the subdivision, line or corner contained in the official plats and field notes filed of record, and in the event of any conflict, the description by reference to the subdivision, line or corner of the United States public land surveys shall prevail over the description by plane coordinates. Every recorded map, survey or conveyance, or other instrument affecting title to real property which delineates, describes or refers to such property or any part thereof by reference to coordinates based upon the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System ~~NAD 1983~~ shall also describe the property by reference and tie to a controlling corner monument of the United States public land surveys, if applicable.

34-25-108. Application.

(a) Nothing contained in this chapter shall require any purchaser or mortgagee to rely on a description, any part of which depends exclusively upon ~~the Wyoming Plane Coordinate System, NAD 1983.~~

(b) The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to:

(i) Prohibit the appropriate use of other datums, other geodetic reference networks or systems or other plane coordinate systems;

(ii) Require the revision of any survey, deed, record or other document prepared or recorded before July 1, 2024 that uses the Wyoming Coordinate System NAD 1983 or any other coordinate system previously authorized under this chapter.

Section 3. W.S. 34-25-101(b) and 34-25-104 are repealed.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 1, 2024.

Chapter 4

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION ACCOUNTS

Original House Bill No. 73

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; creating the long-term abandoned mine reclamation account; specifying permissible uses of the account; authorizing investment of funds in the account; specifying the limits of liability for funds in the account; repealing the abandoned mine lands fund balancing account; specifying transfers of funds from repealed accounts; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-1211 is created to read:

35-11-1211. Long-term abandoned mine reclamation account.

(a) There is created the long-term abandoned mine reclamation account.

The state treasurer shall, upon direction from the department, deposit up to thirty percent (30%) of the amount of all funds provided to the state by the United States secretary of the interior under section 40701(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as amended by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, into the account. The state treasurer shall invest funds in the account in accordance with law, and earnings from these investments shall be credited to the account. The liability of the state to fulfill the requirements of this section is limited to the amount of unobligated, unexpended funds in the account. The state shall have no obligations under this section except to the extent of federal funds deposited into this account and the earnings of the account. No funds in the account shall be expended for any purpose not specified in section 40701(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, as amended by section 801 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. Funds in the account shall be expended only upon legislative appropriation for the following purposes:

(i) The abatement of the causes and the treatment of the effects of acid mine drainage resulting from coal mining practices, including for the costs of building, operating, maintaining and rehabilitating acid mine drainage treatment systems;

(ii) The prevention, abatement and control of subsidence;

(iii) The prevention, abatement and control of coal mine fires.

Section 2. W.S. 35-11-1210(e) is repealed.

Section 3. The abandoned mine land funds balancing account is repealed. On the effective date of this act, the state auditor shall transfer any unexpended, unobligated funds from the abandoned mine land funds balancing account to the abandoned mine land funds reserve account created in W.S. 35-11-1210(a).

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 5

BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT SUBACCOUNT-AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 71

AN ACT relating to economic development; authorizing the use of broadband development subaccount funds as matching grant funds and for administrative expenses as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-12-1404(a)(ii) is amended to read:

9-12-1404. Economic diversification account created; authorized expenditures.

(a) There is created an economic diversification account. All monies in the account are continuously appropriated to the office of the governor to be used for the purposes of this article and as otherwise specified by law, including per diem, mileage and other administrative expenses of the ENDOW executive council. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, funds in the account or subaccounts of the account shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal period. Interest earned on funds in the account shall be deposited to the account or appropriate subaccount. Within the account shall be subaccounts. For accounting and investment purposes only all subaccounts shall be treated as separate accounts. The subaccounts are as follows:

(ii) The broadband development subaccount. Funds within this subaccount may be expended as requested by the Wyoming business council and approved by the governor or his designee to:

(A) Provide funding for agreements entered into pursuant to W.S. 9-12-1501 through 9-12-1510;

(B) Provide the state's share of any matching funds required for the state to receive federal funds under any federal broadband program including, but not limited to, the broadband equity, access and deployment program established by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, P.L. 117-58; 135 Stat. 429;

(C) Pay the reasonable administrative expenses of the Wyoming business council in an amount not to exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00).

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 6

WORKER'S COMPENSATION-PROVISION FOR ADVERSE DEVIATION

Original House Bill No. 72

AN ACT relating to worker's compensation; authorizing consideration of specified investment earnings for determining rates under the worker's compensation program; conforming provisions for the actuarially reasonable provision for adverse deviation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 27-14-201(e)(i)(F), (vii)(A) and by creating a new paragraph (viii) is amended to read:

27-14-201. Rates and classifications; rate surcharge.

(e) The division in fixing rates shall provide for the costs of benefits and the expenses of administering the worker's compensation account allowed by law, subject to the following:

(i) The account shall be one (1) account but shall include provision for all expenses allowed by this act, loss adjustment expenses and unpaid losses, including:

(F) An actuarially reasonable ~~contingency margin~~ provision for adverse deviation to reflect the uncertainty inherent in estimates of unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses.

(vii) For purposes of this section:

(A) "Fully reserved" means that the workers' compensation account established by W.S. 27-14-701 has, in the opinion of a qualified actuary, funds sufficient on a discounted basis to provide for all unpaid loss and loss adjustment expenses as well as an actuarially ~~appropriate~~ reasonable provision for adverse ~~contingencies~~ deviation;

(viii) Investment earnings from the investment of the amount held as the actuarially reasonable provision for adverse deviation shall be considered revenue to the worker's compensation account as provided in this paragraph. The annual amount of investment earnings available for consideration as revenue under this paragraph shall be determined by the department in an amount equal to not less than zero percent (0%) and not more than five percent (5%) of the previous five (5) year average market value of the amount held as the actuarially reasonable provision for adverse deviation, calculated from the first day of the fiscal year.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 7

SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE OATH OF OFFICE

Original House Bill No. 40

AN ACT relating to school district trustees; clarifying when school district trustees are required to take the oath of office; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-106 is amended to read:

21-3-106. Oath of trustees.

The trustees of each school district shall, on or before the first day of December after receiving notification of their election or within ten (10) days after receiving notification of their ~~election or~~ appointment and before assuming the duties of their offices, appear before some person qualified to administer oaths and take an oath for the faithful performance of their duties as required by law.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 8**CHANCERY COURT-TIMELINE FOR RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES****Original House Bill No. 46**

AN ACT relating to courts; amending the timeline for the effective and expeditious resolution of disputes filed in the chancery court; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 5-13-104(h) is amended to read:

5-13-104. Supreme court to adopt rules; fees and court costs; rules of procedure to govern courts; place for holding court; inherent powers; appeals.

(h) As used in subsection (a) of this section, “effective and expeditious resolution of disputes between parties” means the resolution of a majority of the actions filed in the chancery court within one hundred fifty (150) days of the filing of the issuance of the scheduling order in each action.

Section 2. This act shall apply to actions filed in the chancery court on and after July 1, 2024.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 9**DFS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT-CROSS REPORTING****Original House Bill No. 27**

AN ACT relating to adult protective services; requiring law enforcement to notify the department of family services upon receiving a report of a vulnerable adult in need of potential protective services; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-20-103(d) is amended to read:

35-20-103. Reports of abuse, neglect, exploitation, intimidation or abandonment of vulnerable adult; reports maintained in central registry.

(d) If a law enforcement officer ~~determines~~ receives a report that a vulnerable adult is suspected of being or has been abused, neglected, exploited, intimidated or abandoned, or is committing self neglect, ~~he~~ law enforcement shall notify the department concerning the potential need of the vulnerable adult for protective services.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 10

EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE SERVICES-EFFECTIVE PERIOD

Original House Bill No. 26

AN ACT relating to adult protective services; extending the effective period of emergency protective services; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-20-107(c) is amended to read:

35-20-107. Emergency services.

(c) The allegations of the petition shall be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. If the court finds that the vulnerable adult has been or is being abused, neglected, exploited, intimidated or abandoned, or is committing self neglect, that an emergency exists and that the vulnerable adult lacks the capacity to consent to the provision of services, the court may order the department to provide protective services on an emergency basis. The court shall order only those services necessary to remove the conditions creating the emergency and shall specifically designate the authorized services. The order for emergency protective services shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed ~~seventy-two (72) hours, excluding weekends and holidays~~ fourteen (14) days. The order may be extended for up to an additional thirty (30) day period if the court finds that the extension is necessary to remove the emergency. The vulnerable adult, his agent, his court appointed representative or the department, through the attorney general or the district attorney, may petition the court to set aside or modify the order at any time.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 11**CHARTER SCHOOL LEASING****Original House Bill No. 21**

AN ACT relating to K-12 school facilities; repealing the requirement that charter schools operate successfully for three (3) years to receive reimbursement for leasing expenses; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-110(a)(x)(A)(III) is repealed.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 12**SUTTON STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE-LEGAL DESCRIPTION****Original House Bill No. 16**

AN ACT relating to state lands; removing an inconsistent legal description of the Sutton state archaeological site; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-8-1501(c)(iii) is amended to read:

36-8-1501. State park designation; state historic site designation; state archeological site designation; state recreation area designation.

(c) In addition to state archaeological sites designated in other statutes, the following lands are designated as state archaeological sites and the department shall by rule specify the legal description of the sites:

(iii) The lands in Platte County managed by the department as of July 1, 2023 as Sutton state archaeological site. ~~The site shall consist of the following real property of forty-six and three hundred eighty-two thousandths (46.382) acres in section 6, township 27, range 65, mineral survey no. 196, patented claims: Mollie Gibson, Crown and 1901.~~

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 13**GRACE PERIOD-STATE LAND LEASE RENEWALS****Original House Bill No. 10**

AN ACT relating to state lands; authorizing the director of the office of state lands and investments to grant state land lessees additional time to renew their leases; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-5-104 by creating a new subsection (c) is amended to read:

36-5-104. Time for filing renewal applications; cure process and timeline; conflicting applications; grace period.

(c) For good cause shown and at the written request of the current lessee, the director shall grant a current lessee thirty (30) additional days past the expiration date of their existing lease to submit an application to renew the lease.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 14**STATE LAND LEASE AMENDMENTS****Original House Bill No. 11**

AN ACT relating to state lands; removing specific types of payments for land lease payments; amending the process for how state land lease payments are made; providing that state land lease renewals and rental payments are considered filed on the date the renewal or rental is postmarked; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-5-118 is created to read:

36-5-118. Renewal of state land leases and rental payments.

All state land lease renewal applications and rental payments required under this act that are submitted using a mail service shall be deemed filed on the date of the postmark stamped on the envelope in which the renewal application or rental payment is mailed.

Section 2. W.S. 36-5-103 is amended to read:

36-5-103. Application for lease; cancellation of application.

Any person, firm, association or corporation desiring to lease state lands for agricultural and grazing purposes shall file with the director an application

on the form approved by the board, which must be accompanied by the regular filing fee; and ~~a certified check, bank draft, cashier's check, post office or express money order, cash or personal check payment~~ acceptable to the director for the full amount of the first year's rental offered, ~~and~~ If there are improvements owned by another located upon said lands, the applicant must also transmit in the manner above provided, the estimated amount of the value of the improvements as listed in his application, and in the event the successful applicant fails, refuses or neglects to complete the lease awarded, or otherwise fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with the provisions of this act, or the rules and regulations of the board, after having been given thirty (30) days notice by registered mail, the application shall be cancelled and the sum remitted as rentals and twenty-five percent (25%) of the sum remitted for improvements shall be retained by the board as liquidated damages; and the sum paid as rental shall be paid by the director to the state treasurer and credited by him to the proper permanent land income fund account, and the sum paid for improvements shall be credited to the general fund.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 15

INFLUENCING JURORS AND WITNESSES-JUDGES AMENDMENT

Original Senate File No. 30

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; clarifying that judges are covered under the offense of influencing, intimidating or impeding jurors, witnesses and officers; amending the penalty for intimidating or impeding jurors, judges, witnesses and officers; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-5-305(a) is amended to read:

6-5-305. Influencing, intimidating or impeding jurors, judges, witnesses and officers; obstructing or impeding justice; penalties.

(a) A person commits a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ~~ten (10)~~ five (5) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both, if, by force or threats, he attempts to influence, intimidate ~~or impede~~ or retaliate against a juror, judge, witness or other judicial officer in relation to the discharge of his duty.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 16**PUBLIC UTILITIES-NET POWER COST SHARING RATIO****Original Senate File No. 21**

AN ACT relating to public utilities; specifying the sharing of electric supply costs between a public utility and its customers in specified cost-tracking mechanisms; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-2-121 is amended to read:

37-2-121. When rate to be changed by commission; nontraditional rate making.

If upon hearing and investigation, any rate shall be found by the commission to be inadequate or unremunerative, or to be unjust, or unreasonable, or unjustly discriminatory, or unduly preferential or otherwise in any respect in violation of any provision of this act, the commission, within the time periods provided under W.S. 37-3-106(c) may fix and order substituted therefor a rate as it shall determine to be just and reasonable, and in compliance with the provisions of this act. The rate so ascertained, determined and fixed by the commission shall be charged, enforced, collected and observed by the public utility for the period of time fixed by the commission. The rates may contain provisions for incentives for improvement of the public utility's performance or efficiency, lowering of operating costs, control of expenses or improvement and upgrading or modernization of its services or facilities. Any public utility may apply to the commission for its consent to use innovative, incentive or nontraditional rate making methods. In conducting any investigation and holding any hearing in response thereto, the commission may consider and approve proposals which include any rate, service regulation, rate setting concept, economic development rate, service concept, nondiscriminatory revenue sharing or profit-sharing form of regulation and policy, including policies for the encouragement of the development of public utility infrastructure, services, facilities or plant within the state, which can be shown by substantial evidence to support and be consistent with the public interest. If the commission approves any form of cost-tracking mechanism pursuant to this section for a public utility to recover changes in electric supply costs between rate cases, which costs are in the complete or partial control of the utility, the mechanism shall provide for a sharing of those costs between the public utility and its customers.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 17**FIREFIGHTER-CANCER SCREENING BENEFITS****Original House Bill No. 66**

AN ACT relating to labor and employment; authorizing firefighters to receive annual cancer screenings under the Wyoming worker's compensation act; making conforming amendments; providing definitions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 27-14-901 and 27-14-902 are created to read:

ARTICLE 9**FIREFIGHTER CANCER DETECTION AND PREVENTION****27-14-901. Short title.**

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Aaron Booker Firefighter Cancer Screening Act."

27-14-902. Cancer screenings for firefighters; requirements.

(a) As used in this section, "firefighter" means a person who has been employed or has volunteered as a firefighter for not less than ten (10) years and is classified as a firefighter member as defined by W.S. 9-3-402(a)(xxv), a paid fireman as defined by W.S. 15-5-201(a)(xi), an employee under W.S. 15-5-402(a)(viii), the state fire marshal and their employees, a volunteer fireman as defined by W.S. 15-5-201(a)(xiv), a volunteer firefighter as defined by W.S. 35-9-616(a)(x) and any person employed by a municipal corporation or private organization who devotes the person's entire time of employment to the provision of fire protection service for a city, town, county or fire protection district.

(b) Firefighters shall be presumed to have been exposed to cancer causing agents during the course and scope of their employment. These exposures shall be considered work related injuries for which cancer screenings shall be provided as a workers' compensation award under the provisions of this act. No other injury or award shall be presumed or required to be provided pursuant to this subsection but this section shall not prohibit the application of any other presumption or prohibit qualification for any other award under the other provisions of this act.

(c) Firefighters who are currently employed in that profession shall be provided cancer screenings which shall consist of:

(i) Breast cancer screenings for firefighters, to include mammograms at medically indicated intervals;

(ii) Colon cancer screenings, to include stool based testing or colonoscopies at medically indicated intervals;

(iii) Prostate cancer screenings for male firefighters, to include prostate specific antigen tests at medically indicated intervals;

(iv) Routine screenings for any other cancers the risk or occurrence of which the director of the national institute for occupational safety and health has identified as higher among firefighters than among the general public.

(d) The compensable workplace injury and cancer screenings award provided by subsection (b) and (c) of this section shall continue for not more than ten (10) years after the cessation of employment of a firefighter.

(e) No workplace award of cancer screening benefits under this section shall be included in the calculation of any employer's experience rating but may be included in any base rate setting procedures conducted by the division.

Section 2. W.S. 15-5-201(a)(iii), 27-14-102(a)(xxvii), 27-15-102(b)(ii) and 35-17-106(a)(viii) are amended to read:

15-5-201. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iii) "Compensation Act" means the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act, W.S. 27-14-101 through ~~27-14-806~~ 27-14-902;

27-14-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xxvii) "This act" means W.S. 27-14-101 through ~~27-14-806~~ 27-14-902;

27-15-102. Presumption of occupational disability; applicability; exceptions.

(b) A presumption established under this act applies to a determination of whether a firefighter's injury, disease, illness, health impairment, disability or death resulted from a listed disease contracted in the course and scope of employment for purposes of benefits or compensation provided under:

(ii) Workers' compensation benefits paid by or on behalf of an employer to an employee under the provisions of W.S. 27-14-101 through ~~27-14-806~~ 27-14-902;

35-17-106. Election to be covered by federal immunity.

(a) The state of Wyoming elects to be immediately covered by the immunity granted by the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, P.L. 99-660, Title IV adopted by Congress in 1986, to the extent authorized, as of the effective date of this section for all health care professional review bodies as defined in the act, for the applicable division of the department of health in its duties under W.S. 33-36-101 through 33-36-115 related to emergency medical services and for:

(viii) The Wyoming workers' compensation medical commission and

any health care provider providing peer reviews or independent medical evaluations, reviews or opinions, W.S. 27-14-101 through ~~27-14-806~~ 27-14-902.

Section 3. The department of workforce services shall promulgate any rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 18

STATE EMPLOYEE LEAVE FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES

Original Senate File No. 3

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; providing state employees leave to serve as volunteer emergency response personnel; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-107 is created to read:

9-3-107. Leave for volunteer emergency response personnel.

Every state officer and employee shall receive up to twenty-four (24) hours of leave with pay during each calendar year to use when the state officer or employee is absent from work due to service or training as a rostered volunteer with a volunteer fire department, licensed ambulance service or county search and rescue organization in the state of Wyoming.

Section 2. The department of administration and information shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become a law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 19**PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REGULATIONS****Original House Bill No. 14**

AN ACT relating to the insurance code; requiring health insurers and contracted utilization review entities to follow prior authorization regulations as specified; providing definitions; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 26-55-101 through 26-55-111 and 26-55-113 are created to read:

CHAPTER 55**ENSURING TRANSPARENCY IN PRIOR AUTHORIZATION ACT****26-55-101. Short title.**

This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act.”

26-55-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) “Adverse determination” means a decision by a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity to deny, reduce or terminate benefit coverage for health care services furnished or proposed to be furnished because the services are not medically necessary or are experimental or investigational. A decision to deny, reduce or terminate health care services that are not covered for reasons other than their medical necessity or experimental or investigational nature is not an “adverse determination” for purposes of this act;

(ii) “Authorization” means an approved prior authorization request;

(iii) “Chronic or long-term care condition” means a condition that lasts not less than three (3) months and requires ongoing medical attention, limits activities of daily living or both;

(iv) “Enrollee” means a person eligible to receive health care benefits by a health insurer pursuant to a health plan or other health insurance coverage. The term “enrollee” includes an enrollee’s legally authorized representative;

(v) “Health care service” means health care procedures, treatments or services provided by a licensed health care facility or provided by a licensed physician or licensed health care provider. The term “health care service” also includes the provision of pharmaceutical products or services and durable medical equipment;

(vi) “Health insurer or contracted utilization review entity” means a person or entity that performs prior authorization for one (1) or more of the following entities:

(A) An employer with employees in Wyoming who are covered under a health benefit plan, disability insurance as defined by W.S. 26-5-103 or a health insurance policy;

(B) An insurer that writes health insurance policies;

(C) A preferred provider organization or health maintenance organization.

(vii) “Medically necessary health care services” means as defined by W.S. 26-40-102(a)(iii);

(viii) “Medications for opioid use disorder” means the use of medications to provide a comprehensive approach to the treatment of opioid use disorder. United States food and drug administration approved medications used to treat opioid addiction include methadone, buprenorphine, alone or in combination with naloxone, and extended-release injectable naltrexone;

(ix) “Prior authorization” means the process by which health insurers or contracted utilization review entities determine the medical necessity or medical appropriateness of otherwise covered health care services prior to rendering such health care services. “Prior authorization” also includes any health insurer or contracted utilization review entity’s requirement that an enrollee or health care provider notify the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity prior to providing a health care service;

(x) “Urgent health care service” means a health care service for which the application of the time periods for making a nonexpedited prior authorization decision could, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the enrollee’s medical condition:

(A) Seriously jeopardize the life or health of the enrollee or the ability of the enrollee to regain maximum function; or

(B) Could subject the enrollee to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the review. For purposes of this act, urgent health care service shall include mental and behavioral health care services.

(xi) “Step therapy protocol” means an evidence-based protocol or program that establishes the specific sequence in which prescription drugs for a specified medical condition are deemed medically appropriate for a particular patient and are covered by a health insurer or health benefit plan;

(xii) “Health care provider” means a person licensed, registered or certified under federal or state laws or regulations to provide health care services;

(xiii) “This act” means W.S. 26-55-101 through 26-55-113.

26-55-103. Disclosure and review of prior authorization requirements.

(a) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall make

any current prior authorization requirements and restrictions easily accessible on its website to enrollees, health care providers and the general public. Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall directly furnish those requirements and restrictions within twenty-four (24) hours after being requested by a health care provider. Requirements and restrictions provided or posted under this subsection shall be described in detail but also in easily understandable language. Content published by a third party and licensed for use by a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity may be made available through the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity's secure password protected website, provided that the access requirements of the website do not unreasonably restrict access to any current prior authorization requirements and restrictions.

(b) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall not implement a new or amended prior authorization requirement or restriction unless its website has been updated to reflect the new or amended prior authorization requirement or restriction.

(c) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall provide affected contracted health care providers and enrollees written notice of any new or amended prior authorization requirement or restriction implemented under the health insurer's medical policy or the health insurance contract not less than sixty (60) days before the new or amended prior authorization requirement or restriction is implemented.

(d) The department of insurance shall promulgate rules requiring health insurers or contracted utilization review entities to make statistics available to the public and the department regarding prior authorizations and adverse determinations. At a minimum, the statistics shall include categories for:

- (i) The health care provider specialty;
- (ii) The medication or diagnostic test or procedure;
- (iii) The indication offered;
- (iv) The reason for the adverse determination;
- (v) Whether the adverse determination was appealed;
- (vi) Whether the adverse determination was upheld or reversed on appeal;
- (vii) The time between submission of the prior authorization request and the authorization or initial adverse determination.

26-55-104. Persons qualified to make adverse determinations.

(a) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall ensure that all adverse determinations are made by a physician or other appropriate licensed health care provider who has:

- (i) Sufficient medical knowledge in an applicable practice area or specialty;

(ii) Knowledge of the coverage criteria;

(iii) Unless otherwise required under Wyoming law, a current and unrestricted license to practice within the scope of their profession in a state, territory, commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia;

(iv) Knowledge of the applicable person's medical history and diagnosis.

26-55-105. Consultation after issuing an adverse determination.

After issuing an adverse determination, the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall provide the opportunity to the health care provider to discuss the medical necessity of the health care service with the person who has decision making authority and will be responsible for determining authorization of the health care service under review. The health insurer or contract utilization review entity shall attempt to schedule the discussion within five (5) business days after the health care provider's request.

26-55-106. Requirements applicable to persons reviewing appeals.

(a) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall ensure that all appeals of adverse determinations are reviewed by a physician or other appropriate licensed health care provider who has:

(i) Sufficient medical knowledge in an applicable practice area or specialty;

(ii) Knowledge of the coverage criteria;

(iii) A current and unrestricted license to practice within the scope of their medical profession in a state, territory, commonwealth of the United States or the District of Columbia;

(iv) Not been employed by the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity or been under contract with the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity other than to participate in one (1) or more of the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity's health care provider networks or to perform reviews of appeals, or otherwise have any financial interest in the outcome of the appeal;

(v) Not been directly involved in the initial adverse determination; and

(vi) Considered all known clinical aspects of the health care service under review, including but not limited to, a review of all pertinent medical records provided to the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity by the enrollee's health care provider, any relevant records provided to the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity by a health care facility, any pertinent material provided by the enrollee and any medical literature provided to the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity by the health care provider.

(b) The enrollee's health care provider may request upon the initiation of an appeal that the appeal from an adverse determination be made by a physician or a specialist in the area of medicine under appeal.

26-55-107. Health insurer or contracted utilization review entities' obligations regarding prior authorization for nonurgent health care services

If a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity requires prior authorization of a health care service, the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall make an authorization or adverse determination and notify the enrollee and the enrollee's health care provider of the authorization or adverse determination within five (5) calendar days of obtaining all necessary information to complete the review.

26-55-108. Health insurer or contracted utilization review entities' obligations with respect to prior authorizations for urgent health care services.

Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall make an authorization or adverse determination concerning urgent health care services and notify the enrollee and the enrollee's health care provider of that authorization or adverse determination not later than seventy-two (72) hours after receiving all necessary information to complete the review. The prior authorization request shall be considered authorized if the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity fails to notify the enrollee and the health care provider of a decision within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving all necessary information to complete the review. A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall provide an online portal for health care providers to have the option of submitting urgent prior authorization requests for urgent health care services.

26-55-109. No prior authorization for medications for opioid use disorder.

No health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall require prior authorization for the provision of medications for opioid use disorder.

26-55-110. Length of authorization generally; revocation of prior authorizations prohibited; length of authorization for chronic or long-term care conditions.

(a) Each authorization shall have the following timelines:

(i) Outpatient service prior authorizations shall be valid for a period of not less than one (1) year;

(ii) Prescription drug authorization periods shall be effective for a period of not less than one (1) year including changes in dosage for a prescription drug prescribed by a health care provider, provided that the authorization period and dosage change are consistent with dosing and duration according to evidence-based guidelines for safety and efficacy;

(iii) Prior authorizations for inpatient services shall be valid for a length of time based on the patient's clinical condition. This period will be not less than one (1) day.

(b) Each health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall not revoke, limit, condition or restrict a previously approved authorization for health care services if the health care services are provided within forty-five (45) business days from the date the health care provider received the authorization approval for the specific service that was authorized.

(c) If a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity requires a prior authorization request for a health care service for the treatment of a chronic or long-term care condition, the authorization shall remain valid for one (1) year. This section shall not apply to the prescription of benzodiazepines or schedule II narcotic drugs.

26-55-111. Continuity of care for enrollees.

(a) On receipt of all necessary information documenting an authorization from the enrollee, previous health insurer or the enrollee's health care provider, a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall honor an authorization granted to an enrollee from a previous health insurer or contracted utilization review entity for not less than ninety (90) days after an enrollee's coverage under a new health plan commences, if the health care service is a covered benefit under the new health insurance plan.

(b) During the time period described in subsection (a) of this section, a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity may perform its own review to grant a new authorization.

(c) If there is a change in coverage of, or a change in approval criteria for, a previously authorized health care service under the enrollee's current health care plan, the change in coverage or approval criteria shall not affect an enrollee who received authorization less than one (1) year before the effective date of the change. A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity may require a new prior authorization request one (1) year after the enrollee's previous prior authorization was requested.

(d) No enrollee shall be required to repeat a step therapy protocol if that enrollee, while under their current or a previous health benefit plan, used the prescription drug required by the step therapy protocol, or another prescription drug in the same pharmacologic class with a similar efficacy and side effect profile or with the same mechanism of action, and discontinued use due to lack of efficacy, effectiveness, an adverse event or contraindication. The enrollee's prescribing provider shall submit justification and clinical information, if requested, that demonstrates a clinically valid reason for why the covered prescribed drug is needed and documentation of completion of previous step therapy protocols for the prescribed drug.

26-55-113. Prior authorization for rehabilitative or habilitative services.

(a) A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall not require prior authorization for rehabilitative or habilitative services including, but

not limited to, physical therapy services or occupational therapy services for the first twelve (12) visits for each new episode of care. For purposes of this subsection, “new episode of care” means treatment for a new condition or treatment for a recurring condition that an enrollee has not been treated within the previous ninety (90) days.

(b) This section does not limit the right of a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity to deny a claim when an appropriate prospective or retrospective review concludes that the health care services were not medically necessary.

Section 2. W.S. 26-55-112 is created to read:

26-55-112. Provider exemptions from prior authorization requirements.

(a) A health care provider, as identified by a unique national provider identifier, shall be granted a twelve (12) month or one (1) year exemption from completing a prior authorization request for a health care service, excluding the practice of pharmacy and prescription drugs, if:

(i) In the most recent twelve (12) month period, the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity has authorized not less than ninety percent (90%) of the prior authorization requests, rounded down to the nearest whole number, submitted by the health care provider for that health care service; and

(ii) The health care provider has made a prior authorization request for that health care service not less than five (5) times in the most recent twelve (12) month period.

(b) A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity may evaluate whether a health care provider continues to qualify for exemptions as described in subsection (a) of this section. Nothing in this section shall require a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity to evaluate an existing exemption under subsection (a) of this section or prevent a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity from establishing a longer exemption period.

(c) A health care provider is not required to request an exemption in order to receive an exemption under subsection (a) of this section.

(d) A health care provider who does not receive an exemption under subsection (a) of this section may request from the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity up to one (1) time per calendar year per service, evidence to support the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity’s decision. A health care provider may appeal a health insurer or contracted utilization review entity’s decision to deny an exemption.

(e) A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall only revoke an exemption at the end of a twelve (12) month period if the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity:

(i) Makes a determination that the health care provider would not have

met the ninety percent (90%), rounded down to the nearest whole number, authorization criteria based on a retrospective review of the claims for the particular service for which the exemption applies;

(ii) Provides the health care provider with the information it relied upon in making its determination to revoke the exemption; and

(iii) Provides the health care provider a plain language explanation of how to appeal the decision.

(f) An exemption under subsection (a) of this section shall remain in effect until the thirtieth day after the date the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity notifies the health care provider of its determination to revoke the exemption or, if the health care provider appeals the determination, the fifth day after the revocation is upheld on appeal.

(g) A determination to revoke or deny an exemption under subsection (a) of this section shall be made by a licensed health care provider that is of the same or similar specialty as the health care provider being considered for an exemption and has experience in providing the service for which the potential exemption applies.

(h) A health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall provide a health care provider that receives an exemption under subsection (a) of this section a notice that includes:

(i) A statement that the health care provider qualifies for an exemption from prior authorization requirements;

(ii) A list of services for which the exemption applies; and

(iii) A statement of the twelve (12) month duration of the exemption.

(j) No health insurer or contracted utilization review entity shall deny or reduce payment for a health care service exempted from a prior authorization requirement under this section, including a health care service performed or supervised by another health care provider when the health care provider who ordered such service received a prior authorization exemption, unless the rendering health care provider:

(i) Knowingly and materially misrepresented the health care service in request for payment submitted to the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity with the specific intent to deceive and obtain an unlawful payment from the health insurer or contracted utilization review entity; or

(ii) Failed to substantially perform the health care service.

Section 3. The department of insurance shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsections (b) and (c) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Section 2 of this act is effective January 1, 2026.

(c) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 20**VEHICLE REGISTRATION E-CERTIFICATE AND GRACE PERIOD****Original House Bill No. 23**

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; confirming the ability of county treasurers to provide vehicle certificates of registration in electronic form as specified; amending requirements for the display of vehicle registrations, license plates, validation stickers and permits as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-2-204(a) and 31-4-101(a)(ii) are amended to read:

31-2-204. Issuance of certificates of registration and license plates by county; form.

(a) Upon receipt of an approved application and payment of fees the county treasurer shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration conforming with the facts set forth in the application together with one (1) license plate or validation sticker for motorcycles, multipurpose vehicles, trailers, including house trailers, and vehicles operated with dealer license plates and two (2) license plates or proper validation stickers for any other vehicle. A physical or electronic copy of the certificate of registration shall be carried at all times in the motor vehicle for which it is valid and shall be displayed upon demand of any peace officer. A certificate of registration issued by a county treasurer may be provided in electronic form.

31-4-101. General prohibitions.

(a) No person shall knowingly operate, nor shall an owner knowingly permit to be operated, upon any highway any vehicle:

(ii) Unless valid license plates or permits issued for the vehicle are displayed on the vehicle as provided by this act except as otherwise provided by this act, Validation stickers shall be properly placed on the vehicle within thirty (30) days of issuance;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 21

COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE-HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ENDORSEMENT

Original House Bill No. 8

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; specifying that a driver who has attained eighteen (18) years of age may receive a hazardous materials endorsement for a commercial driver's license; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 31-7-304(a)(ii)(A) is amended to read:

31-7-304. Issuance; classifications and endorsements.

(a) Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with the following classifications and endorsements. The holder of a valid commercial driver's license may drive all vehicles in the class for which that license is issued and all lesser classes of vehicles except motorcycles and vehicles which require a separate endorsement, unless the proper endorsement appears on the license:

(ii) The following driver's license endorsements are special authorizations permitting the driver to operate certain types of motor vehicles or transport certain types of cargo if the endorsement is displayed on the driver's license:

(A) "H" authorizes the operation of a vehicle transporting hazardous materials, provided that the licensed driver has attained the age of eighteen (18) years;

Section 2. The department of transportation shall promulgate any rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 4, 2024.

Chapter 22**LIMITATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL RULEMAKING****Original House Bill No. 35**

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; requiring the environmental quality council to promulgate rules no more stringent than federal law, rules or regulations; providing exceptions; specifying applicability; requiring rulemaking; requiring reporting; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-112(a)(i), (g) and by creating a new subsection (h) is amended to read:

35-11-112. Powers and duties of the environmental quality council.

(a) The council shall act as the hearing examiner for the department and shall hear and determine all cases or issues arising under the laws, rules, regulations, standards or orders issued or administered by the department or its air quality, land quality, solid and hazardous waste management or water quality divisions. At the council's request the office of administrative hearings may provide a hearing officer for any rulemaking or contested case hearing before the council, and the hearing officer may provide recommendations on procedural matters when requested by the council. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, including this section, the council shall have no authority to promulgate rules or to hear or determine any case or issue arising under the laws, rules, regulations, standards or orders issued or administered by the industrial siting or abandoned mine land divisions of the department. The council shall:

(i) Subject to subsection (h) of this section, promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this act, after recommendation from the director of the department, the administrators of the various divisions and their respective advisory boards;

(g) Subject to subsection (h) of this section, the council shall not promulgate any rules which impose standards or requirements related to meat processing which are more stringent than federal law, rules or regulations.

(h) The council shall not promulgate any rules or regulations that impose standards or requirements more stringent than federal law, rules or regulations applicable to any federal program that the state maintains primacy over unless the department identifies the need for rules or regulations that impose standards or requirements more stringent than federal law, rules or regulations in its statement of principal reasons.

Section 2.

(a) Not later than July 2, 2024, the director of the department of environmental quality shall:

(i) Consult with regulated stakeholders to identify a list of existing rules

to be reviewed by the director of the department of environmental quality to conform existing rules to the requirements of this act, including a timeline for conducting that review;

(ii) Report to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee on the rules identified under this subsection for review.

(b) The environmental quality council shall promulgate or repeal any rules necessary to administer this act in accordance with the changes identified by the director of the department of environmental quality.

(c) The director of the department of environmental quality shall review new and amended rules to comply with this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 23

MINING OPERATIONS-BLASTING REQUIREMENTS

Original House Bill No. 33

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; specifying requirements for the use of explosives in noncoal surface mining operations; requiring a blasting plan for specified mining operations; requiring rulemaking; making conforming amendments; authorizing positions; providing an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-401(e)(vi) by creating a new subparagraph (G), (j) and (k) by creating a new paragraph (vii), 35-11-402 by creating a new subsection (d), 35-11-406(b) by creating a new paragraph (xxi) and 35-11-415(b) by creating a new paragraph (xiii) are amended to read:

35-11-401. Compliance generally; exceptions.

(e) The provisions of this article shall not apply to any of the following activities:

(vi) Limited mining operations, whether commercial or noncommercial, for the removal of sand, gravel, scoria, limestone, dolomite, shale, ballast or feldspar from an area of fifteen (15) acres or less of affected land, excluding roads used to access the mining operation, if the operator has written permission for the operation from the owner and lessee, if any, of the surface. The operator shall notify the land quality division of the department of environmental quality and the inspector of mines within the department of workforce services of the location of the land to be mined and the postal address of the operator at least thirty (30) days before commencing operations. A copy of the notice shall also be mailed to all surface owners located within one (1) mile of the proposed

boundary of the limited mining operation at least thirty (30) days before commencing operations. The operator shall notify the land quality division of the department of environmental quality of the date of commencement of limited mining operations within thirty (30) days of commencing operations. Limited mining operations authorized under this paragraph are subject to the following:

(G) Limited mining operations shall be subject to rules governing the use of explosives pursuant to W.S. 35-11-402(d).

(j) The council, upon recommendation from the advisory board through the administrator and director, may modify or suspend certain requirements of W.S. 35-11-406(a), ~~(b)-(b)(i) through (xx)~~, (d), (f) and (g) by rules and regulations, for surface mining operations involving not more than thirty-five thousand (35,000) yards of overburden, excluding topsoil, and ten (10) acres of affected land in any one (1) year, if the application requirements ~~insure~~ ensure reclamation in accordance with the purposes of this act. Roads used to access a mining operation permitted under this section shall be excluded from the annual ten (10) acres of affected land limit, but shall be included in the permit and bonded for reclamation liability.

(k) An operator conducting operations pursuant to W.S. 35-11-401(e)(vi) shall file an annual report with the administrator on or within thirty (30) days prior to the anniversary date of the commencement date of initial operation. The report shall contain:

(vii) If the operations include the use of explosives, information that the operator must maintain under W.S. 35-11-402(d)(iii) and any other information on the use of explosives required by rule.

35-11-402. Establishment of standards.

(d) The council shall, upon recommendation by the administrator and the director, establish rules governing the use of explosives at new and existing non-coal surface mining operations. Rules promulgated under this subsection shall, at a minimum:

(i) Include standards and procedures to ensure that explosives are used only in accordance with state and federal law and regulations;

(ii) Incorporate applicable standards provided in the International Fire Code, Chapter 56, Section 5607, Blasting and in the National Fire Protection Association Explosives Material Code 495, Chapter 10, Use of Explosive Materials for Blasting;

(iii) Include requirements for the operator to maintain for not less than three (3) years and to make available for public inspection a log detailing the location of any blasts, the pattern and depth of drill holes, the amount of explosives used for each hole and the order and length of delay in the blast;

(iv) Establish the types of explosives and detonation equipment to be

used and the size, timing and frequency of blasts based on the site's physical conditions so as to prevent:

(A) Injury to persons;

(B) Damage to public and private property outside of the permit area;

(C) Adverse impacts on any underground mine;

(D) Adverse impacts on any water source or water resource.

(v) Require that all blasting operations be conducted by trained and competent persons, as certified by the administrator.

35-11-406. Application for permit; generally; denial; limitations.

(b) The application shall include a mining plan and reclamation plan dealing with the extent to which the mining operation will disturb or change the lands to be affected, the proposed future use or uses and the plan whereby the operator will reclaim the affected lands to the proposed future use or uses. The mining plan and reclamation plan shall be consistent with the objectives and purposes of this act and of the rules and regulations promulgated. The mining plan and reclamation plan shall include the following:

(xxi) A blasting plan that shall outline the procedures and standards by which the operator of a noncoal surface mine will comply with the standards specified and the rules promulgated under W.S. 35-11-402(d).

35-11-415. Duties of operator.

(b) The operator, pursuant to an approved surface mining permit and mining plan and reclamation plan, or any approved revisions thereto, shall:

(xiii) Comply with the blasting plan required and submitted under W.S. 35-11-406(b)(xxi) for the use of explosives at noncoal surface mining operations.

Section 2.

(a) The department of environmental quality is authorized up to one (1) full-time position for the period beginning with the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2026 for purposes of implementing this act. It is the intent of the legislature that the department of environmental quality include this full-time position in its standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated five hundred two thousand eight hundred forty-six dollars (\$502,846.00) from the general fund to the department of environmental quality for the period beginning with the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for purposes of funding the position authorized in subsection (a) of this section. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided

by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that four hundred two thousand eight hundred forty-six dollars (\$402,846.00) of this appropriation be included in the standard budget request of the department of environmental quality for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. The environmental quality council, upon recommendation by the department of environmental quality, shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 24

MEDICAID-THIRD PARTY PAYOR CONDITIONS

Original House Bill No. 25

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act; requiring health insurers to respond to state inquiries within sixty (60) days; prohibiting health insurers from denying Medicaid payments as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 42-4-204(e)(iii) and (iv)(intro) is amended to read:

42-4-204. Department subrogated to right of recovery of applicant or recipient; utilization of personal health insurance; insurance coverage of recipients.

(e) In addition to the separate requirements set forth in W.S. 42-4-205, all health insurers, including all self-insured plans, group health plans as defined in section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, service benefit plans, managed care organizations, pharmacy benefit managers, or other parties that are, by statute, contract, or agreement, legally responsible for payment of a claim for a health care item or service, shall agree, as a condition of doing business in the state of Wyoming, to:

(iii) Respond within sixty (60) days to any inquiry by the state regarding a claim for payment for any health care item or service that is submitted not later than three (3) years after the date of the provision of such health care item or service; and

(iv) Agree not to deny a claim submitted by the state solely on the basis of the date of submission of the claim, the type or format of the claim form, a failure to obtain required prior authorization or a failure to present proper documentation at the point of sale that is the basis of the claim, if:

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 25

FLOW-THROUGH POOLS-EXEMPTION

Original House Bill No. 13

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; exempting flow-through pools from the public pool and spa health and safety act; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-28-111 is created to read:

35-28-111. Exemptions.

Flow-through pools are exempt from the provisions of this act.

Section 2. W.S. 35-28-101(a) by creating a new paragraph (xv) is amended to read:

35-28-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xv) “Flow-through pool” means an artificial or partially artificial pool that depends on the natural flow of water to maintain adequate water quality.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 26

WYOMING DAIRY MARKETING ACT-REPEAL

Original House Bill No. 12

AN ACT relating to agriculture, livestock and other animals; repealing the Wyoming Dairy Marketing Act of 1971; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-36-101 through 11-36-110 are repealed.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 27

ORGAN TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT PROTECTION

Original Senate File No. 5

AN ACT relating to insurance; prohibiting discrimination against organ transplant recipients by insurers as specified; providing definitions; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 26-20-801(a) by creating a new paragraph (iv) and 26-20-803(a)(i) through (iii) and by creating new paragraphs (v) and (vi) are amended to read:

26-20-801. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iv) “Organ transplant recipient” means a person who receives an organ transplant as defined by W.S. 35-5-301(a)(v).

26-20-803. Living organ donor and organ transplant recipient coverage.

(a) No individual or group life insurance policy or long-term care insurance policy shall:

(i) Deny or cancel coverage to a covered person solely on the basis of the person’s status as a living organ donor or as an organ transplant recipient without any unique and material actuarial risks in accordance with sound actuarial principles and without any actual and reasonably anticipated and expected experience of a person on the basis of their status as a living organ donor or as an organ transplant recipient;

(ii) Deny a covered person eligibility or continued eligibility to enroll or to renew coverage under the terms of a policy, contract or certificate, solely on the basis of the person’s status as a living organ donor or as an organ transplant recipient without any unique and material actuarial risks in accordance with sound actuarial principles and without any actual and reasonably anticipated and expected experience of a person on the basis of their status as a living organ donor or as an organ transplant recipient;

(iii) Reduce or limit coverage or benefits, increase the premiums or otherwise adversely affect the coverage or cost for a covered person’s policy, contract or certificate solely on the basis of the person’s status as a living organ donor or as an organ transplant recipient without any additional separate actuarial risk involved;

(v) Preclude a covered person from receiving all or part of an organ or tissue through transplantation or transfusion as a condition of receiving or continuing to receive coverage under a policy, contract or certificate;

(vi) Preclude a covered person from receiving medical services or other services related to organ transplantation, including diagnostic services, evaluation, surgery, counseling or post-operative treatment or services.

Section 2. This act shall apply to any individual or group life insurance or long-term contract or policy offered, issued, renewed, delivered or issued for delivery in Wyoming on and after July 1, 2024.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 28

WYOMING READS DAY

Original House Bill No. 54

AN ACT relating to legal time and holidays; designating Wyoming Reads Day as a state recognized commemorative day to be observed as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 8-4-117 is created to read:

8-4-117. Wyoming Reads Day.

(a) In recognition of the citizens of Wyoming who are dedicated to the importance of early childhood literacy, the third Tuesday in May is designated as “Wyoming Reads Day.” The day shall be appropriately observed in the public schools of the state, by state and local governments and by organizations within the state. The legislature recommends that Wyoming communities hold “Wyoming Reads Day” celebrations to advance the cause of childhood literacy and encourage early enthusiasm for reading.

(b) The governor shall, in advance of the third Tuesday in May of each year, issue a proclamation requesting proper observance of “Wyoming Reads Day.”

(c) This section shall not affect commercial paper, the making or execution of agreements or judicial proceedings, or authorize public schools, businesses or state and local government offices to close.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 29**PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING-BUDGET REQUESTS****Original House Bill No. 74**

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing a process for public health nursing employee compensation increases as specified to be included in the department of health's budget request; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-1-243 by creating a new subsection (f) and by renumbering (f) and (g) as (g) and (h) is amended to read:

35-1-243. Public health nursing.

(f) When compensation to state public health nursing employees is increased, the department shall determine a corresponding increase to contract amounts for counties providing public health nursing services under paragraph (a)(iii) of this section and request this increase in the department's standard budget or supplemental budget request.

~~(f)~~(g) If the commissioners of two (2) or more counties desire to form a joint powers board to manage all or part of the public health functions in the respective counties, the relevant memoranda of understanding may be modified accordingly and may provide for transition to a joint powers board upon its creation pursuant to the Wyoming Joint Powers Act.

~~(g)~~(h) The county commissioners of each county may choose for all or a portion of their county to use, for the delivery and management of public health nursing and related functions, any existing organization which currently delivers any or all public health services.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 30**HEALTH INSURANCE-REIMBURSEMENT OF OVERPAYMENTS****Original House Bill No. 15**

AN ACT relating to health insurance; specifying a time limit to seek reimbursement for health insurance overpayments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 26-15-137 is created to read:

26-15-137. Time limit to seek reimbursement for health insurance overpayments.

An action or request for reimbursement of any overpayment of a health insurance claim to a health care provider pursuant to any health insurance contract shall be brought not more than two (2) years after the date the claim was paid. No insurer, assignee of the insurer, or other person, whether acting for himself or another in connection with a health insurance transaction, shall make any claim or seek recovery for reimbursement of any overpayment to a health care provider pursuant to any health insurance contract more than two (2) years after the date the claim was paid, unless the claim was fraudulent.

Section 2. This act shall apply to health insurance overpayments made on or after the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 31

GEOLOGIC SEQUESTRATION-UNITIZATION AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 32

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; specifying that pore space utilization is a purpose of geologic sequestration unitization; providing definitions; amending permit types related to geologic sequestration; amending application requirements for the unitization of interests in pore space in a unit area; amending the findings required by the oil and gas conservation commission before entry of a unitization order; amending notice requirements for unitization applications; clarifying that a unitization order may provide for the use of directional wells; making conforming amendments; specifying applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-313(f)(ii)(F), 35-11-314(a) and (b) by creating new paragraphs (ii) and (iii), 35-11-315(a)(i) through (iii), (v) through (ix) and by creating a new paragraph (x) and 35-11-316(b)(iii) through (vii), (g), (k) and by creating a new subsection (m) are amended to read:

35-11-313. Carbon sequestration; permit requirements.

(f) The administrator of the water quality division of the department of environmental quality, after receiving public comment and after consultation with the state geologist, the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission and the advisory board created under this act, shall recommend to the director rules, regulations and standards for:

(ii) Requirements for the content of applications for geologic sequestration permits. Such applications shall include:

(F) A site and facilities description, including a description of the proposed geologic sequestration facilities and documentation sufficient to demonstrate that the applicant has all legal rights, including but not limited to

the right to surface use, necessary to sequester carbon dioxide and associated constituents into the proposed geologic sequestration site. The department may issue a ~~draft~~ permit authorizing:

(I) Construction of an injection well on lands for which the applicant has demonstrated all legal rights specified by this subsection;

(II) Geologic sequestration, contingent on obtaining a unitization order, if required, pursuant to W.S. 35-11-314 through 35-11-320.;

35-11-314. Unitization of geologic sequestration sites; purposes; definitions.

(a) The purpose of W.S. 35-11-314 through 35-11-319 is declared by the Wyoming legislature to be the protection of corresponding rights, compliance with underground injection control class VI well and other environmental requirements, ~~and~~ to facilitate the use and production of Wyoming energy resources and to facilitate the utilization of pore space for geologic sequestration.

(b) Except when context otherwise requires or when otherwise defined in this subsection, the terms used or defined in W.S. 35-11-103, shall have the same meaning when used in W.S. 35-11-314 through 35-11-320. When used in W.S. 35-11-314 through 35-11-320:

(ii) “Economic benefits” means the equitable proportionate share of all financial proceeds due to the pore space owners in a unit area based upon each individual pore space owner’s contribution of pore space storage capacity to a unit area;

(iii) “Unit area” means the pore space lying within the geologic formation proposed to be operated and may include the area of geologic sequestration for one (1) or more injection wells.

35-11-315. Unitization of geologic sequestration sites; agreements; application for permit; contents.

(a) Any interested person may file an application with the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission requesting an order providing for the operation and organization of a unit of one (1) or more parts as a geologic sequestration site and for the pooling of interests in pore space in the proposed unit area for the purpose of conducting the unit operation. The application shall contain:

(i) A copy of any draft permit or permit ~~or draft permit~~ issued by the department allowing geologic sequestration or any application for such permit;

(ii) A description of the pore space ~~and surface lands~~ proposed to be ~~so~~ operated, termed the “unit area” included in the unit area and the corresponding surface lands;

(iii) The names, as disclosed by the conveyance records of the county or counties in which the proposed unit area is situated, and, if federal pore space

is proposed to be included in the unit area, the status records of the district office of the bureau of land management of:

(A) All persons owning or having an interest in the surface estate ~~and or~~ pore space estate in the unit area, including mortgages and the owners of other liens or encumbrances; and

(B) All owners of the surface estate ~~and or~~ pore space estate not included within but ~~which immediately adjoins that are located not greater than one-half (1/2) mile from a boundary of the proposed unit area, or a corner thereof.~~

(v) A statement of the type of operations contemplated in order to effectuate the purposes specified in W.S. 35-11-314 to comply with underground injection control class VI well and other environmental requirements, ~~and to~~ facilitate the use and production of Wyoming energy resources or to utilize pore space for geologic sequestration;

(vi) A proposed plan of unitization applicable to the proposed unit area which the applicant considers fair, reasonable and equitable and which shall include provisions for determining the pore space to be ~~used~~ included within the unit area, the appointment of a unit operator and the time when the plan is to become effective;

(vii) A proposed plan for determining the quantity of pore space storage capacity to be assigned to each separately owned tract within the unit area and the formula or method by which ~~pore space~~ each separately owned tract will be allocated the economic benefits generated by use of pore space in the unit area;

(viii) A proposed plan for ~~generating~~ providing for economic benefits for the use of pore space within the unit area;

(ix) A proposed operating plan providing the manner in which the unit area will be supervised and managed and, if applicable, costs allocated and paid, unless all owners within the proposed unit area have joined in executing an operating agreement or plan providing for such supervision, management and allocation and, if applicable, payment of costs. All operating plans shall comply with all applicable underground injection control class VI well and other environmental requirements;

(x) The location of any identified and existing wells, whether previously plugged or not, that may require evaluation monitoring or corrective action as part of the proposed geologic sequestration in the unit area.

35-11-316. Unitization of geologic sequestration sites; hearings on application, order; modifications.

(b) After considering the application and hearing the evidence offered in connection therewith, the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission shall enter an order setting forth the following findings and approving the proposed plan of unitization and proposed operating plan, if any, if the commission finds that:

(iii) The application outlines operations that will comply with applicable underground injection control class VI well permits, draft permits or any applications for permits and any other environmental requirements. The commission may rely on a class VI well permit issued by the department to make the findings required by this paragraph;

(iv) Granting the application will facilitate the use and production of Wyoming energy resources or will utilize pore space for geologic sequestration;

(v) The quantity of pore space storage capacity, and method used to determine the quantity of pore space storage capacity allocated to each separately owned tract within the unit area represents, so far as can be practically determined, each tract's actual share of the pore space ~~to be used in the sequestration activity included within the unit area;~~

(vi) The method ~~by which~~ for the allocation of economic benefits generated from provided by the use of pore space within the unit area between pore space owners; and between pore space owners and the unit operator or others is fair and reasonable, ~~taking into consideration the costs required to capture, transport and sequester the carbon dioxide~~ For purposes of this paragraph, federal injection fees, federal lease payments and other consideration derived from federal leases shall not be considered;

(vii) The method ~~of generating for providing for~~ for economic benefits from the use of pore space in the unit area is fair and equitable and is reasonably designed to maximize the ~~value of such use~~ of the pore space;

(g) Any owner of pore space within a geologic sequestration site who has not been included within a unitization application or order authorizing a unit under this section, may petition for inclusion in the unit area. The petition shall be filed with the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission and shall describe the petitioner's legal entitlement to the pore space, the location of the pore space, whether the pore space is included within any permitting area applicable to the unit area and the bases for inclusion in the unit area. The petition shall be accompanied by a deposit of money sufficient to pay all costs of the inclusion proceedings. The commission shall require the petitioner to ~~publish a~~ provide notice of the filing of the petition ~~which to all persons specified in the application for the unit area under W.S. 35-11-315(a). The notice required under this subsection shall state the filing of the petition, the name of the petitioner, the location of the pore space, and the prayer of action sought by the petitioner. The and any other information required by rule of the commission. Upon receipt of the petition and the provision of notice by the petitioner, the commission shall publish notice of a hearing, which shall notify describe how all interested persons to specified in an application submitted under W.S. 35-11-315(a) may appear at a specified time and place and to show cause, in writing, if any they have, or as otherwise provided by rules of the commission, why the petition should not be granted. The commission at the~~

time and place mentioned in the notice shall proceed to hear the petition and all objections thereto and shall thereafter grant or deny the petition. The filing of the petition shall be deemed and taken as an assent by each and all petitioners to the inclusion in the unit of the pore space mentioned in the petition or any part thereof. If the petition is granted, the petitioner shall be considered to have been a member of the unit since its inception and, upon the payment of any costs paid by unit members, shall be entitled to a proportionate share of all economic benefits received by unit members since the inception of the unit provided that no unit modification affects any permit issued under W.S. 35-11-313. The oil and gas conservation commission shall adopt rules or orders providing for the fair and equitable determination of pore space storage capacity for each successful petitioner and the means by which successful petitioners shall be paid the economic benefits to which they are entitled under this subsection, including, if necessary, a reallocation of economic benefits among unit members.

(k) No order for unitization issued under this section shall:

(i) Act so as to grant any person a right of use or access to a surface estate if that person would not otherwise have such a right;

(ii) Diminish, impair or otherwise alter the dominance of the mineral estate over the surface estate and pore space interests;

(iii) Prohibit a mineral interest owner from developing the owner's minerals above or below the unit area.

(m) Orders for unitization issued under this section may accommodate and provide for the use of horizontal or directional wells that may penetrate the pore space of separate pore space estates for geologic sequestration purposes within the unit area.

Section 2. This act shall apply to all geologic sequestration unitization orders issued on and after the effective date of this section.

Section 3. The Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

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

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 32

SOLID WASTE MUNICIPAL CEASE AND TRANSFER FUNDING

Original House Bill No. 34

AN ACT relating to the prioritization of municipal solid waste facilities cease and transfer projects; authorizing expenditure of previously appropriated funds; establishing a prioritized list of projects; establishing a maximum amount to be expended on projects; granting the department of environmental quality limited discretionary authority to modify the prioritized list; specifying expenditures for a carcass management project; providing definitions; requiring reports; repealing a prior list of priority cease and transfer projects; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) “(C)” means closure project;

(ii) “Maximum amount” means the total amount to be expended on the listed project and reflects one hundred percent (100%) of the project cost, including any award by the state loan and investment board under W.S. 3511528;

(iii) “SWDD” means solid waste disposal district;

(iv) “(T)” means transfer project.

(b) From amounts appropriated by 2013 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 194, Section 2(a) and (b), 2014 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 26, Section 333(a) and (b), 2015 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 142, Section 345 (priority 2), 2016 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 316(a), 2018 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 134, Section 323(a), (c) and (d), as amended by 2019 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 323, 2019 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 67, Section 1 and other funds appropriated and authorized for program expenses, the following amounts and prioritized projects are authorized pursuant to the municipal solid waste facilities cease and transfer program created by W.S. 35-11-528:

Priority Index	Project	Maximum Amount
1	Carcass management project	\$ 77,303
2	Upton, Town of (T)	\$1,300,000
3	Newcastle, City of (T)	\$1,200,000
4	Moorcroft, Town of – Moorcroft #3 (T)	\$1,500,000
5	Thermopolis, Town of (T)	\$2,000,000
6	Rawlins, City of (T)	\$ 780,000
7	Thermopolis, Town of (C)	\$2,500,000
8	Baggs SWDD (C)	\$2,250,000
9	Lingle, Town of (C)	\$ 350,000

10	Big Horn County SWDD –	
	North #2 (C)	\$2,800,000
11	Newcastle, City of (C)	\$3,700,000
12	Lincoln County –	
	Cokeville (C)	\$1,000,000
13	Uinta County Solid Waste –	
	Bridger Valley (C)	\$4,000,000
14	LaGrange, Town of (C)	\$1,400,000
15	Upton, Town of (C)	\$1,500,000
16	Park County Landfills –	
	TS Rolling Stock (T)	\$ 351,000

(c) Any municipal solid waste facility operator may apply for the funds associated with the carcass management project listed as priority 1 in subsection (b) of this section. Funds for the carcass management project shall be expended only for infrastructure necessary to haul, bury or compost dead animals. Funds expended under this subsection shall not exceed the amount listed in priority 1 in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The department of environmental quality may modify the authorized funds and the order of the projects listed in the prioritized list contained in subsection (b) of this section for any of the following reasons:

- (i) To optimize efficiency;
- (ii) Based on project readiness;
- (iii) Based on compliance with grant or loan qualifications or conditions;
- (iv) To address emergency or immediate environmental concerns.

(e) Not later than October 15 of each year, the department of environmental quality shall report:

(i) Any modification of the prioritized list contained in subsection (b) of this section to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee and the joint appropriations committee;

(ii) The names of recipients and amounts expended for the carcass management project established by priority 1 in subsections (b) and (c) of this section to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee.

Section 2. 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 12 is repealed.

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

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 33**PUBLIC OFFICER TRAINING-AMENDMENTS****Original House Bill No. 81**

AN ACT relating to administration of the government; removing minimum fiscal training requirements for public officers; limiting the duration of training for public officers; authorizing public officers to complete training on personal time; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-510(a)(intro) is amended to read:

9-1-510. Instructions to public officers; failure of public officer to obey.

(a) The director of the state department of audit shall ~~establish minimum training requirements for public officers. The department of audit shall promulgate rules to effectuate this paragraph. The director shall instruct public officers in the proper handling of the accounts of their offices in accordance with the minimum training requirements established by the director and~~ provide comprehensive written materials. In lieu of directly instructing public officers, the director may develop and maintain a list of approved courses, ~~that comply with the minimum training requirements. All public officers shall receive instruction in accordance with the minimum training requirements established by the director within one (1) year of assuming office or assuming responsibility for handling the accounts of their office. The director may waive or modify the requirement for public officers to receive instruction within one (1) year of assuming office or responsibility for handling the accounts of their office if no approved courses exist in either a virtual format, or within the state, or if available courses are cost prohibitive or if the public officer has completed one (1) or more relevant graduate degrees or professional certification programs or otherwise has an educational background that obviates the need for additional training as determined by rule of the department of audit. The training may be completed on the public officer's personal time. A public officer shall handle the accounts of his office strictly in conformance with the instructions of the director or any approved course and in the manner required by law. If any public officer willfully neglects or refuses to handle his accounts in the manner required, or fails to comply with the minimum training requirements established by the director within one (1) year of assuming office,~~ the director may request the governing body with oversight over the public officer or other appropriate authority to remove the public officer or provide increased oversight. For purposes of this section, a "public officer" shall be defined as:

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 5, 2024.

Chapter 34**PARENTAL RIGHTS IN EDUCATION-1****Original Senate File No. 9**

AN ACT relating to education; specifying procedures and requirements for school districts to provide parents and guardians notice of information regarding students and the rights of parents and guardians to make decisions regarding their children; specifying that school districts cannot prohibit parental or guardian notifications and involvement in critical decisions involving students; specifying procedures for resolving parent or guardian concerns and complaints; specifying duties for school districts; requiring adoption of necessary policies, rules and procedures; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-135 is created to read:

21-3-135. Parental and guardian notices related to the educational, physical, mental and emotional health of students; student welfare; procedures; school district prohibitions.

(a) Each school district shall:

(i) Notify a student's parent or guardian as soon as practicable if there is a change in the student's educational, physical, mental or emotional health or well-being. Procedures adopted under this paragraph shall reinforce the fundamental right of parents and guardians to make decisions regarding the care and control of their children by requiring school district personnel to encourage a student to discuss issues relating to his well-being with his parent or guardian or to facilitate discussion with the parent or guardian;

(ii) Not prohibit parents or guardians from accessing any of their student's records created, maintained or used by the school district. Parents or guardians shall be provided access to their student's education, behavior, health and other records within a reasonable time;

(iii) Not adopt or implement any formal or informal rules, policies, practices or procedures that prohibit school district personnel from notifying a student's parent or guardian about the student's educational, physical, mental or emotional health or well-being or a change in the student's related services as authorized under paragraphs (a)(i) and (ii) of this section;

(iv) Not adopt or implement any formal or informal rule, policies, practices or procedures that direct or, encourage or have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold from a parent or guardian information about the student's educational, physical, mental or emotional health or well-being;

(v) Obtain written or electronic permission from each student's parent or legal guardian not less than one (1) day prior to the student participating or receiving instruction in any trainings, courses or classes that address sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b) Effective school year 2024-2025 and each school year thereafter, at the

beginning of each school year, each school district shall make available to parents and guardians any routine health care services offered or provided at the student's school and provide the option for the parent or guardian to withhold consent or decline any routine specific health care services. Parental or guardian consent to a routine health care service shall not waive the parent's or guardian's right to access the student's educational or health care records or to be notified of a change in the student's educational, physical, mental or emotional health or well-being. Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing school district personnel from rendering first aid to a student or summoning emergency responders in case of sudden need.

(c) Before administering a well-being questionnaire or health screening tool to a student or a group of students, each school district shall make available the questionnaire or information on the health screening tool to the parent or guardian and obtain written or verbal consent from the parent or guardian to administer the well-being questionnaire or health screening tool to the student. For purposes of this subsection, "health screening tool" means any diagnostic assessment that detects pre-clinical mental or physiological illness or diseases. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit school district personnel from conducting audiology, vision, scoliosis or body mass index assessments required by federal law unless a parent withholds consent for that assessment in writing.

(d) Each school district shall adopt necessary rules, policies, practices and procedures for a parent or guardian to file a complaint with the school district regarding a school district's non-compliance with this section, in accordance with the following:

(i) Notwithstanding W.S. 21-2-101, to the extent that any provision of this subsection conflicts with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, this subsection and any rules promulgated thereunder shall control;

(ii) To initiate proceedings under this subsection, a parent or guardian shall file a complaint with the school district superintendent or his designee;

(iii) The school district superintendent or his designee shall acknowledge in writing receipt of a complaint submitted under this subsection within seven (7) business days from the date of receipt of the complaint, as evidenced by the postmark;

(iv) The school district superintendent shall issue a decision in response to a complaint under this subsection not more than thirty (30) calendar days after the written acknowledgment required under paragraph (iii) of this subsection;

(v) Any parent or guardian aggrieved by a decision made by a school district superintendent under paragraph (iv) of this subsection may request a hearing before the school district's board of trustees, who shall determine facts relating to the dispute over the school district superintendent's compliance

with this section, consider any information provided by the school district superintendent and render a decision within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving the request for a hearing;

(vi) Any parent or guardian aggrieved or adversely affected in fact by a final decision of a board of trustees under paragraph (v) of this subsection, may seek judicial review pursuant to W.S. 16-3-114, within thirty (30) calendar days of the decision by the board of trustees, as evidenced by the postmark;

(vii) Each school district shall adopt necessary rules, policies and procedures to notify parents and guardians of the rights and procedures available under this subsection;

(viii) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to abridge any other rights or remedies under law available to parents and guardians.

(e) This section shall be implemented by each school district in accordance with W.S. 14-2-206.

(f) Nothing in this section shall prohibit school districts from complying with mandatory reporting of abuse or neglect pursuant to W.S. 14-3-205. For purposes of this section, “abuse” means as defined by W.S. 14-3-202(a)(ii) and “neglect” means as defined by W.S. 14-3-202(a)(vii).

Section 2. W.S. 21-3-110(a) by creating a new paragraph (xlii) is amended to read:

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xlii) Adopt policies, procedures and rules necessary to implement the provisions of W.S. 21-3-135.

Section 3. Not later than July 1, 2024, each school district board of trustees shall establish rules, policies and procedures in accordance with this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Became law without signature March 5, 2024.

Chapter 35**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REDESIGN AMENDMENTS-2****Original Senate File No. 115**

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; requiring the department of health to pay behavioral health services claims as specified; requiring the department of health to collect information regarding payment of behavioral health services claims; requiring a report; amending definitions; providing a sunset date; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-1-613(a)(xix), as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 79, Section 1 and as amended by 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 1, is amended to read:

35-1-613. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xix) “Indigent general access clients” means persons ~~who do not have private or public health insurance that provides coverage for mental illness or substance use disorder treatment and~~ whose total household income is not more than two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level. After July 1, 2026 a person who has private or public health insurance that provides coverage for mental illness or substance use disorder treatment shall not qualify as “indigent general access clients”;

Section 2. If a behavioral health center sends the department of health a claim for behavioral health services, the department shall pay the claim in the same manner as it would have prior to the behavioral health redesign, recognizing that providers have been and will continue to be obligated contractually to bill private health insurance and other liable third parties before submitting claims to the state. The department shall utilize its claims processing system and data warehouse infrastructure to collect information on the potential magnitude of savings from implementing additional third party liability measures and shall report these findings to substantiate a recommendation on the design of a new third party liability system to the joint labor, health and social services interim committee not later than September 1, 2025.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 6, 2024.

Chapter 36**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REDESIGN-VULNERABLE ADULTS****Original Senate File No. 7**

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; including vulnerable adults within the behavioral health redesign; clarifying advanced age or a physical or mental disability does not establish a presumption of severe mental illness; providing a sunset date; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-1-613(a)(xv), as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 79, Section 1, and as that act was amended by 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 2, is amended to read:

35-1-613. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xv) “Adults with severe mental illness” means persons who, based on diagnosis and history, have a substantial probability of being unable to meet their needs for food, shelter and medical care if they do not receive regular mental health treatment or case management. For purposes of this paragraph, the presence of advanced age or a physical or mental disability shall not solely establish a presumption of severe mental illness. Until June 30, 2026, “Adults with severe mental illness” shall include vulnerable adults as defined by W.S. 35-20-102(a)(xviii);

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 6, 2024.

Chapter 37**VEHICLE LIEN-AMENDMENTS****Original House Bill No. 86**

AN ACT relating to personal property liens; requiring any towing and recovery service to request title searches as specified; requiring the department of transportation to make reasonable efforts to identify vehicle owners and lienholders; requiring notice to lienholders; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 29-7-102(e) by creating a new paragraph (iv) is amended to read:

29-7-102. Right of possession by lien claimant; termination thereof; removal of property without lienholder’s consent; penalty therefor; filing of lien statement in lieu of possession.

(e) For a vehicle subject to a lien under this title:

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in W.S. 31-13-104(g), any towing and recovery service as defined by W.S. 31-13-101(a)(xiv) shall request a title search report upon a form prescribed by the department of transportation within five (5) business days after a towed vehicle has remained in a recovery lot for more than five (5) business days. Upon receipt of the request, the department of transportation shall make reasonable efforts to identify the owner and any lienholders of record. The department of transportation shall forward the information obtained to the towing and recovery service within five (5) business days of receipt of the request for any vehicle registered in Wyoming or within seven (7) business days of receipt of the request for any vehicle registered in another jurisdiction. Upon receipt of the information, the towing and recovery service shall notify the lienholders of record of the location of the vehicle within one (1) business day of receipt of the information.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 38

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTIONS

Original House Bill No. 70

AN ACT relating to local government funding; providing funding to cities and towns; providing funding to counties; providing local government funding formulas and distributions; providing legislative intent; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) From the general fund there is appropriated one hundred forty-six million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$146,250,000.00) to the office of state lands and investments to be allocated pursuant to the following and as further provided in this section:

(i) Two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of eighty-nine percent (89%) of the total amount appropriated, for direct distribution to cities and towns provided that five percent (5%) of the amount available under this paragraph shall only be distributed for direct distributions to cities and towns using the revenue challenged formula as provided in paragraph (b)(ii) of this section;

(ii) One-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of eighty-nine percent (89%) of the total amount appropriated, for direct distribution to counties;

(iii) Five and one-half percent (5.5%) of the total amount appropriated,

for direct distribution to cities and towns provided that five percent (5%) of the amount available under this paragraph shall only be distributed for direct distributions to cities and towns using the revenue challenged formula as provided in paragraph (b)(ii) of this section;

(iv) Five and one-half percent (5.5%) of the total amount appropriated, for direct distribution to counties.

[CITY AND TOWN DIRECT DISTRIBUTION ALLOCATIONS]

(b) Funds appropriated in paragraphs (a)(i) and (iii) of this section shall be distributed to cities and towns with one-half (1/2) of the amount available distributed in the first fiscal year of the biennium and one-half (1/2) of the amount available distributed in the second fiscal year of the biennium. Distributions in each fiscal year shall be made in equal amounts on August 15 and January 15 of each fiscal year as calculated prior to the August 15 distribution, subject to the following:

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (ii) of this subsection, from these distributions each municipality with a population of thirty-five (35) or less shall first receive fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) and each municipality with a population over thirty-five (35) shall first receive thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00). From the remainder, each municipality shall receive amounts in accordance with a municipal supplemental funding formula as provided in this paragraph. The municipal supplemental funding formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) For each fiscal year calculate the per capita sales and use tax revenues available to each municipality using the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2023 for distributions under this paragraph during fiscal year 2025 and the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2024 for distributions under this paragraph during fiscal year 2026, including distributions to each municipality within that county, under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111, but excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-15-104, and excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-16-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-16-104;

(B) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita sales and use tax determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph for each municipality;

(C) Calculate the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph for the municipality by the total of all inverse per capita sales and use tax numbers calculated under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

(D) Multiply the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each municipality by seventy-five percent (75%);

(E) For each fiscal year calculate the per capita assessed value for the prior tax year corresponding to the most recently completed calendar year for each municipality by dividing the total assessed valuation within the municipality by the population of the municipality;

(F) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita assessed value determined under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph for each municipality;

(G) Calculate the normalized per capita assessed value number for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph for the municipality by the total of all inverse per capita assessed value numbers calculated under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph;

(H) Multiply the normalized per capita assessed value number for each municipality by twenty-five percent (25%);

(J) Multiply the sum of subparagraphs (D) and (H) of this paragraph by the population of the municipality;

(K) Calculate the normalized index for each municipality by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph for the municipality by the sum of all numbers calculated under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph;

(M) Determine the amount to distribute to each municipality by multiplying the normalized index number determined under subparagraph (K) of this paragraph by the amount remaining available for distribution under this paragraph.

(ii) From the amounts specified in paragraphs (a)(i) and (iii) of this section, each city or town shall receive amounts in accordance with a city and town revenue challenged formula as provided in this paragraph. The revenue challenged formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) For each fiscal year, calculate the lowest quartile amount received by cities and towns on a per capita basis using amounts received under this section plus amounts distributed to each city and town using the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2023 for distributions under this paragraph during fiscal year 2025 and the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2024 for distributions under this paragraph during fiscal year 2026, including distributions to each municipality within that county, under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111, but excluding the distribution exclusively to counties under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-15-104 and excluding the distribution exclusively

to counties under W.S. 39-16-111(b)(iii) made from an amount equivalent to one percent (1%) of the tax collected under W.S. 39-16-104;

(B) Determine each city or town that received a per capita amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(C) For each city or town that received a per capita amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, determine the amount that would be necessary to increase the per capita amount distributed to that city or town to the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(D) Determine the amount to distribute to each city or town that received an amount that is less than the lowest quartile amount determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph by distributing the amount available under this paragraph on a pro rata basis, up to the lowest quartile amount, based on the amounts determined under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

[COUNTY DIRECT DISTRIBUTION ALLOCATIONS]

(c) Funds appropriated in paragraphs (a)(ii) and (iv) of this section are to be distributed to counties with one-half (1/2) of the amount available distributed in the first fiscal year of the biennium and one-half (1/2) of the amount available distributed in the second fiscal year of the biennium. Distributions in each fiscal year shall be made in equal amounts on August 15 and January 15 of each fiscal year as calculated prior to the August 15 distribution. From these distributions each county shall receive the following:

(i) From these distributions each county with an assessed value for the prior tax year corresponding to the most recently completed calendar year of less than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) per mill shall first receive an amount equal to three (3) times the difference between three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) and the actual value of one (1) mill within the county. From the remainder, each county shall receive amounts in accordance with a county supplemental funding formula as provided in this paragraph. The county supplemental funding formula shall be calculated by the office of state lands and investments as follows:

(A) For each fiscal year calculate the per capita sales and use tax revenues available to each county using the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2023 for distributions under this subsection during fiscal year 2025 and the sales and use tax distributions to each county attributable to fiscal year 2024 for distributions under this subsection during fiscal year 2026, excluding distributions to each municipality within that county, under W.S. 39-15-111 and 39-16-111;

(B) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita sales and use tax determined under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph for each county;

(C) Calculate the normalized per capita sales and use tax number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all inverse per capita sales and use tax numbers calculated under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

(D) Multiply the normalized per capita sales and use tax number determined under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph for each county by twenty-four percent (24%);

(E) For each fiscal year calculate the per capita assessed value for each county by dividing the total assessed valuation within the county for the prior tax year corresponding to the most recently completed calendar year by the population of the county;

(F) Calculate the inverse by dividing one (1) by the per capita assessed value determined under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph for each county;

(G) Calculate the normalized per capita assessed value number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all inverse per capita assessed value numbers calculated under subparagraph (F) of this paragraph;

(H) Multiply the normalized per capita assessed value number determined under subparagraph (G) of this paragraph for each county by seventy-six percent (76%);

(J) Calculate a cost of government index for each county, which shall be determined by multiplying six hundred twenty-eight (628) by the population of the county and then adding nine million nine hundred thousand (9,900,000) to the result;

(K) Calculate the normalized cost of government index number for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all cost of government index numbers calculated under subparagraph (J) of this paragraph;

(M) Multiply the sum of subparagraphs (D) and (H) of this paragraph by the normalized cost of government index number determined in subparagraph (K) of this paragraph for each county;

(N) Calculate the normalized index for each county by dividing the number determined under subparagraph (M) of this paragraph for the county by the total of all numbers calculated under subparagraph (M) of this paragraph;

(O) Determine the amount to distribute to each county by multiplying the normalized index number determined under subparagraph (N) of this paragraph by the amount remaining available for distribution under this paragraph.

(d) For purposes of this section, population is to be determined by resort to the 2020 decennial federal census as reported by the economic analysis division

within the department of administration and information.

(e) It is the intent of the legislature that the funds distributed under this section shall not be used for:

(i) Salary adjustments, additional personnel or increased personnel benefits;

(ii) Any compensation to the members of any board for which the board of county commissioners appoints members, unless compensation is otherwise required by law.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 39

FIRE PREVENTION AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY-AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 64

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; modifying the distribution of fees collected for electrical inspections, licenses, work permits, examinations and apprentice registrations; clarifying local enforcement certification requirements for electrical inspectors; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-9-120(f), 35-9-121(a)(iv) and (b)(iii) and 35-9-129(b) are amended to read:

35-9-120. Minimum requirements for electrical installations; permits; inspections; fees.

(f) ~~Sixty percent (60%)~~ Ninety-five percent (95%) of the fees collected pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be deposited in a separate account for the purpose of providing additional state electrical inspectors. ~~Forty percent (40%)~~ Five percent (5%) of the fees collected pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be deposited in the general fund.

35-9-121. Local enforcement.

(a) The state fire marshal shall delegate complete authority to municipalities and counties which apply to enforce and interpret local or state fire, building, existing building standards or electrical safety standards which meet the requirements of this section. The state fire marshal shall notify the governing body of the municipality or county of the minimum standards and requirements of this act and W.S. 16-6-501 and 16-6-502 and transfer jurisdiction and authority by letter. Except as provided in W.S. 35-9-119(a)(i) and subsection (b) of this section, nothing in this section affects the authority of the state fire marshal or chief electrical inspector regarding state owned or leased buildings.

Local enforcement authority under this subsection shall be subject to the following requirements and certification of inspectors:

(iv) If code enforcement authority for the electrical code is requested;

(A) Certification of an electrical inspector by the International Code Council or the International Association of Electrical Inspectors; and

(B) Licensing of an electrical inspector by the state as a journeyman or master electrician is required;

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section a local governmental entity is authorized to assume sole plan review authority, and, in accordance with W.S. 35-9-107(a)(iv), that entity has sole construction inspection authority on the approved plans and sole authority for periodic fire and life safety inspections on state owned or leased buildings. For the purpose of this section, school buildings shall be construed to be state buildings. If local code provisions are more stringent than adopted state codes, the local code prevails. The authority granted to local governmental entities under this subsection is subject to certification of local inspectors as follows:

(iii) If code enforcement authority for the electrical code is requested;

(A) Certification of an electrical inspector by the International Code Council or the International Association of Electrical Inspectors; and

(B) Licensing of an electrical inspector by the state as a master electrician.

35-9-129. Fees.

(b) ~~Sixty percent (60%)~~ Ninety-five percent (95%) of the fees collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited in a separate account for the purpose of providing additional state electrical inspectors. ~~Forty percent (40%)~~ Five percent (5%) of the fees collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited in the general fund.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 40

FUEL TAX-LICENSEE INFORMATION DEADLINE

Original House Bill No. 9

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; amending the deadline for providing fuel tax return and license information when requested by the department of transportation; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-17-107(c)(ii), 39-17-207(c)(ii) and 39-17-307(c)(ii) are amended to read:

39-17-107. Compliance; collection procedures.

(c) Timelines. The following shall apply:

(ii) Any tax return or license application that is not signed and any tax return which does not contain all pertinent information is considered not filed until the licensee signs or supplies the required information to the department. If the information required in the documents is presented to the department in a format other than that prescribed or otherwise approved by the department, the tax return, application or claim for refund or credit shall be deemed not filed. The licensee shall have ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days to provide the information requested in a manner prescribed or otherwise approved by the department. If the licensee provides the information requested by the department within ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days, the tax return or license application shall be deemed to have been timely filed;

39-17-207. Compliance; collection procedures.

(c) Timelines. The following shall apply:

(ii) Any tax return or license application that is not signed and any tax return which does not contain all pertinent information is considered not filed until the licensee signs or supplies the required information to the department. If the information required in the documents is presented to the department in a format other than that prescribed or otherwise approved by the department, the tax return, application or claim for refund or credit shall be deemed not filed. The licensee shall have ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days to provide the information requested in a manner prescribed or otherwise approved by the department. If the licensee provides the information requested by the department within ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days, the tax return or license application shall be deemed to have been timely filed;

39-17-307. Compliance; collection procedures.

(c) Timelines. The following shall apply:

(ii) Any tax return or license application that is not signed and any tax return which does not contain all pertinent information is considered not filed until the licensee signs or supplies the required information to the department. If the information required in the documents is presented to the department in a format other than that prescribed or otherwise approved by the department, the tax return, application or claim for refund or credit shall be deemed not filed. The licensee shall have ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days to provide the information requested in a manner prescribed or otherwise approved by the department. If the licensee provides the information requested by the department within ~~ten (10)~~ fifteen (15) business days, the tax return or license application shall be deemed to have been timely filed;

Section 2. This act shall apply to all information requests made by the department of transportation under W.S. 39-17-107(c)(ii), 39-17-207(c)(ii) and 39-17-307(c)(ii) on and after the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 41

PEACE OFFICERS-RECORDS AND REPORTING

Original House Bill No. 31

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; requiring personnel files of peace officers, detention officers, corrections officers and dispatchers to be available to the peace officer standards and training commission as specified; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-704 by creating a new subsection (m), 9-1-708 by creating a new subsection (h), 9-1-710 by creating a new subsection (o) and 16-4-203(d)(iii) are amended to read:

9-1-704. Qualifications for employment as a peace officer; loss of certification for felony conviction; termination from employment.

(m) The portion of a personnel file that is specifically related to a complaint and relevant to any of the qualifications specified in subsection (b) of this section or prescribed by the commission under W.S. 9-1-702(f)(iv) or (v) for any person employed as a peace officer or detention officer by a law enforcement unit shall be made available to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the commission makes a written request to the employing agency for the personnel file information. The commission shall request records under this subsection only for purposes of investigating or determining a peace officer's or detention officer's initial certification, continuing certification, suspension, revocation or termination. The personnel file information received by the commission under this subsection shall not be disclosed by the commission to any other person except as otherwise required by law. If the employing agency fails to provide the personnel file information within thirty (30) days of the commission's written request, the commission may file a petition with the district court for the release of the requested personnel file information.

9-1-708. Certificate required for permanent employment; temporary employment; waiver or modification of training requirements; wages during training; grandfather provisions.

(h) The portion of a personnel file that is specifically related to a complaint and relevant to any of the qualifications specified in W.S. 9-1-704(b) or prescribed

by the commission under W.S. 9-1-702(f)(iv) or (v) for any person employed as a dispatcher required to be certified under this section shall be made available to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the commission makes a written request to the employing agency for the personnel file information. The commission shall request records under this subsection only for purposes of investigating or determining a dispatcher's initial certification, continuing certification, suspension, revocation or termination. The personnel file information received by the commission under this subsection shall not be disclosed by the commission to any other person except as otherwise required by law. If the employing agency fails to provide the personnel file information within thirty (30) days of the commission's written request, the commission may file a petition with the district court for the release of the requested personnel file information.

9-1-710. Qualifications for employment as a correctional officer; termination of employment; certification without compliance with the requirements of this section.

(o) The portion of a personnel file that is specifically related to a complaint and relevant to any of the qualifications specified in subsection (b) of this section or established under W.S. 9-1-702(k)(ii) and subsection (n) of this section for any person employed as a certified correctional officer, correctional officer or part-time correctional officer by the department of corrections shall be made available to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the commission makes a written request to the department of corrections for the personnel file information. The commission shall request records under this subsection only for purposes of investigating or determining a correctional officer's initial certification, continuing certification, suspension, revocation or termination. The personnel file information received by the commission under this subsection shall not be disclosed by the commission to any other person except as otherwise required by law. If the department of corrections fails to provide the personnel file information within thirty (30) days of the commission's request, the commission may file a petition with the district court for the release of the personnel file information.

16-4-203. Right of inspection; grounds for denial; access of news media; order permitting or restricting disclosure; exceptions.

(d) The custodian shall deny the right of inspection of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law:

(iii) Personnel files except those files shall be available to the duly elected and appointed officials who supervise the work of the person in interest and those portions of files specified in W.S. 9-1-704(m), 9-1-708(h) and 9-1-710(o) that are specifically related to a complaint shall be available and provided to the peace officer standards and training commission in accordance with W.S. 9-1-704(m), 9-1-708(h) and 9-1-710(o). Applications, performance ratings and

scholastic achievement data shall be available only to the person in interest and to the duly elected and appointed officials who supervise his work. Employment contracts, working agreements or other documents setting forth the terms and conditions of employment of public officials and employees are not considered part of a personnel file and shall be available for public inspection;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 42

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND TOURISM TRUST FUND ADMINISTRATION-2

Original House Bill No. 67

AN ACT relating to state lands; providing for the administration of the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund; creating the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund income account; establishing new duties for the select natural resource funding committee; providing for the distribution of funds; requiring audits and reports; providing for rulemaking; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-4-204 through 36-4-206 are created to read:

36-4-204. Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board established; terms; meetings; duties, conflict of interest.

(a) There is created the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board. The board shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate, who shall be residents of Wyoming. The members shall be appointed from each of the judicial districts set forth in W.S. 5-3-101. The board membership shall reflect a broad spectrum of outdoor recreation experiences, which may include wildlife management, sportsmen, tourism, motorized and non-motorized recreation and private land ownership.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, each appointed member of the board shall serve for a term of six (6) years and may be reappointed for one (1) consecutive, additional term. Upon creation of the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board, three (3) members of the board shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years, three (3) members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years and three (3) members shall be appointed for a term of six (6) years. The governor may remove any member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. Any vacancy occurring between sessions of the legislature may be filled by the governor as provided under W.S. 28-12-101(b). The board shall select one (1) of its members to serve as chairman.

(c) The secretary to the board shall be the manager of the Wyoming outdoor recreation office within the department of state parks and cultural resources. The secretary to the board shall administer funds at the direction of the board and shall further act as liaison for the board to other state, federal and local governmental entities, the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes, or the cooperative tribal governing body, as well as nonprofit organizations, residents and nonresidents who seek to provide input regarding grant proposals.

(d) The board shall meet regularly, not less than four (4) time per year. Members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in the manner and amounts provided by law for state employees.

(e) The board shall receive and evaluate applications for grants from the income account and shall forward applications for large projects to the select committee for review and recommendation. The board may approve grants for any small project. Funds in the income account are continuously appropriated for small project grants approved by the board and for approved large projects as specified by W.S. 36-4-203(e).

(f) The board shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act as necessary to carry out its duties under this act, including rules and regulations to:

(i) Establish criteria for grants from the income account which accomplish the purposes of this act;

(ii) Establish criteria for matching funds or other in-kind contributions from grantees;

(iii) Evaluate and rank grant proposals, with emphasis on those projects that include support from multiple partners and funding sources;

(iv) Review and monitor grants to grantees;

(v) Evaluate the effects of grant proposals on providing recreation and tourism opportunities for residents and nonresidents;

(vi) Establish criteria for the acceptance or rejection of gifts, transfers, bequests and donations including interests in real or personal property, which criteria shall be consistent with this act. Based on those criteria, the board shall make a recommendation regarding the acceptance of any fee simple interest in real property to the board of land commissioners. Based on the board's recommendation, the board of land commissioners shall make a final determination on acceptance or rejection of any fee simple interest in real property under this act;

(vii) Consider the benefits and impacts of grant proposals on local communities, including its socioeconomic, cultural, natural and wildlife resources;

(viii) Consult, or ensure that the applicant has consulted, with other governmental entities, the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body, stakeholders and nonprofit organizations, as appropriate.

(g) In fulfilling its duties under this act the board may:

(i) Accept or decline federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations of any money, personal property or interests in real property other than a fee simple interest from any source. The board shall make a recommendation regarding the acceptance of any fee simple interest in real property to the board of land commissioners;

(ii) Recommend to the joint appropriations committee and the select committee that funds be transferred from the income account to the trust account.

(h) No board member shall vote or otherwise participate in any matter regarding a contract or project in which the board member has a financial or personal interest. When such interest appears, the board member shall make such interest known, and shall thenceforth refrain from voting on or otherwise participating in the particular matter involving such interest.

(j) The board shall annually report to the governor, the joint appropriations committee, the select committee and the joint travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim committee no later than October 1 with respect to all federal grants, state appropriations and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations received and credited to the trust account or income account during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include all grants awarded by the board to governmental entities, the Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe, or the cooperative tribal governing body and nonprofit organizations and progress made toward the condition of any grant made.

36-4-205. Grant applications; eligible entities.

(a) The board shall only grant funds to governmental entities, the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes, or the cooperative tribal governing body and nonprofit organizations. The board shall award grants in accordance with W.S. 36-4-204(e) and (f). The board shall have the discretion to determine the amount of each grant and any conditions attached to the grant.

(b) Grants by the board shall not provide a supplement to, or replacement of, the operating budget of any governmental entity or nonprofit organization except as those funds are directly related to the purposes of the grant.

(c) No grants shall be awarded under this act until rules and regulations adopted by the board pursuant to W.S. 36-4-204(f) have become effective.

36-4-206. Audits.

The director of the department of audit or his designee shall audit the trust and income accounts on a regular basis. Copies of the audit shall be provided to the governor, the joint appropriations committee, the select committee and the joint travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim committee.

Section 2. W.S. 28-11-401(b) by creating new paragraphs (iv) and (v), (c)(intro), (i) and (d) by creating new paragraph (iii), 36-4-202(a) by creating new paragraphs (i) through (vi), by renumbering paragraph (i) as (vii) and by amending and renumbering paragraph (ii) as (viii) and 36-4-203 are amended to read:

28-11-401. Appointment of members; powers and duties; related duties of the wildlife and natural resource trust account board and the outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board.

(b) The select committee shall:

(iv) Monitor the outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board's progress with regard to projects specified in W.S. 36-4-201 et seq. and other projects specified by law;

(v) Review the budgets of all projects funded from the outdoor recreation and tourism trust income account as created in W.S. 36-4-203(b) and sponsor legislation to fund expenditures from the account as recommended by the select committee.

(c) The wildlife and natural resource trust account board and the outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board shall:

(i) Provide the select committee with notice of all board meetings. The select committee ~~and the board~~ may hold joint meetings with either or both boards;

(d) The select committee may:

(iii) Review the project grant applications for large projects forwarded by the outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board.

36-4-202. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Board" means the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust account board created by W.S. 36-4-204;

(ii) "Income account" means the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust income account created by W.S. 36-4-203(b);

(iii) "Large project" means a project for which the total of all grants sought or previously awarded under this act equals or exceeds two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00);

(iv) "Outdoor recreation infrastructure" means the physical facilities and structures that support outdoor recreational activities and experiences for

residents and nonresidents, including, but not limited to, parking, staging areas, trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, boat launches, fishing piers, observation decks, wildlife viewing areas and visitor centers;

(v) “Select committee” means the select natural resource funding committee created by W.S. 28-11-401;

(vi) “Small project” means a project for which the total of all grants sought or previously awarded under this act is less than two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00);

(i)(vii) “Trust account” means the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account created by W.S. 36-4-203(a);

(ii)(viii) “This act” means W.S. 36-4-201 through ~~36-4-203~~ 36-4-206.

36-4-203. Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account and trust fund income account; creation; source of funds.

(a) The Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account is created. The trust account shall consist of those funds designated to the account by law and all monies collected from federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts, bequests and donations in the trust account. The trust account is specifically empowered to accept grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations. Funds deposited within the trust account shall be inviolate and constitute a perpetual trust fund which shall be invested by the state treasurer as authorized by law and in a manner to obtain the highest return possible consistent with preservation of the trust account corpus.

(b) The Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund income account is created. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the state treasurer shall credit annually to the income account all earnings from funds in both the income account and in the trust account. Until the earlier of July 1, 2026 or when the corpus of the trust account equals or exceeds two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000.00), all earnings from the trust account and income account shall be credited to the trust account. The legislature may appropriate funds directly to the trust account or income account for investment or distribution in accordance with the terms of this act. Any appropriated funds without a designation shall be credited directly by the state treasurer to the income account.

(c) Any person may grant, give, transfer, bequest or donate funds to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account or the income account created by this section. The person may specify in writing whether the funds should be credited to the trust account or the income account and if no specification is made, the funds shall be credited to the income account.

(d) The board may expend funds from the income account for administrative expenses authorized under this act without further legislative action. Additional expenditures from the income account may be made by the board without

further legislative action for the following purposes:

(i) Planning, design, improvement, construction and maintenance of existing or new outdoor recreational infrastructure;

(ii) Acquisition of public access easements necessary to enhance outdoor recreational infrastructure.

(e) No funds shall be expended from the income account for large projects except upon specific legislative authorization. Following the initial legislative authorization to expend funds for a large project, the board may approve additional grants for that large project not to equal or exceed a total amount of an additional two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00). The board shall forward a notice of any such additional grant award to the select committee within thirty (30) days of each approval. Subsequent legislative authorization shall be required for any grant in excess of the limits of this subsection.

(f) The board shall not have the power of eminent domain.

(g) Every public access easement funded in whole or in part with monies made available by this act shall bind the parties thereto to an agreement which provides that the state of Wyoming is a third party beneficiary to the easement solely with the contingent right to enforce the terms of the easement if the grantee fails to enforce any of the terms of the easement. The agreement shall provide that if the easement is transferred for value, sold or extinguished without the consent of the board, the state of Wyoming shall have the right to either take legal action to enforce the terms of the easement or to recover from the proceeds of the transfer for value, sale or extinguishment, the state's pro rata share of the proceeds based on the funds the state provided for the creation of the easement.

(h) No funds shall be disbursed under this act unless the person receiving the funds certifies that no gratuities, kickbacks, gifts, commissions, contingency fees or other considerations have been or will be made in connection with the appropriation or the associated grant made by the board.

Section 3.

(a) There is appropriated fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust income account for purposes of administrative expenses and costs of implementing the provisions of this act by the trust board. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account on June 30, 2026.

(b) Beginning with the fiscal biennium commencing on July 1, 2026 and

ending June 30, 2028, and for each fiscal biennium thereafter, of any six million dollar (\$6,000,000.00) recurring biennial appropriation from the Wyoming tourism reserve and projects account under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 153, Section 2, four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account and two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is appropriated to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund income account. These appropriations shall be expended consistent with W.S. 36-4-201 through 36-4-206, as created and amended by this act. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, these appropriations shall remain in effect and not lapse or revert at the end of any fiscal period except upon further legislative action.

Section 4. 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 153, Section 2 is amended to read:

Section 2. There is appropriated six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00) from the Wyoming tourism reserve and projects account created by W.S. 39-15-111(p)(i)(B) to the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account or the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund income account, as specified by the legislature. Subject to legislative approval, this appropriation shall be a recurring biennial appropriation. Any recurring appropriation may be divided between the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust fund account and the Wyoming outdoor recreation and tourism trust income account as directed by the legislature. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended without further legislative authorization. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall remain in effect and not lapse or revert at the end of the fiscal period except upon further legislative action.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 43

HOSPITAL OR HEALTHCARE DISTRICT CREATED ENTITIES- IMMUNITY

Original Senate File No. 81

AN ACT relating to civil procedure; providing that entities formed by county memorial hospitals and other healthcare districts that are wholly owned by governmental entities are subject to the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-39-103(a)(ii) is amended to read:

1-39-103. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(ii) “Local government” means cities and towns, counties, school districts, joint powers boards, airport boards, public corporations, entities formed by a county memorial hospital, special hospital district, rural health care district or senior health care district that are wholly owned by one (1) or more governmental entities, community college districts, special districts and their governing bodies, all political subdivisions of the state, and their agencies, instrumentalities and institutions, and governmental entities of another state but only while physically present in the state of Wyoming and while in the course of operating a cooperative public transportation program as defined by W.S. 16-1-104(f);

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 44

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND- ADJUSTMENT

Original Senate File No. 59

AN ACT relating to unemployment compensation; amending the distribution of contributions collected for noncharged and ineffectively charged unemployment benefits; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 27-3-505(a) is amended to read:

27-3-505. Adjustment for noncharged and ineffectively charged benefits; adjustment for positive and negative fund balance; computations; exception; maximum rate.

(a) An adjustment factor for noncharged and ineffectively charged benefits shall be computed to the fourth decimal by dividing the total noncharged and ineffectively charged benefits to all employers' experience rating accounts during the experience rating period ending June 30 by the total taxable wages payable during the experience period and added to the rate provided by W.S. 27-3-503. The total taxable wages payable under this subsection shall not include wages payable by employers electing payments instead of contributions

under W.S. 27-3-509. ~~Sixty percent (60%)~~ Of this adjustment factor, twenty percent (20%) shall be allocated to the unemployment compensation fund; ~~Forty percent (40%) of this adjustment factor~~ sixty percent (60%) shall be allocated to the employment support fund created by W.S. 27-3-211 and twenty percent (20%) shall be allocated to the workforce development training fund established in W.S. 9-2-2604.

Section 2. This act is effective January 1, 2025.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 45

INVESTMENT OF STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TRUST FUND

Original Senate File No. 58

AN ACT relating to unemployment compensation funds; providing for the investment of the state unemployment insurance trust fund as specified; amending procedures related to the payment of benefits; amending the distribution of investment earnings; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-4-715(p) by creating a new paragraph (xvi) and 27-3-209(b), (c) and by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

9-4-715. Permissible investments.

(p) There is created the pool A investment account. The state treasurer, or his designee, which shall be registered under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940 as amended if required to be registered by the terms of that act as amended, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section and after consultation with the state agency or agencies receiving or administering investment earnings from the monies invested in the pool A investment account, may invest monies comprising the pool A investment account in equities including stocks of corporations in accordance with subsections (a) and (c) through (e) of this section and W.S. 9-4-716. The state loan and investment board, in consultation with the state agency or agencies receiving or administering investment earnings from the monies invested in the pool A investment account, shall annually review the state investment policy statements for the investment pool created by this subsection as required under W.S. 9-4-716. Monies in the following funds shall be invested in the pool A investment account:

(xvi) Up to one hundred percent (100%) of the state unemployment insurance trust fund created by W.S. 27-3-209(a), as determined by the director of the department of workforce services.

27-3-209. State unemployment insurance trust fund established.

(b) The director may determine when and in what amounts withdrawals from the state unemployment insurance trust fund for payment of benefits are necessary. ~~Amounts withdrawn for payment of benefits shall be immediately forwarded to the secretary of the treasury of the United States of America to the credit of the state's account in the unemployment trust fund.~~

(c) If the state unemployment insurance trust fund is dissolved, all money then in that fund, less earnings, shall be immediately transferred to the credit of the state's account in the unemployment compensation fund, regardless of other provisions of law. ~~Earnings from the state unemployment insurance trust fund shall be credited to the workforce development training fund established in W.S. 9-2-2604.~~ The governor may dissolve the state unemployment insurance trust fund if he finds it to be unnecessary based upon the solvency of the unemployment compensation fund and need for training for Wyoming workers.

(d) Earnings from the investment of the state unemployment insurance trust fund may be credited to the workforce development training fund established in W.S. 9-2-2604 in amounts determined by the director, subject to the limitations of this subsection. If the balance of the state unemployment insurance trust fund at the end of the fiscal year is less than the balance of the fund on July 1, 2023:

(i) A portion of the earnings from the investment of the fund shall be retained in the fund until the balance of the fund is restored to the balance of the fund on July 1, 2023; and

(ii) The annual amount of earnings retained shall be not less than fifty percent (50%) of the annual earnings or the amount necessary to restore the balance of the fund to the balance of the fund on July 1, 2023, whichever is less.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 46

JUDICIAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM-CONTRIBUTIONS

Original Senate File No. 49

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; increasing the employee contribution required for employees under the Wyoming Judicial Retirement Act; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-704(a) and (c) is amended to read:

9-3-704. Employee contributions.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, every employee covered by this article shall pay into the account nine and twenty-two one-hundredths percent (9.22%) of his salary through June 30, 2024 and thereafter shall pay into the account eleven and forty-seven one-hundredths percent (11.47%) of his salary. To the extent this contribution is not paid by the employer as authorized in this section, this payment shall be deducted each pay period from employees' salaries by the respective fiscal officers of the employers.

(c) The contributions under subsection (b) of this section shall be paid from the source of funds which is used in paying salary to the employee. The employer may pay these contributions without offset of the employee's salary in the same salary percentage as provided by state employers under W.S. 9-3-412(c) through June 30, 2024. Thereafter the employer may pay these contributions without offset of the employee's salary in a salary percentage not to exceed seven and forty-seven hundredths percent (7.47%). The employer shall also reduce the cash salary of the employee by three and sixty-five hundredths percent (3.65%) through June 30, 2024. Thereafter the employer shall reduce the cash salary of the employee by four percent (4.00%).

Section 2. There is appropriated four hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$420,000.00) from the general fund to the supreme court for purposes of paying the appropriate share of the increase in the contribution rates required by W.S. 9-3-704(a) and (c), as amended by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the supreme court's and each district court's standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 47

PATROL, WARDEN AND INVESTIGATOR RETIREMENT- CONTRIBUTIONS

Original Senate File No. 48

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; increasing employee contributions under the Wyoming State Highway Patrol, Game and Fish Warden and Criminal Investigator Retirement Act; striking archaic provisions; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-604(a) and (c)(ii) is amended to read:

9-3-604. Employee contributions.

(a) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section, Every employee covered by this article shall pay into the fund thirteen and fifty-four hundredths percent (13.54%) of his salary from September 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and thereafter fourteen and fifty-six hundredths percent (14.56%) of his salary. For the period from September 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 forty-five hundredths percent (.45%), for the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016 ninety-six hundredths percent (.96%) and for the period from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, fifty-one hundredths percent (.51%) salary contribution required by this subsection shall be paid by the employer on behalf of the member. To the extent the remaining amount is not paid by an employer on behalf of the member, this payment shall be deducted each pay period from employees' salaries by the respective chief fiscal officers of the employers June 30, 2024 and thereafter eighteen and ninety-two hundredths percent (18.92%) of his salary.~~

(c) The contributions under subsection (b) of this section shall be paid from the source of funds which is used in paying salary to the employee. The employer may pay these contributions by a reduction in cash salary of the employee or by an offset against a future salary increase, or by a combination of a reduction in salary and an offset against a future salary increase, provided:

(ii) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, any employer may pay any amount of an employee's share of retirement contributions without a salary reduction or offset, or combination thereof. For the period from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014, at least one and sixty-two hundredths percent (1.62%), for the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016 at least one and ninety-six hundredths percent (1.96%), for the period from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 at least two and thirty hundredths percent (2.30%), and thereafter for the period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2024 at least two and sixty-four hundredths percent (2.64%) and thereafter at least three and three hundredths percent (3.03%) of the employee's share of retirement contributions shall be paid through a reduction in cash salary of the employee unless specified otherwise by legislative act.

Section 2.

(a) There is appropriated to the office of attorney general from the general fund two hundred sixty-two thousand dollars (\$262,000.00) to provide payment of the increase in retirement contributions for employees for the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium.

(b) For state agency employers whose retirement contributions are made from non-general fund sources, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds up to the amounts necessary to provide payment of the increase in the

employer's share of the employee contributions as authorized by W.S. 9-3-604, as amended by section 1 of this act.

(c) The appropriations in this section shall only be expended to provide payment of any increase in the employer's share of the employee contributions as authorized by W.S. 9-3-604, as amended by section 1 of this act, for the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium.

(d) No amount of the appropriations made in this section shall be used to provide any other increased employee contribution required by this act.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the appropriations under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose other than as specified in this section. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriations made in this section shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

(f) The state auditor shall transfer the funds to the state retirement system or to individual state agencies as determined by the department of administration and information to be necessary to meet the provisions of this act.

(g) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriations made in this section be included in each state agency's standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 48

FINANCIAL REPORTING AMENDMENTS-2

Original Senate File No. 38

AN ACT relating to financial reporting to the department of audit; amending enforcement of financial reporting requirements through limiting disbursement of certain tax revenues; clarifying good cause for extending reporting deadline; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-507(j) by creating a new paragraph (ii) and by amending and renumbering (ii) as (iv) and 9-1-510(b) are amended to read:

9-1-507. Examination of books of state institutions, agencies and certain districts and entities; independent audit authorized; guidelines.

(j) The director of the department of audit shall certify:

(ii) To the director of the state department of revenue by October 5 of each year, a list of counties, cities and towns that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the

director of the department of revenue shall withhold monthly disbursements of state and local sales, use and lodging tax revenues under W.S. 39-15-111, 39-15-211, 39-16-111 and 39-16-211 to the noncompliant county, city or town for the period after October 15 until the noncompliant county, city or town has come into compliance unless good cause for noncompliance is shown to the director of the department of audit as described in W.S. 9-1-510(b). All withheld disbursements under this paragraph shall be retained by director of the department of revenue in the account from which the disbursement would be made until the county, city or town is in compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section, or as otherwise provided by law. The director of the department of audit shall certify to the director of the department of revenue when a county, city or town comes into compliance with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. The director of the department of revenue shall certify monthly to the department of audit, the legislature and the noncompliant county, city or town the amount of disbursements withheld until the noncompliant county, city or town has come into compliance.

(ii)(iv) To the board of county commissioners and to the special district or entity described in W.S. 16-4-125(c) that receives funding from a municipality as defined by W.S. 16-4-102(a)(xiv) or other entities specified in W.S. 16-12-202(a) by October 5 of each year any special district or other entity in the county, no matter how formed, that failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section. If, by November 30 of that same year, the district or other entity has failed to comply with paragraph (a)(vii) of this section, the director of the department of audit shall file notice with the county commissioners, the county treasurer and the county clerk. The county commissioners shall place a public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county indicating the special district or other entity is in danger of being dissolved due to failure to comply with the legal reporting requirements. The county commissioners shall assess the special district or other entity the cost of the public notice. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the county treasurer shall withhold any further ~~distribution-disbursements~~ of money to the district or other entity until the department certifies to the county treasurer that the district or other entity has complied with all reporting requirements unless good cause for noncompliance is shown to the director of the department of audit as described in W.S. 9-1-510(b). If the special district or other entity fails to file the required report on or before December 30 of that same year, the county commissioners shall seek to dissolve the special district or other entity in accordance with the process described by W.S. 22-29-401 et seq. This paragraph shall apply in addition to any other provision for dissolution in the principal act for a special district or other entity; The county treasurer shall certify monthly to the department of audit, the legislature and the noncompliant district or entity the amount of disbursements withheld until the noncompliant district or entity has come into compliance.

9-1-510. Instructions to public officers; failure of public officer to obey.

(b) Reports of books and accounts filed in the office of the director of the state department of audit as required by W.S. 9-1-507(a)(iii) shall be filed within three (3) months after the end of the fiscal year being reported, and shall be in such form and detail as the director may require. Upon a request in writing and good cause shown, the director may allow an extension of time for filing a report or such additional information as may be required. For purposes of this subsection, “good cause” means reasons beyond the control of the reporting entity. The director of the department of audit may require the reporting entity to provide a letter of engagement with a certified public accountant or other evidence of good faith to establish good cause.

Section 2. W.S. 9-1-507(j)(i) and (iii) are repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 49

WATER EXCHANGE AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 66

AN ACT relating to water; clarifying that water rights are not lost in an exchange as specified; clarifying the applicable source of water in an exchange; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 41-3-106(a), (d) and (e) is amended to read:

41-3-106. Procedure to exchange water; delivery of water under exchanges; approval of state engineer; enforcement of exchanges.

(a) Any appropriator owning a valid water right in and to the use of the ground, surface or reservoir waters of the state, where the source of the appropriation is at times insufficient to fully satisfy such appropriation, or better conservation and utilization of the state's water can be accomplished, or the appropriator can develop appropriable water but cannot economically convey it to its point of use, may petition the state engineer for an order allowing an exchange and the use of stored, direct flow, or ground water from another source or from another appropriation from the same source. If such an appropriator arranges by agreement with another appropriator for the delivery and use of either stored, direct flow, or ground water, ~~from another source,~~ the exchange agreement shall accompany the petition.

(d) It is the policy of the state to encourage exchanges. The state engineer shall not issue an exchange order if it ~~appears that the proposed exchange would~~

~~adversely affect the rights of other appropriators will be injuriously affected thereby,~~ or if the proposed exchange would, in the opinion of the state engineer, be too difficult to administer or would be adverse to the public interest. The state engineer shall cause to be published, at the petitioner's expense, once a week for at least two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in each county where the water rights subject to the exchange petition are located, a notice of the filing of the exchange petition which identifies the place where the exchange petition is available for public inspection. The last date of publication shall occur not less than thirty (30) days before the state engineer enters the order to grant the exchange. All exchanges are subject to the requirements of beneficial use and equality of water exchanged, and no exchange will be allowed unless a sufficient quantity of makeup water is introduced to replace the water diverted and withdrawn under the exchange. In making the determination of equality and sufficiency of the makeup water introduced, the state engineer may consider relative consumptive uses and transmission losses.

(e) Any water made available to an appropriator by reason of any exchange agreement shall be delivered for the use of the appropriator in accordance with the order allowing the exchange, and its use is without prejudice to, but in enjoyment of, the rights of all appropriators under their original appropriations. No loss, abandonment or impairment of any water rights involved in the exchange shall occur or attach as a result of the exchange, except as may be provided in the order allowing the exchange. Upon termination of the exchange, the rights of all appropriators under their original appropriations shall automatically be reinvested with all the rights, privileges and uses, and purposes theretofore held and enjoyed.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 50

UNINCORPORATED NONPROFIT DAO'S

Original Senate File No. 50

AN ACT relating to corporations, partnerships and associations; providing for the formation and management of decentralized unincorporated nonprofit associations; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 17-32-101 through 17-32-129 are created to read:

CHAPTER 32

WYOMING DECENTRALIZED UNINCORPORATED NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION ACT

17-32-101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Wyoming Decentralized Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act.”

17-32-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) “Administrator” means a person authorized by the members of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association to fulfill administrative or operational tasks at the direction of the membership;

(ii) “Charitable purpose” means any purpose of an organization that has attained exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any successor section, or that upon dissolution shall distribute its assets to a public benefit corporation, the United States, a state or a person that is recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any successor section;

(iii) “Decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association” or “nonprofit association” means an unincorporated nonprofit association that meets the following requirements:

(A) Consists of at least one hundred (100) members joined by mutual consent under an agreement, that may be in writing or inferred from conduct, for a common nonprofit purpose except as permitted under W.S. 17-32-104;

(B) Has elected to be formed under this act; and

(C) Is not formed under any other law governing the nonprofit association’s organization or operation.

(iv) “Digital asset” means as defined in W.S. 34-29-101(a)(i);

(v) “Distributed ledger technology” means a distributed ledger protocol and supporting infrastructure, including blockchain, that uses a distributed, shared and replicated ledger, whether it be public or private, permissioned or permissionless, and that may include the use of digital assets as a medium of electronic exchange;

(vi) “Established practices” means the practices used by a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association without material change during the most recent five (5) years of the association’s existence, or if the association has existed for less than five (5) years, during the nonprofit association’s entire existence;

(vii) “Governing principles” means all agreements and any amendment or restatement of those agreements, including any decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association agreements, consensus formation algorithms, smart contracts or enacted governance proposals, that govern the purpose or operation of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association and the rights and

obligations of the nonprofit association's members and administrators, whether contained in a record, implied from the nonprofit association's established practices or both;

(viii) "Member" means a person who, under the governing principles of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, may participate in the selection of the nonprofit association's administrators or the development of the policies and activities of the nonprofit association;

(ix) "Membership interest" means a member's voting right in a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association determined by the nonprofit association's governing principles, including as ascertained from decentralized ledger technology on which the nonprofit association relies to determine a member's voting right;

(x) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, association, agency, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision or instrumentality or any other legal commercial entity;

(xi) "Record" means as defined in W.S. 40-21-102(a)(xiii);

(xii) "Smart contract" means an automated transaction, as defined in W.S. 40-21-102(a)(ii), or any substantially similar analogue or code, script or programming language relying on distributed ledger technology, including blockchain, which may include facilitating and instructing transfers of an asset, administering membership interest votes with respect to a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or issuing executable instructions for these actions based on the occurrence or nonoccurrence of specified conditions;

(xiii) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the commonwealth of Puerto Rico or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

(xiv) "This act" means W.S. 17-32-101 through 17-32-128.

17-32-103. Governing law; territorial application.

(a) The law of this state governs any decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association that is formed in this state.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles shall identify the jurisdiction in which the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is formed.

17-32-104. Profits; prohibitions on distributions and dividends; compensation and other permitted payments.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may engage in profit-making activities, but profits from any activities shall be used in furtherance of, or set aside for, the nonprofit association's common nonprofit purpose.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may not pay dividends or distribute any part of its income or profits to its members or administrators or persons outside the nonprofit association.

(c) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(i) Pay reasonable compensation or reimburse reasonable expenses to its members, administrators and persons outside the nonprofit association for services rendered, including with respect to the administration and operation of the nonprofit association, which may include the provisions of collateral for the self-insurance of the nonprofit association, voting or participation in the nonprofit association's operations and activities;

(ii) Confer benefits on its members and administrators in conformity with its common nonprofit purpose;

(iii) Repurchase membership interests to the extent authorized by the nonprofit association's governing principles; and

(iv) Make distributions of property to members upon winding up and termination of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association to the extent permitted by W.S. 17-32-126.

17-32-105. Real and personal property; decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association as beneficiary, legatee or devisee.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in its name may acquire, hold, encumber or transfer an estate or interest in real or personal property.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may be a legatee, devisee or beneficiary of a trust or contract.

17-32-106. Statement of authority as to real property.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall execute and record a statement of authority to transfer an estate or interest in real property in the name of the nonprofit association.

(b) An estate or interest in real property in the name of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may be transferred by a person so authorized in a statement of authority recorded in the office of the county clerk in which a transfer of the property will be recorded.

(c) A statement of authority shall set forth:

(i) The name of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association;

(ii) The address in this state, including the street address, if any, of the nonprofit association. If the nonprofit association does not have an address in this state, the statement of authority shall include the nonprofit association's address out of state;

(iii) The name or title of the person authorized to transfer an estate or interest in real property held in the name of the nonprofit association; and

(iv) The action, procedure or vote of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association which authorizes the person to transfer the real property of the nonprofit association and which authorizes the person to execute the statement of authority.

(d) A statement of authority shall be executed in the same manner as a deed. The person who executes the statement of authority shall not be the named person in the statement of authority authorized to transfer the estate or interest.

(e) The filing officer may collect a fee for recording the statement of authority in the amount authorized for recording a transfer of real property.

(f) An amendment, including cancellation, of a statement of authority shall meet the requirements for execution and recording of an original statement. Unless canceled earlier, a recorded statement of authority or its most recent amendment is canceled by operation of law five (5) years after the date of the most recent recording.

(g) If the record title to the real property is in the name of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association and the statement of authority is recorded in the office of the county clerk in which a transfer of real property would be recorded, the authority of the person named in a statement of authority is conclusive in favor of a transferee who gives value without notice that the person named in the statement of authority lacks authority.

17-32-107. Liability in tort or contract.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is a legal entity separate from its members for the purposes of determining and enforcing rights, duties and liabilities in contract and tort.

(b) A person is not liable for a breach of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's contract merely because the person is a member, administrator, authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

(c) A person is not liable for a tortious act or omission for which a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is liable merely because the person is a member or administrator of the nonprofit association, or is a person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

(d) A tortious act or omission of a member, administrator or other person for which a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is liable is not imputed to a person merely because the person is a member or administrator of the nonprofit association, or is a person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

(e) A member, administrator, person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association, or person considered as a member by the nonprofit association may assert a claim against the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may assert a claim against a member, administrator, person authorized to participate in the management of the affairs of the nonprofit association or person considered as a member by the nonprofit association.

17-32-108. Capacity to assert and defend; standing.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, in its name, may institute, defend, intervene or participate in a judicial, administrative or other governmental proceeding or in an arbitration, mediation or any other form of alternative dispute resolution.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may assert a claim on behalf of its members if:

(i) One (1) or more members of the nonprofit association have standing to assert a claim in their own right;

(ii) The interests the nonprofit association seeks to protect are germane to its purposes; and

(iii) Neither the claim asserted, nor the relief requested requires the participation of a member.

17-32-109. Effect of judgement or order.

A judgment or order against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is not by itself a judgment or order against a member or administrator of the nonprofit association.

17-32-110. Appointment of agent to receive service of process.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may file in the office of the secretary of state a statement appointing an agent authorized to receive service of process.

(b) A statement appointing an agent shall set forth:

(i) The name of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association;

(ii) The address in this state, including the street address, if any, of the nonprofit association. If the nonprofit association does not have an address in this state, the statement shall include the nonprofit association's address out of state; and

(iii) The name of the person in this state authorized to receive service of process and the person's address, including the state address, in this state.

(c) A statement appointing an agent shall be signed and acknowledged by a

person authorized to administer the affairs of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. The statement shall also be signed and acknowledged by the person appointed agent, who thereby accepts the appointment.

(d) A filing officer may collect a fee of five dollars (\$5.00) for filing a statement appointing an agent to receive service of process, an amendment or a resignation.

(e) An amendment to a statement appointing an agent to receive service of process shall meet the requirements for execution of an original statement.

(f) If the secretary of state refuses to file a statement appointing an agent, the secretary of state shall return the statement to the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or its representative within fifteen (15) days after the statement was received by the secretary of state, together with a brief, written explanation of the reason for the refusal.

17-32-111. Summons and complaint; service on whom.

In an action or proceeding against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association a summons and complaint shall be served on an agent authorized to receive service of process or a person authorized to administer the affairs of the nonprofit association. If none of them can be served, service may be made on a member of the nonprofit association.

17-32-112. Claim not abated by change of members, administrators or persons authorized.

A claim for relief against a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall not abate merely because of a change in its members or persons authorized to administer the affairs of the nonprofit association.

17-32-113. Venue.

(a) For purposes of venue, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is a resident of a county in which:

(i) The nonprofit association has an office; or

(ii) The agent authorized to receive service of process under W.S. 17-32-110 resides.

17-32-114. Perpetual existence, dissolution, continuation of existence.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall have perpetual existence unless its governing principles otherwise specify.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may be dissolved by any of the following methods:

(i) If the governing principles of the nonprofit association provide a time or method for dissolution, by that method;

(ii) If the governing principles of the nonprofit association do not provide

a method for dissolution, by approval of its members in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120;

(iii) If membership in the nonprofit association falls below one hundred (100) members and the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association does not meet the requirements of a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association under W.S. 17-22-101 through 17-22-115. In the event membership in the nonprofit association falls below one hundred (100) members and the nonprofit association meets the requirements of a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association under W.S. 17-22-101 through 17-22-115, the entity automatically converts to a Wyoming unincorporated nonprofit association unless the governing principles otherwise specify another organizational statute and the organization meets the statutory requirements of that organization;

(iv) By court order.

(c) After dissolution, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association continues in existence until its activities have been wound up and terminated pursuant to W.S. 17-32-126.

17-32-115. Admission, suspension, dismissal or expulsion of members.

(a) A person becomes a member in accordance with the governing principles of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If there are no applicable governing principles, a person shall be considered a member upon purchase or assumption of ownership of a membership interest or other property or instrument that confers a voting right with the nonprofit association and the person shall continue as a member absent the person's suspension, dismissal or expulsion pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, resignation pursuant to W.S. 17-32-116 or the nonprofit association's dissolution and wind-up pursuant to W.S. 17-32-114 and W.S. 17-32-126.

(b) Subject to the governing principles, a member may be suspended, dismissed or expelled from a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association. If there are no applicable governing principles, a member may be suspended, dismissed or expelled by approval of its members in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120.

(c) Unless otherwise provided in the governing principles, suspension, dismissal or expulsion of a member does not relieve the member of any obligation incurred, or commitment made by the member, before the suspension, dismissal or expulsion.

17-32-116. Member resignation.

(a) A member may resign as a member of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association in accordance with the governing principles of the nonprofit association. If there are no applicable governing principles, a member shall be deemed to have resigned as a member upon the disposal, whether voluntary or involuntary, of all membership interests or other property or

instruments that confer upon the person a voting right within the nonprofit association.

(b) Unless otherwise provided for in the governing principles, resignation of a member does not relieve the member of any obligation incurred, or commitment made by the member, before the resignation.

17-32-117. Duties of members.

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in the governing principles, a member shall not have any fiduciary duty to a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association or to any other member of the nonprofit association solely by reason of being a member.

(b) All members shall be subject to the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

17-32-118. Member has no agency powers.

(a) A member is not an agent of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association solely by reason of being a member.

(b) A person's status as a member does not prevent or restrict laws other than this act from imposing liability on a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association because of the member's conduct.

17-32-119. Member interests transferable.

Except as otherwise provided in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles, a member interest or any right thereunder is freely transferable to another person through conveyance of the membership interest or other property that confers upon a person a voting right within the nonprofit association.

17-32-120. Approval by members.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in the governing principles, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall have the approval of the majority of membership interests participating in a vote to:

- (i) Suspend, dismiss or expel a member;
- (ii) Select or dismiss an administrator;
- (iii) Adopt, amend or repeal the governing principles;
- (iv) Sell, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's property;
- (v) Dissolve the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association under W.S. 17-32-114;
- (vi) Undertake any other act outside the ordinary course of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's activities;

(vii) Determine the policy and purpose of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall have the approval of its members in accordance with its governing principles to perform any acts or exercise a right that the governing principles require to be approved by members.

(c) Unless otherwise provided for in the governing principles, membership interest in a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall be calculated in proportion to a member's voting rights within the nonprofit association.

17-32-121. Utilization of distributed ledger technology.

(a) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may provide for its governance, in whole or in part, through distributed ledger technology, including smart contracts.

(b) The governing principles for a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(i) Specify whether any distributed ledger technology utilized or enabled by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association will be fully immutable or subject to change by the nonprofit association and whether any distributed ledger will be fully or partially public or private, including the extent of a member's access to information;

(ii) Adopt voting procedures, which may include smart contracts deployed to distributed ledger technology that provide for the following:

(A) Proposals from members or administrators in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association for upgrades, modifications or additions to software systems or protocols;

(B) Other proposed changes to the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles; and

(C) Any other matters of governance or activities within the purpose of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

17-32-122. Consensus formation algorithms and governance process.

(a) In accordance with its governing principles, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may:

(i) Adopt any reasonable algorithmic means for establishing consensus for the validation of records, as well as for establishing requirements, processes and procedures for conducting operations or making organizational decisions with respect to the distributed ledger technology used by the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association; and

(ii) In accordance with any procedure specified pursuant to W.S. 17-32-121, modify the consensus mechanism, as well as the requirements, processes and procedures or substitute a new consensus mechanism, requirements, processes or procedures that comply with this state's law and the governing principles of the nonprofit association.

17-32-123. Selection of administrators; rights and duties of administrators.

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association's governing principles, the members of a nonprofit association may select the nonprofit association's administrators in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120.

(b) If no administrators are selected, none of the members shall be considered administrators for the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association.

(c) No decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall be required to have an administrator, and the rights and duties of all administrators shall be established as part of the authorization of authority to act as an administrator.

(d) If in a record, the governing principles of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may limit or eliminate the liability of an administrator to the nonprofit association or its members for money damages for any action taken, or failure to take any action, as an administrator except liability for:

(i) The amount of financial benefit improperly received by an administrator;

(ii) An intentional infliction of harm on the nonprofit association or its members;

(iii) An intentional violation of criminal law;

(iv) Breach of the duty of loyalty should one exist, unless, following full disclosure of all material facts to the nonprofit association members, the specific act or transaction that would otherwise breach the duty of loyalty is authorized or ratified by approval of the disinterested members pursuant to W.S. 17-32-120;

(v) Improper distributions.

17-32-124. Right to inspect records

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, on reasonable notice, a member or administrator of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall be entitled to an electronic record of any record maintained by the nonprofit association regarding the nonprofit association's activities, financial condition and other circumstances, to the extent the information is material to a member or administrator's rights and duties under the nonprofit association's governing principles or this act.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall not be obligated to provide records requested from a member or administrator if

access to the information is contained in a record available to the member or administrator on decentralized ledger technology.

(c) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may impose reasonable restrictions on access to and use of information that may be provided under this section, including by designating the information confidential and imposing nondisclosure or other safeguarding obligations on the recipient of the information. In a dispute concerning the reasonableness of a restriction under this subsection, the nonprofit association shall have the burden of proving reasonableness.

(d) A former member or administrator may have access to information to which the former member or administrator was entitled to as a member or administrator if:

(i) The information relates to the period of time during which the former member or administrator was a member or administrator;

(ii) The former member or administrator seeks the information in good faith; and

(iii) The former member or administrator satisfies the requirements of subsection (a) through (c) of this section with respect to the information.

(e) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall not be obligated to collect and maintain a list of members or individual member information, including the names or addresses of its members.

17-32-125. Indemnification; advancement of expenses.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in its governing principles, a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may reimburse a member or administrator for authorized expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the nonprofit association.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may indemnify a member or administrator for any debt, obligation or other liability incurred in the course of the member or administrator's activities on behalf of the nonprofit association. To be eligible for indemnification, an administrator must have complied with the duties stated in W.S. 17-32-123. If in a record, a nonprofit association's governing principles may broaden or limit this right of indemnification.

(c) If a person is made, or threatened to be made, a party in a proceeding based on that person's conduct in the affairs of a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, that person is entitled, upon written request to the nonprofit association, including through decentralized ledger technology, to receive payment of or reimbursement by the nonprofit association, of reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees and disbursements, incurred by that person in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding. To be entitled

to these payments or advances the person making the request shall make a written affirmation that the person has a good faith belief that the criteria for indemnification in subsection (a) of this section have been satisfied and that the person will repay the amounts paid or reimbursed if it is determined that the criteria for reimbursement have not been satisfied. No payment or reimbursement under this subsection shall be made without prior approval, in a record, of the disinterested members under W.S. 17-32-102.

(d) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a member or administrator for liability asserted against or incurred by the member or administrator in that capacity, whether or not the nonprofit association would have the power to indemnify or advance expenses to the member or administrator against the same liability under this section.

(e) These rights of reimbursement, indemnification and advancement of expense apply to former members or administrators for activities undertaken on behalf of the decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association while they were members or administrators.

17-32-126. Winding up; termination.

(a) A dissolved decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association shall wind up its operations and the nonprofit association shall continue after dissolution only for the purpose of winding up.

(b) In winding up a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, the members:

(i) Shall discharge the nonprofit association's debts, obligations and other liabilities, settle and close the nonprofit association's business and distribute any remaining property:

(A) As required by state law other than this chapter requiring assets of an association to be distributed to another entity or person with similar nonprofit purposes;

(B) In accordance with the nonprofit association's governing principles. In the absence of applicable governing principles, to the current members of the nonprofit association in proportion to their membership interests; or

(C) If neither subdivision (A) or (B) of this paragraph applies, in accordance with the law of unclaimed property contained in W.S. 34-24-101 through 34-24-140.

(ii) May:

(A) Authorize an administrator to wind up the nonprofit association in accordance with W.S. 17-32-120. Any administrator so authorized shall owe the nonprofit association a duty of care in the conduct or winding up of the nonprofit to refrain from grossly negligent or reckless conduct, willful or

intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;

(B) Preserve the nonprofit association's operations and property as a going concern for a reasonable time;

(C) Prosecute and defend actions and proceedings, whether civil, criminal or administrative;

(D) Transfer the nonprofit association's property;

(E) Settle disputes by mediation or arbitration;

(F) Perform other acts necessary or appropriate to the winding up.

(iii) If the members of a nonprofit association do not appoint an administrator or administrators to wind up the nonprofit association, the members shall owe the nonprofit association a duty of care in the conduct or winding up of the nonprofit association's operations to refrain from engaging in grossly negligent or reckless conduct, willful or intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law.

17-32-127. Mergers.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Constituent organization" means an organization that is merged with one (1) or more other organizations and includes the surviving organization;

(ii) "Disappearing organization" means a constituent organization that is not the surviving organization;

(iii) "Governing statute" means the statute that governs an organization's internal affairs;

(iv) "Organization" means a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, an unincorporated nonprofit association, a general partnership, including a limited liability partnership, a limited partnership, including a limited liability limited partnership, a limited liability company, a business or statutory trust, a corporation or any other legal or commercial person having a governing statute. The term includes a domestic or foreign organization regardless of whether the organization is organized for profit;

(v) "Organizational document" means the basic records that create the organization and determine its internal governance and the relations among the persons that own it, have an interest in it or are members of it;

(vi) "Surviving organization" means an organization into which one (1) or more other organizations are merged.

(b) A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may merge with any organization that is not expressly prohibited by the law.

(c) A merger involving a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association is subject to the following requirements:

(i) Each of the constituent merging organizations shall comply with its governing law;

(ii) Each party to the merger shall approve a plan of merger in accordance with its governing principles. The plan shall be in a record and shall include the following provisions:

(A) The name and form of each organization that is party to the merger;

(B) The name and form of the surviving organization and, if the surviving organization is to be created by the merger, a statement to that effect;

(C) The terms and conditions of the merger, including the manner and basis for converting the interests in each constituent organization into any combination of money, interests in the surviving organization or other considerations;

(D) If the surviving organization is to be created by the merger, the surviving organization's organizational documents that are proposed to be in a record; and

(E) If the surviving organization is not to be created by the merger, any amendments to be made by the merger to the surviving organization's organizational documents that are, or are proposed to be, in a record.

(iii) The plan of merger shall be approved by the members of each decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association that is a constituent organization in the merger, subject to W.S. 17-32-120. If a member of a nonprofit association that is party to a merger will have personal liability with respect to an obligation of a constituent or surviving organization, the consent in a record of that member to the plan of merger shall also be obtained;

(iv) Subject to the contractual rights of third parties, after a plan of merger is approved and at any time before the merger is effective, a constituent organization may amend the plan or abandon the merger as provided in the plan, or except as otherwise prohibited in the plan, with the same consent as was required to approve the plan;

(v) Following approval of the plan, a merger under this section shall be effective if:

(A) A constituent organization is required to give notice to or obtain the approval of a governmental agency or officer in order to be a party to a merger, the notice has been given and the approval has been obtained; and

(B) The surviving organization is a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association, as specified in the plan of merger and upon compliance by any constituent organization that is not a nonprofit association with any requirements, including any required filings in the office of the secretary of state, of the organization's governing statute; or

(C) The surviving organization is not a decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association under the state law governing the surviving organization.

(d) When a merger becomes effective:

- (i) The surviving organization continues or comes into existence;
- (ii) Each constituent organization that merges into the surviving organization ceases to exist as a separate entity;
- (iii) All property owned by each constituent organization that ceases to exist vests in the surviving organization;
- (iv) All debts, obligations or other liabilities of each constituent organization that ceases to exist continue as debts, obligations or other liabilities of the surviving organization;
- (v) An action or proceeding pending by or against any constituent organization that ceases to exist may be continued as if the merger had not occurred;
- (vi) Except as prohibited by other law, all of the rights, privileges, immunities, powers and purposes of each constituent organization that ceases to exist vest in the surviving organization;
- (vii) Except as otherwise provided in the plan of merger, the terms and conditions of the plan of merger take effect;
- (viii) The merger shall not affect the personal liability, if any, of a member, administrator or manager of a constituent association for a debt, liability or obligation of the nonprofit association incurred before the merger is effective; and
- (ix) A surviving organization that is a foreign organization consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state to enforce any debt, obligation or other liability owed by a constituent organization, if before the merger the constituent organization was subject to suit in this state on the debt, obligation or other liability. A surviving organization that is a foreign organization and not authorized to transact business in this state appoints the secretary of state as agent for service of process for the purpose of enforcing a debt, obligation or other liability under this subsection.

(e) Property held for a charitable purpose under the law of this state by a domestic or foreign organization immediately before a merger under this section becomes effective shall not, as a result of the merger, be diverted from the objects for which it was donated, granted or devised, unless, to the extent required by or pursuant to the law of this state concerning nondiversion of charitable assets, the organization obtains an appropriate order of the attorney general or of the district court in a proceeding for which the attorney general has been given notice specifying the disposition of the property.

(f) A bequest, devise, gift, grant or promise contained in a will or other instrument of donation, subscription or conveyance that is made to a disappearing organization and that takes effect or remains payable after the merger inures to the benefit of the surviving organization. A trust obligation that would govern property if transferred to the disappearing entity applies to property that is instead transferred to the surviving organization under this section.

17-32-128. Conversion of entities.

A decentralized unincorporated nonprofit association may effect a conversion by complying with the applicable provisions of W.S. 17-26-101 and any applicable provisions of the nonprofit association's governing principles.

17-32-129. Supplemental principles of law.

Principles of law and equity supplement this act unless displaced by a specific provision of this act.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 51

2024 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

Original Senate File No. 60

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act; providing for funding of large projects under the act; specifying large projects approved for funding in 2024; specifying conditions for large project funding; authorizing distributions from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account for approved large projects; providing for the reversion of funds; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Board" means the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board created by W.S. 9-15-104;

(ii) "Income account" means the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account created by W.S. 9-15-103(b).

(b) Pursuant to the authority granted under W.S. 9-15-104(k) and subject to each recipient's certification under W.S. 9-15-103(r), authorization is granted for funding of the large projects provided for in subsections (c) through (e) of this section.

(c) Upper Greybull Fish Passage:

- (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game And Fish Commission;
 - (ii) Project purpose: removal of barriers to fish passage and migration, irrigation enhancement and stream modification on the Greybull River drainage in Park County in order to:
 - (A) Allow for seasonal movement of native fish into spawning and juvenile rearing habitats;
 - (B) Reduce and eliminate the potential for predation on native species in areas of high native fish propagation;
 - (C) Improve irrigation efficiency.
 - (iii) Project description: river restoration;
 - (iv) Total project budget: two million nine hundred two thousand dollars (\$2,902,000.00);
 - (v) Project grant: the board is authorized to grant to the sponsor one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;
 - (vi) Appropriation: there is appropriated from the income account to the board one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
- (d) Baggs Valley Headwaters II:
- (i) Project sponsor: Little Snake River Conservation District;
 - (ii) Project purpose: restoration of native vegetation through mechanical, chemical and prescribed controlled burns across a varied landscape of approximately one hundred thirty-eight thousand (138,000) acres in Carbon County in order to:
 - (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk, moose, antelope and other species;
 - (B) Maintain primary migration corridors for native ungulates;
 - (C) Maintain core population areas for greater sage-grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;
 - (D) Conserve valuable grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes.
 - (iii) Project description: rangeland restoration;
 - (iv) Total project budget: three million five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$3,550,000.00);
 - (v) Project grant: the total grant for the project, including all grants previously awarded for this project and the additional grant authorized under this subsection, shall be six hundred ninety-eight thousand dollars (\$698,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;
 - (vi) Appropriation: there is appropriated from the income account to the

board three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(e) Seminoe Shirley Habitat:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish Commission;

(ii) Project purpose: restoration of native ecosystems through vegetation management, riparian restoration, fence modification and invasive species control in central Wyoming in order to:

(A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule deer, elk, antelope and other species;

(B) Maintain primary migration corridors for native ungulates;

(C) Maintain core population areas for greater sage-grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

(D) Conserve valuable grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes.

(iii) Project description: rangeland restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: four million ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$4,099,000.00);

(v) Project grant: the board is authorized to grant to the sponsor eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: there is appropriated from the income account to the board eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

(f) Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this section shall revert to the income account on June 30, 2028.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 52

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT-DELINQUENCY AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 37

AN ACT relating to domestic relations; providing that the Wyoming Indian Child Welfare Act does not apply to delinquency petitions; repealing a provision; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 154, Section 3 is amended to read:

Section 3. This act shall apply to any case or proceeding involving the adoption, abuse or neglect, allegation of a need for supervision, ~~delinquency petition~~ or child custody proceeding concerning an Indian child initiated on and after July 1, 2023. For a case or proceeding initiated before July 1, 2023, the law as of June 30, 2023 shall apply to the case or proceeding.

Section 2. W.S. 14-6-201(d) is repealed.

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

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 53

VULNERABLE ADULTS-CIVIL CAUSE OF ACTION-2

Original Senate File No. 45

AN ACT relating to adult protective services; providing a civil cause of action for the exploitation of vulnerable adults as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-20-117 is created to read:

35-20-117. Civil cause of action for exploitation of vulnerable adults.

(a) A vulnerable adult shall have a cause of action against any person who has exploited the vulnerable adult. The vulnerable adult may recover actual damages, punitive damages and reasonable attorney's fees for the exploitation of the vulnerable adult. The action may be brought in any court of competent jurisdiction. The action may be brought by the vulnerable adult or any of the following:

(i) The vulnerable adult's guardian, conservator or other fiduciary acting for the vulnerable adult;

(ii) The personal representative of the estate of a deceased vulnerable adult;

(iii) The vulnerable adult's agent as defined by W.S. 3-9-102(a)(i);

(iv) The vulnerable adult's spouse, parent or descendant;

(v) A person authorized to make health care decisions for the vulnerable

adult;

(vi) A person who would qualify as a presumptive heir of the vulnerable adult;

(vii) A person named as a beneficiary to receive any property, benefit or contractual right on the vulnerable adult's death or as a beneficiary of a trust created by or for the vulnerable adult that has a financial interest in the vulnerable adult's estate;

(viii) The vulnerable adult's caregiver or another person that demonstrates sufficient interest in the vulnerable adult's welfare;

(ix) A person asked to accept the vulnerable adult's power of attorney;

(x) The nursing care facility where the vulnerable adult resides.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 54

MALT BEVERAGE FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS

Original Senate File No. 79

AN ACT relating to malt beverages; providing a process for specified malt beverage manufacturers to terminate franchise agreements with malt beverage distributors without cause; providing for compensation to the distributor; providing for arbitration; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 12-9-120 is created to read:

12-9-120. Terminating a franchise agreement without cause; compensation; arbitration; applicability.

(a) This section shall only apply to a franchise in which the franchisor annually produces twenty-five thousand (25,000) barrels of malt beverages in aggregate or less, including the production of malt beverages by any affiliate. For purposes of this section, malt beverages produced for a franchisor under a brand owned or controlled by the franchisor shall be attributed to the franchisor and not to the brewer producing the malt beverages for the franchisor.

(b) Notwithstanding any agreement or other provision of law, a franchise governed by this section may be terminated, not renewed, canceled or discontinued by the franchisor for any reason or no reason upon not less than forty-five (45) days written notice of the effective date of the termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or discontinuance of the franchise. Upon the effective date of any termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or discontinuance by a

franchisor under this section, the franchisee shall be entitled to the following compensation:

(i) The fair market value, as defined in W.S. 12-9-115(c), of the terminated, cancelled, not renewed or discontinued franchise; and

(ii) The repurchase of all the franchisor's merchantable product at an amount equal to the laid-in cost of the franchisee's inventory of the franchisor's products that are in the franchisee's warehouse or in transit to the franchisee. Unmerchantable products shall be disposed of in accordance with the preexisting agreement of the parties or, if no agreement exists, shall be disposed of with the franchisor and franchisee sharing equally in the costs of disposal.

(c) If the franchisor and franchisee have not agreed to the reasonable compensation as provided under subsection (b) of this section upon the effective date of the termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or discontinuance of the franchise, then on or before the termination date the franchisor shall pay the franchisee a good faith estimate of compensation due under this section, including a good faith estimate of fair market value. The franchisee shall make merchantable inventory available for pickup by the franchisor or its designee.

(d) If the franchisee believes that the payment made by the franchisor under subsection (c) of this section was less than the compensation due under subsection (b) or (e) of this section or if no payment is made, the franchisee may, within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the termination, cancellation, nonrenewal or discontinuance of the franchise, submit the question of compensation due to final and binding arbitration in accordance with the following:

(i) The manner of arbitration under this section shall be the manner agreed upon by the parties or, in the absence of an agreement, the arbitration shall proceed before a panel of three (3) arbitrators selected in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association;

(ii) If the arbitration concludes that the payment made by the franchisor to the franchisee upon termination was less than the compensation due under subsection (b) of this section, the franchisor shall pay the franchisee any additional amount of determined compensation, plus interest. If the arbitration concludes that the payment made by the franchisor to the franchisee upon termination was more than the compensation due by reason of the termination, the franchisee shall repay any determined overpayment to the franchisor, plus interest;

(iii) All arbitration fees and expenses shall be equally divided among the parties to the arbitration unless the arbitration determines that the franchisor's payment under subsection (c) of this section was not a good faith estimate of the compensation due in which event the arbitration may award up to one hundred percent (100%) of the arbitration costs to the franchisee;

(iv) The arbitration shall be final and binding and shall fully resolve the issue of compensation due to the franchisee from the franchisor under this section.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, by written mutual agreement, regardless of whether the agreement existed before or after the termination, cancelation, nonrenewal or discontinuance of a franchise under this section, the franchisor and the franchisee may establish a method or formula for compensating a franchisee under this section.

(f) This section shall be effective on July 1, 2024. This section shall apply to:

(i) All franchise agreements entered on or after July 1, 2024;

(ii) Any franchise in existence on July 1, 2024 upon the amendment or renewal of the franchise. For purposes of this paragraph, if a franchise has an indefinite duration or has a duration of one (1) year or more after July 1, 2024 the franchise shall be deemed to be renewed on July 1, 2025.

Section 2. W.S. 12-9-104(a)(iv), 12-9-105(a)(intro) and 12-9-118(a) and (e) are amended to read:

12-9-104. Unfair and prohibited acts.

(a) It shall be a violation of this act for a manufacturer or manufacturer's officer, agent or other representative thereof:

(iv) Except as provided in W.S. 12-9-120, to terminate, cancel, fail to renew or refuse to continue the franchise of any distributor without good cause, as defined in this act. The nonrenewal of a franchise or selling agreement without good cause shall constitute an unfair termination or cancellation, regardless of the specified time period of the franchise or selling agreement;

12-9-105. Distributor's resignation; cancellation; termination; failure to renew; refusal to continue.

(a) Notwithstanding any agreement and except as ~~otherwise provided for in W.S. 12-9-120 or as otherwise provided~~ in this act, a manufacturer shall not cause a distributor to resign from an agreement, or cancel, terminate, fail to renew or refuse to continue under an agreement unless the manufacturer has:

12-9-118. Repurchase of inventory upon termination.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in W.S. 12-9-120, whenever any malt beverage distributor enters into a franchise agreement with a manufacturer in which the distributor agrees to maintain an inventory of malt beverages and the franchise is subsequently terminated, the manufacturer shall repurchase the inventory as provided in this ~~act~~section. If the distributor has any outstanding debts to the manufacturer, then the repurchase amount may be credited to the distributor's account.

(e) If any manufacturer shall fail or refuse to repurchase any inventory covered

under the provisions of this ~~act~~section within sixty (60) days after termination of a distributor's contract, he shall be civilly liable for one hundred percent (100%) of the current wholesale price of the inventory plus any freight charges paid by the distributor, the distributor's reasonable attorney's fees, court costs and interest on the current wholesale price computed at the legal interest rate.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 55

MEAT PROCESSING PLANTS-HIDES AND CARCASSES

Original Senate File No. 12

AN ACT relating to hides and carcasses; requiring hide buyers to keep records of hides or pelts purchased as specified; making a conforming amendment; repealing existing provisions relating to the inspection of hides; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-23-102 by creating a new subsection (c), 11-23-105 and 11-23-203 are amended to read:

11-23-102. Only inspected livestock to be slaughtered; record of cattle slaughtered.

(c) If a hide is sold to a hide buyer, the bill of sale shall accompany the hide and shall be available for inspection by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector, department inspector, sheriff or deputy sheriff during regular business hours for not less than two (2) years from the date of the sale of the hide.

11-23-105. Penalties.

Any person violating any provision of W.S. ~~11-23-101 through 11-23-104~~ 11-23-102 and 11-23-103 shall be fined not less than seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$775.00) or more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both.

11-23-203. Hide buyer; record of purchases to be kept; contents; inspection by sheriff.

Every hide buyer in this state shall keep a true record of all hides and pelts purchased by him, showing the name of the seller of the hides or pelts, the date of purchase and all brands and other identification marks on the hides and pelts for not less than two (2) years from the date of purchase. The record shall be open for inspection by the sheriff or his deputy in his county and any livestock inspector.

Section 2. W.S. 11-23-101 and 11-23-104 are repealed.

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

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 56

HEMP-LIMITATIONS ON PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

Original Senate File No. 32

AN ACT relating to hemp production and controlled substances; prohibiting the addition of synthetic substances or other additives to hemp; prohibiting the sale of hemp with THC or psychoactive substances as specified; providing and amending definitions; including naturally occurring THC as a scheduled substance in the Controlled Substances Act; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-51-101(a)(iii), (vi), (vii) and by creating a new paragraph (viii), 11-51-102(b), 11-51-103 by creating a new subsection (f), 11-51-104(a)(intro), (iii), (b), (d) and by creating a new subsection (e), 35-7-1014(d)(xxi) and 35-7-1063(b) are amended to read:

11-51-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this chapter:

(iii) “Hemp” or “hemp product” means all parts, seeds and varieties of the plant *cannabis sativa* L., whether growing or not, or a product, derivative, extract, cannabinoid, isomer, acid, salt or salt of isomer made from that plant with no synthetic substance and with a THC concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(vi) “Process” means converting hemp into another product that contains no synthetic substance and that contains no more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(vii) “THC” means:

(A) Tetrahydrocannabinol, the psychoactive component of the cannabis plant, with the scientific name *trans-delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol*;

(B) Psychoactive analogs of tetrahydrocannabinol as defined by W.S. 14-3-301(a)(xi);

(C) Any psychoactive structural, optical or geometric isomers of tetrahydrocannabinol.

(viii) “Synthetic substance” means any synthetic THC, synthetic cannabinoid or any other drug or psychoactive substance.

11-51-102. Hemp as agricultural crop; use of hemp.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of this chapter, the possession, purchase, sale, transportation and use of hemp and hemp products by any person is allowable except as provided in W.S. 11-51-103(f) and 14-3-310.

11-51-103. Licensing; prohibited activities.

(f) No person or licensee shall:

(i) Produce, process or sell hemp or hemp products containing more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(ii) Add, alter, insert or otherwise include any synthetic substance into hemp or hemp products produced, processed or sold in accordance with this chapter.

11-51-104. Enforcement; fees; penalties.

(a) The department shall perform inspections and provide chemical sampling and analysis of production or processing activities by licensees to determine compliance with this chapter. The department may require verification of effective disposal by licensees of hemp or hemp products that contain synthetic substances or that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis. For any sample, analysis or verification conducted under this subsection, the department shall assess the licensee fees as established by rule of the department, not to exceed the following:

(iii) Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for verification of effective disposal of hemp or hemp products that contain synthetic substances or that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, any licensee who violates any provision of this chapter or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to a corrective action plan. The corrective action plan may include reporting requirements, additional inspections, suspension of a license, steps necessary to restore a license, requirements related to disposal of hemp or hemp products that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis or providing notice of the violation to the licensee’s known creditors. The plan may require rendering THC inaccessible by using hemp or hemp products as a soil amendment material or by destruction of the hemp or hemp product as authorized by rule of the department.

(d) If any person has three (3) or more violations of this chapter or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this chapter within five (5) years, the department shall revoke the license and the person shall be ineligible for licensure under this ~~article~~ chapter for five (5) years.

(e) Any person who violates this chapter by producing, processing or selling hemp or hemp products containing any synthetic substance shall be ineligible for licensure under this chapter.

35-7-1014. Substances included in Schedule I.

(d) Hallucinogenic substances.-Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity of the following hallucinogenic substances, their salts, isomers and salts of isomers whenever the existence of these salts, isomers and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation (for purposes of this paragraph only, the term “isomer” includes the optical, position and geometric isomers):

(xxi) Tetrahydrocannabinols; naturally occurring or synthetic equivalents of the substances contained in the plant or in the resinous extractives of Cannabis, sp. and/or naturally occurring or synthetic substances, derivatives and their isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity such as the following: delta 1 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol and their optical isomers; delta 6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol and their optical isomers; delta 8 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol and their optical isomers; delta to the 3, 4 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol and its optical isomers. Since nomenclature of these substances is not internationally standardized, compounds of these structures, regardless of numerical designation of atomic positions are covered;

35-7-1063. Exceptions to provisions.

(b) As used in this section:

(i) “Hemp” or “hemp product” means all parts, seeds and varieties of the plant cannabis sativa L. or a product made from that plant with no synthetic substances and with a trans-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)-THC concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis;

(ii) “Synthetic substance” means as defined by W.S. 11-51-101(a)(viii);

(iii) “THC” means as defined by W.S. 11-51-101(a)(vii).

Section 2. The department of agriculture and the commissioner of drugs and substances control shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

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

(b) Section 1 of this act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 57**INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT-SAFE HAVEN AMENDMENTS****Original Senate File No. 18**

AN ACT relating to children; amending the safe haven statutes to require compliance with the Wyoming Indian Child Welfare Act as specified; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 14-11-103(d) and 14-11-105 by creating a new subsection (d) are amended to read:

14-11-103. Relinquishment of a newborn child.

(d) The parent or parent's designee may provide information regarding the parent and newborn child's medical histories, and identifying information regarding the nonrelinquishing parent of the child, ~~but~~ The safe haven provider may shall, after informing the parent or the parent's designee that no information is required to be given, ask the parent or the parent's designee whether the child has any tribal affiliation or Native American ancestry, and request relevant information to determine the child's tribe. The safe haven provider shall not require that any information be given or the person relinquishing ~~expresses~~ express an intent for return of the child.

14-11-105. Child placement; termination of parental rights.

(d) If the child is an Indian child as defined by W.S. 14-6-702(a)(iv), the court and all parties shall comply with the Wyoming Indian Child Welfare Act and the department shall serve the petition as required by W.S. 14-6-704.

Section 2. The department of family services shall promulgate any rules necessary to implement this act not later than July 1, 2024.

Section 3.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 58**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION-ELECTRICITY RELIABILITY****Original Senate File No. 22**

AN ACT relating to public utilities; requiring the public service commission to establish standards related to electricity reliability; specifying that failing to comply with standards is subject to penalties; providing that the public service commission shall not allow for rate recovery for new or modified facilities that are likely to result in failure to comply with reliability standards; specifying that public utilities may enter into individualized energy contracts and may utilize customer-specific energy portfolios; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-18-102(a)(v)(A), by creating a new subparagraph (D), by creating a new paragraph (vi) and by creating a new subsection (f) is amended to read:

37-18-102. Energy generation portfolio standards; reporting requirements; rate recovery and limitations.

(a) Consistent with the objective of ensuring Wyoming electric utilities maintain access to reliable and cost effective electric generation resources, the public service commission shall establish by rule energy portfolio standards that will maximize the use of dispatchable and reliable low-carbon electricity. In establishing standards, the commission:

(v) Shall for each public utility:

(A) Not later than December 15, 2024, establish baseline standards for electric reliability to ensure adequate reliable dispatchable power in Wyoming. The standards established under this subparagraph may include limits on outages and shall ensure that new or expanded intermittent generation resources do not unreasonably diminish power quality or increase momentary outages across a utility's service territory or in any particular location;

(D) In considering generation facilities for inclusion in a utility's investment on which the utility is entitled to earn a rate of return, the commission may disallow the inclusion of some or all of the investment associated with nondispatchable resources if those resources do not operate as projected and require the utility to rely on more expensive sources of generation or materially contribute to a failure to comply with reliability standards.

(vi) A public utility that fails to maintain the standards established under this subsection may be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) for each day that the violation persists. However, the maximum civil penalty shall not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for any related series of violations.

(f) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a public utility from entering into individualized energy contracts or arrangements with large commercial or

industrial customers to procure energy or capacity to meet customers’ needs or from utilizing customer-specific energy portfolios pursuant to tariffs approved by the commission.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 7, 2024.

Chapter 59

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

Original Senate File No. 2

AN ACT relating to appropriations for the legislature; providing appropriations for the operation of the legislative branch of state government; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. There is appropriated from the general fund to the legislative service office the following specified amounts, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the costs and expenses of the Wyoming legislature through June 30, 2026:

SALARIES	
LSO Staff Permanent/Temporary	\$9,853,818
Legislators – Session.....	1,156,600
Legislators – Interim	2,537,876
Session Staff.....	650,608
Employer Paid Benefits	4,786,512
IN-STATE TRAVEL	
Mileage and Per Diem – Session	1,095,024
Mileage and Per Diem – Interim.....	1,238,390
OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL	
Travel Expenses.....	88,800
Per Diem	118,800
ANNUAL DUES	
National Conference of State Legislatures.....	269,500
The [Energy] Council	76,800
Council of State Governments.....	229,022
Other	15,520
REGISTRATION FEES.....	65,600
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	50,000

ETS SERVICES (Network connections & backup)	10,000
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	1,039,220
(Information technology, copying, supplies and equipment, furniture, contract services, special projects, etc.)	
STATUTES, SESSION LAWS AND DIGESTS	335,000
TOTAL	\$ 23,617,090

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024 - HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 8, 2024.]

Section 2. [Standard Provision-Flex]. The Management Council may transfer funds from one expense category to another under Section 1 of this act as the activities of the legislature may require.

Section 3. [Standard Provision-Travel]. The appropriation for out-of-state travel under this act shall be used to reimburse legislators for documented legislative travel and per diem expenses to attend out-of-state meetings in accordance with policies of the Management Council. In addition to other out-of-state travel authorized in Management Council policies, Management Council may approve out-of-state travel for legislators that furthers the interests of the state of Wyoming. This travel may include travel to meet with legislators or legislative committees from other states and travel to attend other meetings, conferences or events that further the interests of the state of Wyoming.

Section 4. [Carry Forward of Prior Appropriations].

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-207, the unobligated portions of the following appropriations shall not revert on June 30, 2024, and are hereby reappropriated to the legislative service office for the following purpose[s]: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024 - HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 8, 2024.]**

[(i) Any unexpended, unobligated amounts reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 5, Sections 4(a)(i) and 7 are reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office for the period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. Expenditures of amounts reappropriated under this paragraph shall be for professional consulting expertise and other support necessary to carry out and execute work of the legislature pertaining to required K-12 education responsibilities, issues and studies. Professional consulting expertise may be retained by the legislative service office only upon approval of the Management Council, and the unexpended, unobligated amounts may be expended for contractual agreements between the Management Council and professional consultants;] [BRACKETED

LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024 - HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 8, 2024.]

[(ii) Any balance remaining on June 30, 2024, resulting from the sale of legislative laptop computers prior to that date is appropriated to the legislative service office to be used for the purchase of replacement laptop computers and support systems for the period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024 - HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 8, 2024.]

[(iii)] Any unexpended, unobligated amounts appropriated for expenditure under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 5 are reappropriated for expenditure by the legislative service office at the direction of the Management Council for extraordinary expenses of the legislature and as necessary to supplement any expense category under this act, for the period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024 - HOUSE AND SENATE VETO OVERRIDE MARCH 8, 2024.]

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 5. [Technology Projects].

(a) There is appropriated one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for continued development and support of the legislative management system and other continuing legislative information technology projects.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 6. [New Legislator Training Compensation].

(a) From and after the date the state canvassing board certifies the results of the 2024 general election in accordance with W.S. 22-16-118, legislators elect and newly appointed legislators may, to the extent authorized by the Management Council, receive mileage and per diem at the same rate as members of the legislature plus an amount equal to the daily salary paid to legislators for each day spent at a legislative training function or at a meeting of an interim committee to which they will be assigned.

(b) There is appropriated from the general fund to the legislative service office thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,000.00) for purposes of this section.

(c) As used in this section:

(i) "Legislator elect" means a person elected to the legislature during the 2024 general election who is not a current member of the legislature and before the person is duly sworn in;

(ii) "Newly appointed legislator" means a person appointed after the 2024

general election to fill a vacancy in the House or Senate and before the person is duly sworn in.

Section 7. [School Finance]. There is appropriated five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the school foundation program account to the legislative service office for professional consulting expertise and other support necessary to carry out and execute work of the legislature pertaining to required K-12 education responsibilities, issues and studies. Professional consulting expertise may be retained by the legislative service office only upon approval of the Management Council, and the unexpended, unobligated amounts may be expended for contractual agreements between the Management Council and professional consultants.

Section 8. [Special Contingency].

(a) There is appropriated three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office to be expended at the direction of the Management Council for extraordinary expenses of the legislature and as necessary to supplement any expense category under this act.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 9. [Economic Development Authorized Travel].

(a) Subject to available appropriation, legislators traveling out-of-state, including internationally, in connection with executive branch or legislatively approved efforts to expand and diversify Wyoming's energy and industrial economy or to attract new business enterprises to the state or to improve access to and growth in domestic and international markets, are authorized reimbursement of actual travel expenses, including travel, lodging, meals and necessary incidentals, provided:

(i) Reimbursement of travel expenses for members of the legislature to participate in economic development efforts under this section shall require the approval of the Management Council;

(ii) In designating members authorized to receive travel reimbursement under this section, preference shall be given to members who have expressed an intention to seek re-election to, or if mid-term to continue to serve in, the Wyoming legislature during the 2025 and 2026 legislative sessions.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 10. [Wyoming State Treasurer's Investment Conference]. There is appropriated twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for payment of registration, mileage and per diem for legislators attending the Wyoming state treasurer's investment conference in the 2024 or 2025 interim.

Section 11. [Facilities Appropriations].

(a) Management Council may engage the services of consultants and other qualified professionals to procure the items listed in this subsection using funds appropriated under this subsection. There is appropriated from the general fund to the legislative service office[:] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024.]**

~~[(i) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for miscellaneous furnishings and projects in the capitol complex;]~~ **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024.]**

[(ii) Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for room management equipment and professional fees.] **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024.]**

(b) Funds appropriated under this section shall be expended pursuant to all requirements of law, including the requirements of article 3, section 31 of the Wyoming constitution.

(c) This section is effective immediately.

Section 12. [Interpretive Exhibits and Wayfinding Subcommittee].

(a) There is appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office to pay the salary, mileage and per diem of the legislative members of the capitol interpretive exhibits and wayfinding subcommittee created by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 140, Section 8(a).

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 13. [CSG Annual Meeting]. There is appropriated one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for costs of hosting the 2025 annual meeting of the Council of State Governments West in Wyoming, including providing travel expenses and per diem for members of the legislature and staff of the legislative service office to attend the 2025 annual meeting of the Council of State Governments West.

Section 14. [Regulatory Reduction Task Force].

(a) The regulatory reduction task force as it was created and as it existed during the 2023 interim is hereby authorized and continued until December 31, 2024. There is appropriated twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for purposes of providing salary, mileage and per diem to the legislative members of the regulatory reduction task force appointed by the speaker of the house and the president of the senate.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

Section 15. [Mental Health and Vulnerable Adult Task Force].

(a) The mental health and vulnerable adult task force as it was created and as it existed during the 2023 interim is hereby authorized and continued until December 31, 2024. There is appropriated twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for purposes of providing salary, mileage and per diem to the legislative members of the mental health and vulnerable adult task force appointed by the speaker of the house and the president of the senate.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

~~Section 16. [Creation of Task Forces].~~

~~(a) Management Council shall only expend funds appropriated in this act to create additional task forces comprised of legislators and non-legislators upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the appointed members of Management Council finding that an emergency exists in the state of Wyoming necessitating the creation of a task force through December 31, 2024. Management council may adopt a policy for creating task forces effective for the sixty-eighth legislature and beyond.~~

~~(b) This section is effective immediately.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 7, 2024.]~~

Section 17. [Effective Dates].

(a) As used in this act, “effective immediately” means effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution. Any appropriation contained in this act that is effective immediately shall not lapse until June 30, 2026, unless otherwise specified.

(b) Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 60

PUBLIC RETIREMENT-ACTUARIALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS

Original House Bill No. 83

AN ACT relating to public employee retirement; requiring the calculation and collection of employee and employer contributions for the public employee retirement plan to be based on an actuarially determined contribution rate; specifying procedures for the calculation of rates; requiring reports; removing obsolete language; making conforming amendments; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-413.1 is created to read:

9-3-413.1. Members' and employers' contributions based on actuarially determined contribution rates; calculation of rates; reports.

(a) Beginning with the 2027-2028 fiscal biennium, the retirement system shall calculate the percentage of salary for members' contributions required under W.S. 9-3-412(a) and for the employers' contribution required under W.S. 9-3-413 based on an actuarially determined contribution rate in accordance with the following:

(i) The retirement system, in consultation with any actuary that the system utilizes, shall calculate the actuarially determined contribution rate for each fiscal year;

(ii) The retirement system shall calculate the actuarially determined contribution rate by using the actuarial value of that portion of the retirement account designated for the public employee retirement plan as of January 1, 2025 and January 1 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, the value of benefits, estimated administrative expenses and officially adopted actuarial assumptions. The retirement system shall use this valuation to calculate the actuarially determined contribution rate for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium;

(iii) Not later than April 15, 2025 and April 15 of each odd-numbered year thereafter, the retirement system shall report the actuarially determined contribution rate to each local government entity participating in the public employee retirement plan, the governor, the state auditor, the state budget department and the joint appropriations committee, subject to the requirements of this subsection;

(iv) Not later than April 15, 2026 and April 15 of each even-numbered year thereafter, the retirement system shall calculate a valuation of the account and an updated actuarially determined contribution rate, using the actuarial value of that portion of the account designated for the public employee retirement plan as of January 1 of that year, for informational purposes and shall report the valuation and rate to each entity specified in paragraph (iii) of this subsection. The actuarially determined contribution rate calculated under this paragraph shall not be used as the actuarially determined contribution rate for purposes of this section;

(v) After calculation of the actuarially determined contribution rate under paragraph (ii) of this subsection, the state budget department and the retirement system shall calculate necessary amounts to account for any changes in the appropriations necessary to fund the contributions for the public employee retirement plan and shall include those amounts in the budget prepared under W.S. 9-2-1010 through 9-2-1014.1, including changes

in amounts for school districts necessary to account for the employer's share of the actuarially determined contribution rate in accordance with this section for benefits paid from the education resource block grant model defined in W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xiv) and as enumerated in Attachment A(b)(xxxviii), as defined in W.S. 21-13-101(a)(xvii);

(vi) Any change in the actuarially determined contribution rate calculated under paragraph (ii) of this subsection shall take effect on July 1 of the subsequent even-numbered year;

(vii) Any change in the actuarially determined contribution rate calculated and reported under this subsection shall be in accordance with the following:

(A) The actuarially determined contribution rate shall not be increased more than one-half percent (0.5%) nor decreased more than one-half percent (0.5%) from:

(I) The rates specified in W.S. 9-3-412(a) and 9-3-413 for the fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 2026;

(II) The actuarially determined contribution rate for the preceding fiscal biennium for each fiscal biennium beginning July 1, 2028.

(B) The actuarially determined contribution rate for a fiscal biennium shall not be decreased if the public employee retirement plan has a funded ratio of less than ninety-nine percent (99%), on both a market and actuarial basis, as calculated on the date specified in paragraph (ii) of this subsection;

(C) For purposes of this paragraph, the actuarially determined contribution rate shall use a closed amortization period of thirty (30) years calculated from January 1, 2018, with each subsequent amortization base created as a result of year-to-year experience changes over individual twenty (20) year closed periods;

(D) In no event shall the actuarially determined contribution rate be less than the normal cost contribution, plus the rate necessary to meet administrative expenses. As used in this subparagraph, "normal cost contribution" means the contribution calculated using the entry age normal actuarial cost method to determine the average uniform and constant percentage rate of employer contributions that, if applied to the compensation of each new member during the entire period of the member's anticipated covered service, would be required to meet the costs of all benefits payable on the member's behalf based on the benefits provisions applicable for the individual member.

(b) The actuarially determined contribution rate shall be paid through monthly contributions into the account as follows:

(i) Subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection and except as otherwise provided in W.S. 9-3-412, 9-3-431 and 9-3-432, every member covered under this article shall pay into the account a percentage of his salary in an amount

equal to forty-nine and sixty-eight hundredths percent (49.68%) of the actuarially determined contribution rate calculated under this section;

(ii) Every employer excluding employers of firefighter members shall pay into the account a contribution of members' salary in an amount equal to fifty and thirty-two hundredths percent (50.32%) of the actuarially determined contribution rate calculated under this section;

(iii) For state employee members, five and fifty-seven hundredths percent (5.57%) of the member's salary that would otherwise be withheld in accordance with paragraph (i) of this subsection shall be paid by the employer without any salary reduction or offset. The remaining portion of the state employee's contribution required under paragraph (i) of this subsection shall be paid through a reduction in cash salary of the state employee unless specified otherwise by legislative act.

Section 2. W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), 9-3-402(a)(i)(A) and (xvi), 9-3-412(a), (b), (c)(intro), (ii) and (iv), 9-3-413, 9-3-414, 9-3-704(c), 11-20-201(b), 21-3-314(c)(v), 21-13-320(f) and 21-13-321(d) are amended to read:

9-2-3207. Duties of department performed through human resources division.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the department through the human resources division shall:

(xi) Promulgate reasonable rules:

(F) Necessary to administer a program whereby at-will contract employees may be utilized by agencies to meet programmatic needs. These rules shall be structured so that:

(IV) Notwithstanding subdivision (III) of this subparagraph, if the employment contract so provides, an at-will, year-round, full-time brand inspection contract employee authorized to carry out the duties specified by W.S. 11-20-201 may be eligible for membership in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan in accordance with W.S. 9-3-207, and the state retirement system under W.S. 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1, provided the employee pays the total premium or total contribution required, or the portion of the premium or contribution, if any, the employment contract directs the employee to pay and the employee's wages under the contract are reported on an Internal Revenue Service Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement. Subject to the limitations of W.S. 9-3-412(c) and 9-3-413.1(b), the Wyoming livestock board shall have sole discretion to determine the amount of the total premium or contribution to be paid by the employee and the amount to be paid by the board, if any. The amounts shall be stated in the employment contract. The time limitations provided in subdivision (V) of this subparagraph shall not apply to any employee under this subdivision;

9-3-402. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) “Account” or “member account” means:

(A) For a member who has a minimum of four (4) years of service or a member initially employed before July 1, 2018, the member’s contributions, the member’s contributions paid by an employer under W.S. 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1 and any amounts transferred to the system from a terminated system on behalf of the member, plus interest compounded annually at a rate determined by the board not to exceed the average annual investment yield earned on the assets of the system, subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph;

(xvi) “Salary” means the cash remuneration paid to a member in a calendar year, including employee contributions required by W.S. 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1 and including member contributions paid by the employer under a salary reduction arrangement under W.S. 9-3-412(c) and 9-3-413.1(b). “Salary” taken into account for a member shall not exceed the amount specified under section 401(a)(17) of the United States Internal Revenue Code;

9-3-412. Members’ contributions; payroll deductions; employer authorized to pay employee’s share.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section and W.S. 9-3-431 and 9-3-432, every member covered under this article; shall pay into the account ~~eight and one-half percent (8.5%) of his salary for the period from September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; eight and three-quarters percent (8.75%) of his salary for the period from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; nine percent (9%) of his salary for the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and thereafter nine and one-quarter percent (9.25%) of his salary for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026 and thereafter a percentage of the member’s salary determined in accordance with W.S. 9-3-413.1.~~ Every firefighter member covered under this article shall pay into the account seven percent (7%) of his salary. Payments shall be deducted each pay period from each member’s salary by the chief fiscal officer of each participating employer. Employee contributions shall be transferred to the account in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

(b) Except as provided by W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(III) or (IV), in order to be treated as employer contributions for the sole purpose of determining tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code, section 414(h) the contributions required by subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the employer for state employee members and may be paid by the employer for member employees of political subdivisions of this state. Any contract employee authorized to participate in the state retirement system under W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(III) shall pay the entire member contribution and the entire employer contribution under W.S. 9-3-413 and 9-3-413.1. For the contributions

as provided by W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), the contributions required by subsection (a) of this section may be paid by the Wyoming livestock board for state employee members in order to be treated as employer contributions for the sole purpose of determining tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code, section 414(h). The amounts shall be stated in the employment contract.

(c) The contributions under subsection (b) of this section and W.S. 9-3-413.1 shall be paid from the source of funds which is used in paying salary to the member. The employer may pay these contributions by a reduction in cash salary of the member or by an offset against a future salary increase, or by a combination of a reduction in salary and an offset against a future salary increase, provided:

(ii) Except as provided in paragraphs (iii) and (iv) of this subsection and W.S. 9-3-413.1(b), any employer may pay any amount of a member's share of retirement contributions without a salary reduction, offset or combination thereof;

(iv) For full-time brand inspection contract employees authorized to participate in the state retirement system under W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), not more than ~~five and fifty-seven hundredths percent (5.57%)~~ the amount specified in W.S. 9-3-413.1(b)(iii) of the contract employee's salary shall be paid by the livestock board unless specified otherwise by legislative act.

9-3-413. Employer's contributions; payable monthly; transfer to account; interest imposed upon delinquent contributions; recovery.

Except as provided by W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(III) or (IV), 9-3-431 and 9-3-432, each employer, excluding employers of firefighter members, shall, on a monthly basis, pay into the account a contribution equal to ~~eight and sixty-two hundredths percent (8.62%) of the salary paid to each of its members covered under this article for the period from September 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; eight and eighty-seven hundredths percent (8.87%) of the salary paid for the period from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; nine and twelve hundredths percent (9.12%) of the salary paid for the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and thereafter~~ nine and thirty-seven hundredths percent (9.37%) of the salary paid to each of its members covered under this article for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026 and thereafter a percentage of the salary paid as determined in accordance with W.S. 9-3-413.1. Employers of firefighter members shall pay into the account a contribution equal to seven and twelve hundredths percent (7.12%) of the salary paid. Employer contributions for any month, together with the members' contributions for that month, if any, shall be transferred to the board not later than the twelfth day of the following month. These contributions shall be credited to the account in a manner as directed by the board. Any employer failing to transfer contributions under this section in sufficient time for the board to receive the contributions by the twenty-fifth

day of the month due shall be assessed interest at the assumed rate of return as determined by the board, compounded annually. Interest imposed under this section shall be payable not later than the twelfth day of the next succeeding month. If the contributions and any interest imposed under this section are not transferred to the board when due, they may be recovered, together with court costs, in an action brought for that purpose in the first judicial district court in Laramie County, Wyoming.

9-3-414. Provision for employers' contributions to be made in budgets; notice to department heads.

Subject to W.S. 9-3-413.1, provision for the payment by employers of the employers' contributions under this article shall be made in the budgets of the several departments, divisions and subdivisions of the state government and of other employer units. At least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submission of departmental budgets to the state budget ~~officer~~ department, the Wyoming retirement board shall notify all department heads that it will be necessary to include funds in the departmental budget for the payment of employers' contributions under this article for the ensuing appropriation period.

9-3-704. Employee contributions.

(c) The contributions under subsection (b) of this section shall be paid from the source of funds which is used in paying salary to the employee. The employer may pay these contributions without offset of the employee's salary in the same salary percentage as provided by state employers under W.S. ~~9-3-412(c)~~ 9-3-413.1(b)(iii). The employer shall also reduce the cash salary of the employee by three and sixty-five hundredths percent (3.65%).

11-20-201. Designation of contract services to implement brand inspection laws; bond required; bond of inspectors; interstate cooperative agreements.

(b) The agency, or the board may contract for inspectors as the board deems necessary to carry out specified duties. The board may contract for inspectors through an individual at-will contract. The board may contract to provide the inspector salary, mileage, per diem and other necessary reimbursable expenses, membership in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV) and 9-3-207, and the state retirement system in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), ~~and~~ 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1. The board shall be authorized to establish mileage rates without regard to the limitations provided in W.S. 9-3-103. During the time that inspectors are acting within the scope of their duties on behalf or in service of the state in their official capacity, inspectors are covered by the provisions of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120, and the state self-insurance program, W.S. 1-41-101 through 1-41-111. It may assign inspectors inside or outside of this state as it deems appropriate. A

blanket bond or individual bonds shall be executed to the state with good and sufficient surety in an amount determined by the board, conditioned for the full and faithful performance and discharge of the inspector's duties. The bond shall be approved by and filed in the office of the board.

21-3-314. Students counted among district ADM; determination of charter school funding.

(c) The charter school shall be entitled to the following amounts:

(v) One hundred percent (100%) of the amount expended by the charter school that is eligible for reimbursement by the department of education under W.S. 9-3-413 and 9-3-413.1.

21-13-320. Student transportation; amount within school foundation program formula for transportation maintenance and operations expenditures and school bus purchases; district reporting requirements.

(f) The department of education shall adopt necessary rules and regulations to implement and enforce state standards established under this section and to administer this section. District expenditures computed under subsection (b) of this section shall not include expenditures for employee contributions to the Wyoming retirement system exceeding ~~five and fifty-seven hundredths percent (5.57%)~~ the amount specified in W.S. 9-3-413.1(b)(iii) of any member employee's salary. In addition, the department shall, in accordance with procedures prescribed by department rule and regulation, establish a base price for each school bus type or other student transportation vehicle type for the applicable fiscal period that complies with minimum state standards for vehicle specifications and equipment. The department shall also establish a process including competitive bidding which guarantees the acquisition of school buses and other student transportation vehicles approved for reimbursement and complying with state minimum standards and district fleet size restrictions at the established base price for the applicable fiscal year. Department rules shall establish appropriate restrictions on how and under which conditions a school district may procure a school bus or other student transportation vehicle, either through purchase or lease, to ensure that the procurement method used is the most cost effective. School districts shall notify the department of school bus and other student transportation vehicle needs and requirements for the appropriate fiscal year in the manner and within the times prescribed by department rule and regulation, and shall report expenditures, purchases and lease arrangements for the applicable reporting period, including vehicles replaced by purchases and leases, as required by department rule and regulation. The department shall annually review and conduct audits as necessary of information submitted under this section. As authorized under W.S. 21-13-307(b), the department may correct the information reported by districts under this section as necessary to fairly and accurately reflect the data type, classification and format required to administer this section in accordance

with law and department rules and regulations.

21-13-321. Special education; amount provided for special education programs and services; district reporting requirements; billing for Medicaid authorized school based services.

(d) The department of education shall adopt necessary rules and regulations to implement and administer this section. Districts shall report special education program expenditures for the applicable reporting period as required by department rule and regulation. District expenditures computed under subsection (b) of this section shall not include expenditures for employee contributions to the Wyoming retirement system exceeding ~~five and fifty-seven hundredths percent (5.57%)~~ the amount specified in W.S. 9-3-413.1(b)(iii) of any member employee's salary. The department shall annually review and report to the joint education interim committee regarding services provided to special education students by school districts. In addition, the department shall when necessary, conduct audits of information submitted by districts under this section and may, in accordance with W.S. 21-13-307(b), correct the information reported by districts as necessary to fairly and accurately reflect the data type, classification and format required to administer this section in accordance with law and department rule and regulation.

Section 3. W.S. 9-3-412(c)(iii) is repealed.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Section 3 of this act is effective July 1, 2026.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 61

SAGE GROUSE IMPLEMENTATION-NOTICE TO LANDOWNERS

Original House Bill No. 116

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; specifying landowner notice and public comment requirements for the sage grouse implementation team; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-19-101 by creating a new subsection (h) is amended to read:

9-19-101. Sage grouse implementation team created; membership; duties.

(h) Before making any recommendations under subsections (f) or (g) of this section, the implementation team shall:

(i) Not less than forty-five (45) days before making a recommendation to the governor that may affect surface owners, send written notice by first-class mail to all affected surface owners that may be affected by any recommendation of the implementation team. The notice shall describe the proposed recommendations to be made to the governor and how the recommendations may affect the surface owners;

(ii) Not less than thirty (30) days before making a recommendation to the governor that may affect surface owners, provide an opportunity for a public meeting for the purpose of receiving comments in not less than one (1) community where the impacted owners are located.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 62

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Original Senate File No. 8

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; authorizing volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons to participate in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan as specified; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-220 is created to read:

9-3-220. Volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons participation in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan; requirements.

(a) Volunteer firefighters, emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons may elect to participate in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan as defined by W.S. 9-3-203(a)(v) and implemented under W.S. 9-3-202 through 9-3-219. These volunteers are eligible to enroll in the group insurance plan within the first thirty-one (31) days of the enactment of this section or after initially volunteering for ninety (90) days. After the ninety (90) day period is over, the volunteer shall have thirty-one (31) days to enroll in the group insurance plan. Eligible volunteers who elect not to become enrolled within the time prescribed in this subsection may be enrolled at a later date upon conditions the department may impose. Continued participation in the program is limited to a volunteer who:

(i) May or may not receive compensation for services rendered as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer emergency medical technician or volunteer search and rescue person and who:

(A) Is carried on the regular rolls of a volunteer fire department as defined by W.S. 35-9-616(a)(ix), meets the definition of a volunteer emergency medical technician as defined by W.S. 35-9-616(a)(viii) or meets the definition of a volunteer search and rescue person as defined by W.S. 35-9-616(a)(xiii);

(B) During the course of one (1) year, attends not less than fifty percent (50%) of the monthly volunteer meetings if the person is a volunteer firefighter; and

(C) During the course of one (1) year, responds to not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of calls for services.

(ii) Is not eligible for health insurance coverage under a government sponsored health care program; and

(iii) Resides in the state.

(b) Volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons participating in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan shall pay their group insurance premiums in their entirety and shall not benefit from employer contributions to cover a portion of the cost of their premiums. Volunteers shall submit their monthly premiums to the department. The procedure for submittal of premiums shall be established by the department.

(c) Volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons participating in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan shall submit monthly verification of their continued volunteer status to the department. The verification shall be reviewed and signed by their supervisor.

Section 2. W.S. 9-3-203(a)(iv) and (xvii), 9-3-207(b), 9-3-210(a) and 9-3-211(a) are amended to read:

9-3-203. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(iv) "Employee" means any employee of a participating school district or participating board of cooperative educational services whose salary is paid by funds of the district or board, a volunteer firefighter, volunteer emergency medical technician or a volunteer search and rescue person as provided by W.S. 9-3-220 or any official or employee of the state of Wyoming whose salary is paid by state funds, including employees and faculty members of the University of Wyoming and various community colleges in the state, except persons employed on intermittent, irregular, or less than halftime basis and any at-will contract employee who does not meet the requirements established under W.S.

9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(III) or (IV). “Employee” shall not include employees of the agricultural extension service of the University of Wyoming who hold federal civil service appointments, are required to participate in federal civil service retirement and who elect to participate in the federal employees’ health benefit program as authorized in W.S. 9-3-210(d);

(xvii) “This act” means W.S. 9-3-202 through ~~9-3-219~~ 9-3-220.

9-3-207. Eligibility for membership in plan; state employees; thirty-one (31) day period to elect enrollment; new employees; later enrollment.

(b) An eligible employee who enters state service, enters service as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer emergency medical technician or volunteer search and rescue person or enters service of a voluntary participating employer has thirty-one (31) days from the initial date of employment or ninety (90) days from the initial date of becoming a volunteer firefighter, volunteer emergency medical technician or volunteer search and rescue person as provided by W.S. 9-3-220 to elect to be enrolled or not be enrolled in the group insurance plan. A person who enters service as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer emergency medical technician or volunteer search and rescue person shall volunteer for ninety (90) days before becoming eligible for coverage under the group insurance plan. After the ninety (90) day period is over, a volunteer shall have thirty-one (31) days to elect to be enrolled or not be enrolled in the group insurance plan.

9-3-210. Amount of state’s contribution; estimates submitted to state budget officer; specified employees participation in federal program; participating employers contributions.

(a) Except for voluntary participating employers, volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons under W.S. 9-3-220, the state shall contribute monthly the amount established and appropriated by the legislature for each employee and official enrolled in the plan in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

9-3-211. Deductions from salaries of monthly contributions by employees and officials; establishment of procedure.

(a) The amount of monthly contribution to be made by eligible employees and officials, excluding volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical technicians and volunteer search and rescue persons under W.S. 9-3-220, enrolled in the group insurance plan for themselves and their dependents shall be deducted from the monthly salaries of the employees and officials by the various agencies or voluntary participating employers and remitted to the department. The procedure for deductions and remittances shall be established by the department. If a flexible benefits plan is chosen, the employees’ and officials’ contribution shall be applied to the chosen benefits in an amount determined by the employee or official.

Section 3. The department of administration and information shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 63

OPEN BANKING-AMENDMENTS

Original House Bill No. 145

AN ACT relating to banking; defining who is a customer for purposes of open banking; limiting the release of customer data through open banking as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 13-1-801(a) by creating a new paragraph (iv) is amended to read:

13-1-801. Definitions.

(a) For purposes of this article:

(iv) “Customer” means a natural person or an agent, trustee or representative acting on behalf of a natural person.

Section 2. W.S. 13-1-802(b) as created by 2023 Wyoming Session laws Chapter 87, Section 1 and effective July 1, 2024 is amended to read:

13-1-802. Open banking authorized; regulation.

(b) A bank participating in and providing for open banking shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations including laws and regulations related to the protection and use of customer data. Prior to providing access to any customer data under this section the participating bank shall obtain a customer’s express written consent. The participating bank shall limit the accessible customer data to that which is necessary for the customer to receive a product or service from the third-party financial service provider.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 64**STATE LAND OIL AND GAS LEASES-OPERATOR REQUIREMENT****Original House Bill No. 141**

AN ACT relating to state lands; specifying evaluation and review requirements before issuance of oil and gas leases on state lands; requiring rulemaking; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-6-101 by creating a new subsection (p) is amended to read:

36-6-101. Terms of leases; extensions; lessees specified; rules and regulations; rent and royalties; assignment of leases; grazing and agricultural leases; cooperation with United States or its lessees, in cooperative or unit plans.

(p) Before issuing a lease of any state lands or state school lands for oil and gas production under this article, the director, subject to criteria established by the board, shall review the highest bid offered by an applicant to determine if the applicant is a qualified oil and gas lease applicant in accordance with rules of the board. If the highest bidder is not a qualified bidder, then the board shall consider the second highest bidder to determine whether that bidder is a qualified applicant, upon which the board may issue the lease if the applicant agrees to lease the lands for the highest amount bid before the disqualified applicant entered the lease auction or process or for the amount that the second highest bidder bid, whichever is lower. Any applicant whose bid is rejected under this subsection because the applicant is not a qualified oil and gas lease applicant shall be subject to a civil penalty in the amount of the applicant's highest bid. The attorney general may bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover the penalty specified in this subsection from the applicant.

Section 2. The board of land commissioners shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act, including defining the term “qualified bidder” or “qualified oil and gas applicant” for purposes of bidding on oil and gas production leases on state land.

Section 3. Nothing in this act shall be construed to alter, amend or impair any oil or gas lease for state lands or state school lands or lease assignment issued or made before the effective date of this act.

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

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 65**ANIMAL REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNT
AMENDMENTS-2****Original House Bill No. 93**

AN ACT relating to agriculture, livestock and other animals; increasing the amount the Wyoming livestock board may reimburse for any single quarantine of livestock; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-19-118(d) is amended to read:

11-19-118. Animal reimbursement program account.

(d) Not more than ~~twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00)~~ fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be paid for any single quarantine effort under W.S. 11-19-103(k). The reimbursement limit under this subsection does not include any indemnity payment for livestock disposal under W.S. 11-19-106, 11-19-214 or 11-19-406. Payments from this account for quarantine efforts shall cease whenever the unexpended, unobligated account balance equals or is less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00). Payments from this account for quarantine efforts may resume after the unexpended, unobligated account balance exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00).

Section 2. This act applies to quarantine efforts initiated on or after the effective date of this act.

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

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 66**SCHOOL FINANCE-REGIONAL COST ADJUSTMENT STUDY****Original House Bill No. 20**

AN ACT relating to school finance; requiring reporting and data collection to study the regional cost adjustments utilized in the education resource block grant model during recalibration; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) All data collected and reported as required under this section shall be sufficiently anonymized or aggregated to eliminate personally identifiable

information, while ensuring the legislature is able to perform the recalibration of the education resource block grant model required pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(t) and study the regional cost adjustments.

(b) Each school district shall report to the state superintendent of public instruction:

(i) Not later than October 1, 2024 for school year 2024-2025, and not later than October 1, 2025 for school year 2025-2026, the number of unfilled vacancies for each school and district level staffing category, including teachers, principals and assistant principals, central office administrators, secretarial and clerical staff, operations and maintenance staff, aides and media technicians and student transportation personnel. For purposes of this paragraph, “unfilled vacancies” means positions the school district is actively seeking to fill or has sought to fill within the immediately preceding three (3) months prior to reporting data;

(ii) Not later than October 1, 2024 for school year 2023-2024, and not later than October 1, 2025 for school year 2024-2025, average mileage reimbursed by each school district for travel by school district personnel in the course and scope of employment. The average mileage shall be reported by building, travel destination and purpose of travel.

(c) Not later than March 31, 2025, the state superintendent of public instruction shall report to the legislative service office data collected for school year 2023-2024 and school year 2024-2025 under subsection (b) of this section. Not later than March 31, 2026, the state superintendent shall report to the legislative service office data collected for school year 2025-2026 under subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Not later than November 1, 2024, for school year 2022-2023 data, and not later than November 1, 2025, for school year 2023-2024 data, the Wyoming department of workforce services shall report to the legislative service office:

(i) Detailed wage information for each occupation for each county located in Wyoming as requested by the legislative service office;

(ii) For school and district employees that leave school district employment for another business sector, the employee’s occupational title prior to leaving school district employment, their new occupational title and their new annual wage.

(e) Not later than March 31, 2025, for school year 2024-2025 data and one-time data, and not later than March 31, 2026, for school year 2025-2026 data, the following shall be reported to the legislative service office:

(i) For school year 2024-2025, and for school year 2025-2026, the Wyoming retirement system shall report for each school and district employee, including teachers, principals and assistant principals, central office administrators, secretarial and clerical staff, operations and maintenance staff, aides and media

technicians and student transportation personnel, the date each employee is eligible to receive one hundred percent (100%) of the maximum retirement benefit under the Wyoming retirement system and marital status based on analysis of beneficiary information;

(ii) The Wyoming department of transportation shall report:

(A) The mileage by roadway for the shortest practicable route between each city or town located in Wyoming;

(B) The mileage by roadway, using the shortest practicable route, from each school district building or facility to the center of the nearest town with a population of fifteen thousand (15,000) people or more and from each school district building or facility to the center of the nearest city with a population of fifty thousand (50,000) people or more.

(iii) The Wyoming department of administration and information, economic analysis division, shall report the population for each town, city and county located in Wyoming.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 67

SALES TAX ADMINISTRATION REVISIONS

Original House Bill No. 197

AN ACT relating to sales tax; revising provisions related to administration of the sales tax; clarifying a definition; clarifying the imposition of the tax; amending exemptions; revising reporting requirements; clarifying licensing and compliance provisions; repealing obsolete and other provisions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-15-101(a)(xv), 39-15-103(a)(i)(H), 39-15-105(a)(iii)(E), (iv)(E) and (viii)(O)(intro), 39-15-106(a), 39-15-107(b)(i) and (xi), 39-15-109(c)(i), 39-15-204(a)(v) and 39-15-501(a)(intro) and (i) are amended to read:

39-15-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(xv) "Vendor" means any person engaged in the business of selling at retail or wholesale tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under this article. "Vendor" includes a vehicle dealer as defined by W.S. 31-16-101(a)(xviii), a remote seller to the extent provided by W.S. 39-15-501 and a marketplace facilitator to the extent provided by W.S. 39-15-502. A person is not in the business of selling if selling tangible personal

property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under this article is not a habitual or regular activity of the person;

39-15-103. Imposition.

(a) Taxable event. The following shall apply:

(i) Except as provided by W.S. 39-15-105, there is levied an excise tax upon:

(H) The sales price paid for each admission to any place of amusement, entertainment, recreation, games or athletic event;~~;- If any persons other than employees, officers of the law on official business or children under twelve (12) years of age are admitted free or at reduced rates to any such place when an admission charge is made to other persons, an equivalent tax shall be paid by these persons based on the price charged to other persons;~~

39-15-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following sales or leases are exempt from the excise tax imposed by this article:

(iii) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property consumed in production, the following are exempt:

(E) Sales of power or fuel to a person ~~engaged in the transportation business transporting tangible personal property by railroad or by pipeline~~ when the same power or fuel is consumed directly in generating motive power for actual transportation purposes, except power or fuel which is not taxed as gasoline or gasohol under W.S. 39-17-101 through 39-17-111 or as diesel fuel under W.S. 39-17-201 through 39-17-211 and which is used to propel a motor vehicle upon the highway as defined in W.S. 39-17-201(a)(xii);

(iv) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property sold to government, charitable and nonprofit organizations, irrigation districts and weed and pest control districts, the following are exempt:

(E) Sales price of admission to ~~and user fees for~~ county or municipal owned recreation facilities such as swimming pools, athletic facilities and recreation centers;

(viii) For the purpose of exempting sales of services and tangible personal property as an economic incentive, the following are exempt:

(O) Until December 31, 2027, the sale or lease of machinery to be used in this state directly and predominantly in manufacturing tangible personal property;~~;- if the sale or lease;~~

39-15-106. Licenses; permits.

(a) Every vendor shall obtain from the department a sales tax license to conduct business in the state. ~~Any out-of-state vendor not otherwise subject to this article may voluntarily apply for a license from the department and if~~

~~licensed, shall collect and remit the state sales tax imposed by W.S. 39-15-104.~~ The license shall be granted only upon application stating the name and address of the applicant, the character of the business in which the applicant proposes to engage, the location of the proposed business and other information as the department may require. Effective July 1, 1997, a license fee of sixty dollars (\$60.00) shall be required from each new vendor, except for any remote vendor who has no requirement to register in this state, or who is using one (1) of the technology models pursuant to the streamlined sales and use tax agreement. Failure of a vendor to timely file any return may result in forfeiture of the license granted under this section. The department shall charge sixty dollars (\$60.00) for reinstatement of any forfeited license. The department shall send any vendor who reports no gross sales for three (3) consecutive years a form prescribed by the department to show cause why the vendor's license should not be revoked. The vendor shall complete and file the report with the department within thirty (30) days of receipt of the form. If the department finds just cause for the vendor to retain the license, no further action shall be taken. If the department finds just cause to revoke the license, the vendor shall be notified of the revocation. Any vendor whose license is revoked under this subsection may appeal the decision to the state board of equalization as provided in subsection (g) of this section.

39-15-107. Compliance; collection procedures.

(b) Payment. The following shall apply:

(i) Except as provided by paragraph (viii) of this subsection, no vendor shall collect taxes imposed by this article upon the sale of motor vehicles, house trailers, trailer coaches, trailers or semitrailers. The taxes imposed shall be collected by the county treasurer prior to the first registration in Wyoming and not upon subsequent registration by the same applicant. The county treasurer may allow the taxes to be paid electronically after the amount of sales tax has been determined by the county treasurer. The county treasurer may charge a fee of not more than the costs of processing the transaction but not to exceed a fee of three percent (3%) as necessary to recoup fees incurred due to electronic payments. The county treasurer shall provide the applicant a receipt specifying the amount of sales tax collected and noting any valid exemption from sales tax. The county treasurer shall collect and remit to the department the tax in effect in the county of the owner's principal residence as indicated on the owner's driver's license or other government issued identification;

(xi) If a vendor or direct payer pays taxes due and payable under this chapter on or before the fifteenth day of the month that the taxes are due under paragraph (v) of this subsection, a credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed by this chapter for expenses incurred by a vendor or direct payer for the accounting and reporting of taxes. ~~For the first six thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$6,250.00) of tax due, The credit is equal to one and ninety-five~~

hundredths percent (1.95%) of the amount of tax due. ~~For any tax due in excess of six thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$6,250.00), the credit for that additional amount shall be one percent (1%) of that amount;~~ provided that the total credit under this paragraph and W.S. 39-16-107(b)(viii) shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) in any month. The vendor or direct payer shall deduct the credit for each tax period on forms prescribed and furnished by the department. The credit shall be deducted only from the share of the tax that is distributed to the general fund under W.S. 39-15-111(b)(i).

39-15-109. Taxpayer remedies.

(c) Refunds. The following shall apply:

(i) Any tax, penalty or interest which has been erroneously paid, computed or remitted to the department by a vendor shall either be credited against any subsequent tax liability of the vendor or refunded. If a vendor erroneously collects taxes from a taxpayer and remits those taxes to the department, the vendor may seek a refund or credit against subsequent tax liability only after the vendor has refunded the erroneously collected tax to the taxpayer that originally paid the tax to the vendor. If the taxpayer that originally paid the tax to the vendor cannot be identified, the tax shall not be refunded or credited to the vendor. No credit or refund shall be allowed after three (3) years from the date of overpayment. The receipt of a claim for a refund by the department shall toll the statute of limitations. All refund requests received by the department of revenue shall be approved or denied within ninety (90) days of receipt, provided that referral of a refund request by the department of revenue to the department of audit shall toll the ninety (90) day period pending the outcome of the audit process. Any refund or credit erroneously made or allowed may be recovered in an action brought by the attorney general in any court of competent jurisdiction;

39-15-204. Taxation rate.

(a) In addition to the state tax imposed under W.S. 39-15-101 through 39-15-111 any county of the state may impose the following excise taxes and any city or town may impose the taxes authorized by paragraphs (ii) and (vii) of this subsection and any resort district may impose the tax authorized by paragraph (v) of this subsection:

(v) An excise tax at a rate in increments of one-half of one percent (.5%) not to exceed a rate of three percent (3%) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made within the district, ~~by vendors physically situated within the district,~~ the purpose of which is for general revenue for the resort district;

39-15-501. Sales from remote sellers.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any seller of tangible personal property, admissions or services which are subject to taxation under chapter 15

or 16 of this title who does not have a physical presence in this state shall remit sales tax and follow all applicable procedures and requirements of this chapter as if the seller had a physical presence in this state once the seller meets ~~either~~ of the following requirements for the current calendar year or the immediately preceding calendar year:

(i) The seller's gross revenue from the sale of tangible personal property, admissions or services delivered into this state exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00); ~~or~~

Section 2. W.S. 39-15-105(a)(viii)(O)(I), (II) and (b) and 39-15-501(a)(ii) are repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 68

STATE FORESTRY GOOD NEIGHBOR-POSITIONS

Original House Bill No. 43

AN ACT relating to state lands; authorizing additional employees funded through the Wyoming state forestry good neighbor authority revolving account; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 36-1-503(b) is amended to read:

36-1-503. Powers and duties of state forester.

(b) The state forester may hire additional employees as necessary to conduct good neighbor authority projects or other federally funded cooperative forest management projects funded through the account. Employees hired under this subsection shall be funded using federal funds deposited in the account. The state forester shall not fill more than ~~one (1)~~ four (4) full-time employee ~~position~~ positions and ~~four (4)~~ six (6) at-will employee contract positions under this subsection.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 69**NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT****Original House Bill No. 36**

AN ACT relating to protection of constitutional rights; providing a declaration of authority and policy; prohibiting the enforcement of federal rules or regulations regarding federal land management as specified; providing an exception; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-14-301 through 9-14-303 are created to read:

ARTICLE 3**NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT****9-14-301. Short title.**

This article shall be known and may be cited as the “Natural Resource Protection Act.”

9-14-302. Declaration of authority and policy.

(a) The Natural Resource Protection Act is enacted under the authority of the tenth amendment to the United States constitution and Wyoming’s agreement with the United States that the state adopted when it joined the union under the United States constitution’s system of dual sovereignty.

(b) The legislature finds and declares:

(i) The federal government shall comply with federal law when administering federal lands;

(ii) The federal government arbitrarily restricting significant amounts of federal lands from public use is contrary to managing federal land under principles of multiple use and sustained yield;

(iii) Any failure by the federal government to abide by the law undermines the rule of law that is vital to our system of government.

9-14-303. Prohibiting the use of state resources for enforcement of federal regulations regarding federal land management.

(a) Upon a determination by the governor, with advice from the attorney general, that an executive order, final rule or regulation of the federal government does not comply with federal laws regarding federal land management and upon providing notice, this state and all political subdivisions of this state shall not use any personnel, funds appropriated by the legislature or any other source of funds that originate within the state of Wyoming to enforce or administer that federal executive order, final rule or regulation. The governor may make exceptions to the implementation of this subsection to preserve any valid primacy agreement with a federal agency if the governor believes the net effect of this exception is to reduce the adverse impact of federal regulations on this

state. The governor shall not revoke a valid primacy agreement with a federal agency over the regulation and enforcement of a federal law or program until a court of competent jurisdiction determines the federal executive order, final rule or regulation is unlawful.

(b) Nothing in this act shall limit or restrict a public officer, as defined by W.S. 6-5-101(a)(v), from providing assistance to federal authorities for purposes not specifically identified in subsection (a) of this section. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit any governmental entity from accepting federal funds for law enforcement purposes.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 70

ELECTRICITY RATES FOR COSTS THAT DO NOT BENEFIT WYOMING

Original Senate File No. 20

AN ACT relating to public utilities; specifying that costs of interstate electric public utilities that do not benefit Wyoming ratepayers shall be excluded from costs apportioned to Wyoming; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-3-119 is created to read:

37-3-119. Apportionment of costs to Wyoming ratepayers.

In determining just and reasonable rates under this chapter for an interstate electric public utility where a portion of system costs are apportioned to Wyoming ratepayers, the public service commission shall exclude any system costs from rate determinations that do not have a benefit to ratepayers in Wyoming. Costs that may be excluded include the proportional costs associated with facilities that are built or operated primarily for the benefit of other states or entities outside of Wyoming. The public service commission may approve a reduced apportionment of costs to Wyoming ratepayers to the extent that system costs are used to serve Wyoming ratepayers but which relate to facilities that were built at a higher cost than potential alternative sources of electricity, as determined by the commission, because those alternative sources of electricity may not have met electricity service requirements established by other states or entities outside of Wyoming.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 8, 2024.

Chapter 71**CONTRACTOR LICENSES-RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION
REQUIREMENTS****Original Senate File No. 114**

AN ACT relating to city, county, state and local powers; requiring local governments to recognize and grant reciprocity to contractor licenses issued by a Wyoming county, city or town; specifying conditions for reciprocity; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 16-6-1101 is created to read:

ARTICLE 11**CONTRACTOR LICENSES – RECIPROCITY****16-6-1101. Contractor licenses; reciprocity; requirements.**

(a) As used in this section:

(i) “Accepting jurisdiction” means a county, city, town or other government entity that is required to recognize and accept a license issued by an issuing jurisdiction;

(ii) “Contractor” means a person employed by and contracting with an owner to improve an owner’s property;

(iii) “Issuing jurisdiction” means the county, city, town or other government entity that issued a license to a contractor;

(iv) “License” means any license or certification necessary for a contractor to perform work in a jurisdiction.

(b) Each county, city, town and other government entity that issues licenses to contractors shall recognize a license issued to a contractor by another county, city, town or other government entity in Wyoming, in accordance with the following:

(i) Before the accepting jurisdiction shall recognize the license under this section:

(A) The contractor’s license shall be active; and

(B) The contractor shall be in good standing with the issuing jurisdiction and shall provide to the accepting jurisdiction any proof of financial assurance required by the accepting jurisdiction.

(ii) The contractor shall provide proof of the successful completion of the international code council examination for contractor, plumbing, mechanical or another appropriate examination, or an equivalent. Contractors seeking to have a license recognized by an accepting jurisdiction for fire systems installation, testing or maintenance shall provide proof of the successful completion of the appropriate manufacturer certification, including the

national institute for certification in engineering technologies, American fire sprinkler association, national fire sprinkler association or their equivalents. Upon providing appropriate proof under this paragraph, no contractor shall be required to complete any testing in the accepting jurisdiction for recognition of the license;

(iii) Any applications required for recognition of a license by an accepting jurisdiction shall only require the minimum amount of information necessary for the accepting jurisdiction to verify the license and the contractor's good standing in the issuing jurisdiction;

(iv) The accepting jurisdiction may require a contractor to provide proof sufficient for the accepting jurisdiction to confirm that the contractor's license is active and in good standing in the issuing jurisdiction;

(v) The accepting jurisdiction may deny a contractor recognition of a license if the contractor has previously had a license revoked or suspended by the accepting jurisdiction;

(vi) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to:

(A) Require an accepting jurisdiction to grant privileges to a contractor for a license that is not of a similar type or class to the license granted by the issuing jurisdiction;

(B) Prohibit an accepting jurisdiction from requiring a contractor to complete application requirements and procedures, satisfactorily complete any testing requirements or pay fees if the contractor seeks to perform work in an accepting jurisdiction that is not covered under the license issued by the issuing jurisdiction or seeks to perform work that is not at an equivalent level of required competency in the accepting jurisdiction.

(c) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit any county, city, town or other government entity that issues licenses to contractors from entering into agreements for the recognition of licenses obtained in other jurisdictions in Wyoming.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 14, 2024.

Chapter 72**HOMELAND DEFENSE-INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTING AND
INVESTIGATING****Original Senate File No. 77**

AN ACT relating to homeland security; requiring county clerks to report conveyances and property transactions to the office of homeland security and the division of criminal investigation as specified; requiring the designation of critical infrastructure zones; authorizing the office of homeland security and the division of criminal investigation to investigate land transactions that threaten critical infrastructure; requiring the division of criminal investigation to investigate homeland security incidents; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; providing an appropriation; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 19-13-501 and 19-13-502 are created to read:

ARTICLE 5**PROPERTY CONVEYANCES NEAR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE****19-13-501. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) “Conveyance” means as defined by W.S. 34-1-102 and includes conveyances of real property, surface interests, mineral interests and pore space interests;

(ii) “Critical infrastructure” means any property, system and asset, whether physical or cyber-based, so vital to the United States or the state of Wyoming that the degradation or destruction of the property, system and asset would have a debilitating impact on national security, including national economic security and national public health or safety;

(iii) “Critical infrastructure zone” means an area of property, whether covering the surface estate, mineral estate, pore space estate or nonphysical property, designated by the governor in consultation with the director of the office of homeland security as property encompassing critical infrastructure;

(iv) “Designated country or person” means:

(A) A foreign government or foreign nongovernment person determined to be a foreign adversary by the United States secretary of commerce and specified in 15 C.F.R. 7.4(a); or

(B) A country or government designated as a state sponsor of terrorism by the United States secretary of state under the federal Export Administration Act of 1979, the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Arms Export Control Act or any other provision of federal law.

(v) “Director” means the director of the office of homeland security appointed under W.S. 19-13-104.

19-13-502. Critical infrastructure zones; reporting of conveyances; investigations; rulemaking.

(a) The governor, in consultation with the director, shall designate any property or area of property that qualifies under this article as a critical infrastructure zone. The governor and director shall identify each property designated as a critical infrastructure zone by using a legal description of the property. Any designation under this section shall be the least restrictive designation necessary to ensure the security of the critical infrastructure to be protected. The director, in consultation with the governor, may remove a designation of a critical infrastructure zone from any property. Not later than July 1, 2025 and each July 1 thereafter, the director, in consultation with the governor, shall review the designations made under this subsection to determine whether designations should be removed or amended. Any property designated as a critical infrastructure zone under this subsection shall remain designated until removed in accordance with this subsection or by order of a court.

(b) Not later than July 1 of each year, the director shall provide a list of all currently designated critical infrastructure zones to each county clerk.

(c) Within fifteen (15) days after the conveyance is executed and completed, the county clerk shall report each conveyance that involves any property located within a critical infrastructure zone or that is located not more than five (5) miles from a critical infrastructure zone to the director and to the division of criminal investigation.

(d) Upon receiving a report from a county clerk under subsection (c) of this section, the director and the division of criminal investigation shall, upon reasonable suspicion, investigate the conveyance to determine if the conveyance involves a designated country or person or if the conveyance poses a threat to national or state security or to critical infrastructure.

(e) The director, the attorney general and the division of criminal investigation may take any action authorized by law to determine the actual identity of any party to a conveyance reported under this section if the party's actual identity is not clear from the conveyance. Any investigation and information obtained during the investigation shall remain confidential and shall not be open to public inspection.

(f) The director shall promulgate any rules necessary for the designation of critical infrastructure zones in accordance with this section.

Section 2. W.S. 9-1-618(b) by creating new paragraphs (vi) and (vii), 18-3-402(a) by creating a new paragraph (xxvi) and 19-13-104(d) by creating a new paragraph (vi) are amended to read:

9-1-618. Agents to be safeguarded as peace officers; general assistance to state, county or local authorities; investigative duties.

(b) The division shall investigate:

(vi) Conveyances, leases and leasehold interests within or near designated critical infrastructure zones as reported by county clerks in accordance with W.S. 19-13-501 and 19-13-502. The division may investigate whether the conveyance, lease and leasehold interest may result in a threat to national or state security or whether the conveyance, lease and leasehold interest involves a designated country or person as defined by W.S. 19-13-501(a)(iv). The attorney general or, with the attorney general's approval, the division may subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance and require the production of records and other evidence to determine:

(A) Whether a conveyance, lease and leasehold interest within five (5) miles of a designated critical infrastructure zone threatens national or state security;

(B) Whether a conveyance, lease and leasehold interest involves a designated country or person as defined by W.S. 19-13-501(a)(iv);

(C) The actual identity of a party to a conveyance, lease and leasehold interest within five (5) miles of a designated critical infrastructure zone.

(vii) Incidents involving domestic terrorism or disasters related to homeland security as specified in W.S. 19-13-102(a)(ii).

18-3-402. Duties generally.

(a) The county clerk shall:

(xxvi) Report all conveyances within five (5) miles of a designated critical infrastructure zone to the director of the office of homeland security and the division of criminal investigation in accordance with W.S. 19-13-501 and 19-13-502.

19-13-104. Powers of governor generally; director, office of homeland security.

(d) The position of the director, office of homeland security is created in the governor's office and shall be appointed by the governor. He shall be responsible to the governor and may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The director shall:

(vi) Consult the governor and assist the attorney general and division of criminal investigation on the designation of critical infrastructure zones and the investigation of conveyances, leases and leasehold interests within five (5) miles of critical infrastructure zones in accordance with W.S. 19-13-501 and 19-13-502.

Section 3. There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for purposes of distributing funds to county clerks to implement this act. The office of state lands and investments shall distribute this appropriation to counties in equal amounts. This appropriation shall only be expended for technology changes and upgrades and other expenses related to implementing this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

Section 4. This act shall apply to all conveyances executed on and after July 1, 2024.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 14, 2024.

Chapter 73

PROMPT PAYMENT OF INSURANCE CLAIMS

Original Senate File No. 100

AN ACT relating to the insurance code; providing regulations for payment of claims from insurers or the insurer's intermediary to pharmacies; providing definitions; requiring rulemaking; providing applicability; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 26-52-201 through 26-52-203 are created to read:

CHAPTER 52

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS AND PAYMENT OF PHARMACY CLAIMS

ARTICLE 2

PAYMENT OF INSURANCE CLAIMS

26-52-201. Scope and applicability of chapter.

The following provisions apply to situations where there is a contract between an insurer or the insurer's intermediary and a pharmacy regarding the payment of insurance claims for pharmacy services pursuant to W.S. 26-52-102(a)(ix) submitted to an insurer or the insurer's intermediary.

26-52-202. Definitions.

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Applicable number of calendar days" means:

(A) For claims submitted electronically, twenty-one (21) days;

(B) For claims submitted in a manner other than electronically, thirty (30) days.

(ii) “Clean claim” means a claim that has no defect, including any lack of required substantiating documentation or particular circumstance requiring special treatment that prevents timely payment from being made on the claim under this chapter;

(iii) “Insurer” means as defined by W.S. 26-1-102(a)(xvi).

26-52-203. Payment of claims to pharmacy providers.

(a) A contract between an insurer or the insurer’s intermediary and a pharmacy for prescription drug coverage offered by the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary shall require the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary to make payment to the pharmacy for all clean claims submitted by a pharmacy within the applicable number of calendar days after the date that the clean claim is received. For purposes of this section, a claim is considered to have been received:

(i) For claims submitted electronically, on the date that the claim is submitted; or

(ii) For claims submitted in any manner other than electronically, on the fifth day after the postmark date of the claim or the date specified on the time stamp of the transmission of the claim.

(b) For purposes of this section, a contract between an insurer or the insurer’s intermediary and a pharmacy regarding prescription drug coverage offered by an insurer or the insurer’s intermediary shall include any contract regarding prescription drug coverage offered by the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary under which a pharmacy is legally obligated, either directly or through an intermediary such as a pharmacy benefit manager.

(c) If the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary does not make payment within the applicable number of calendar days after a clean claim is received, or resubmitted under subsections (e) and (f) of this section, the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary shall pay interest to the pharmacy at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum, billed weekly.

(d) A claim shall be considered a clean claim if the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary does not provide notice to the pharmacy of any deficiency in the claim within ten (10) days after an electronically submitted claim is received or within fifteen (15) days after a claim that is submitted in any other manner is received.

(e) If an insurer or the insurer’s intermediary determines that a claim submitted is not a clean claim, the insurer or the insurer’s intermediary shall notify the pharmacy of the determination within ten (10) days of receiving an electronically submitted claim or within fifteen (15) days of receiving a claim

that is submitted in any other manner. The notice shall specify all defects in the claim and list all information or documents necessary for the proper processing and payment of the claim.

(f) A claim resubmitted to an insurer or the insurer's intermediary with additional information pursuant to subsection (e) of this section shall be considered to be a clean claim if the insurer or the insurer's intermediary fails to provide notice to the pharmacy of any defect in the claim within ten (10) days of the date that additional information is received if the claim is resubmitted electronically or within fifteen (15) days of the date that additional information is received if the claim is resubmitted in any other manner. A resubmitted claim that is considered to be a clean claim under this subsection shall be paid within the applicable number of calendar days after the date that the resubmitted claim is received and, if payment is not timely made, interest shall accrue as provided by subsection (c) of this section.

(g) Payment of a clean claim under this section shall be considered to have been made on the date that the payment is transferred to the pharmacy provider account, or to the central pay account of the pharmacy services administrative organization that is directly contracted by the pharmacy, with respect to claims paid electronically and on the date that the payment is submitted to the postal service or common carrier for delivery with respect to claims paid in any other manner.

(h) No insurer shall directly or indirectly charge a pharmacy or hold the pharmacy responsible for fees associated with claims payment.

Section 2. W.S. 26-15-124(a) is amended to read:

26-15-124. Claim to be accepted or rejected; attorney's fee.

(a) Claims for benefits under a life, accident or health insurance policy shall be rejected or accepted and paid by the insurer or its agent designated to receive the claims within forty-five (45) days after receipt of the proofs of loss and supporting evidence. Exceptions to the time of forty-five (45) days shall be made for accident and health insurance claims if there is any question as to the validity or the amount of the claim and the question is referred to the Wyoming state medical peer review committee for adjudication. Exceptions shall also be made as authorized by W.S. 26-16-112(a) and 26-52-203.

Section 3. The department of insurance shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 4. This act shall apply to contracts renewed, amended or entered into between insurers and pharmacies beginning on or after July 1, 2024.

Section 5.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 74

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT-DEFINITION AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 80

AN ACT relating to environmental quality; amending the definitions of solid waste and solid waste management facility; providing definitions of advanced recycling and advanced recycling facilities; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-11-103(d)(i)(intro), (B), by creating a new subparagraph (D), (ii)(intro), (F), by creating a new subparagraph (H) and by creating new paragraphs (xii) and (xiii) is amended to read:

35-11-103. Definitions.

(d) Specific definitions applying to solid waste management:

(i) “Solid waste” means garbage, and other discarded solid materials, materials, including solid waste materials resulting from industrial, commercial, and agricultural operations, and from community activities, but, unless disposed of at a solid waste management facility, does not include any of the following:

(B) Liquids, solids, sludges or dissolved constituents which are collected or separated in process units for recycling, recovery or reuse including the recovery of energy, within a continuous or batch manufacturing or refining process;~~or~~

(D) Post-use polymers and recovered feedstocks converted at an advanced recycling facility or held at an advanced recycling facility before conversion through an advanced recycling process.

(ii) “Solid waste management facility” means any facility for the transfer, treatment, processing, storage or disposal of solid waste, but does not include any of the following:

(F) Transport vehicles, storage containers and treatment of the waste in containers;~~or~~

(H) Advanced recycling facilities.

(xii) “Advanced recycling” means a manufacturing process for the

conversion of post-use polymers and recovered feedstocks into basic hydrocarbon raw materials, feedstocks, chemical and other products like waxes and lubricants through processes that include but are not limited to pyrolysis, gasification, depolymerization, catalytic cracking, hydrogenation, solvolysis and other similar technologies;

(xiii) “Advanced recycling facility” means a manufacturing facility that receives, stores and converts post-use polymers and recovered feedstocks using advanced recycling.

Section 2. The environmental quality council, upon recommendation by the department of environmental quality, shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 75

LOW-CARBON RELIABLE ENERGY STANDARDS-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 42

AN ACT relating to public utilities; amending requirements and deadlines for low-carbon energy generation standards; amending reporting requirements for meeting the low-carbon energy standards; amending rate recovery mechanisms associated with low-carbon energy standards; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-18-101(a)(iii) and 37-18-102(a)(i) through (iv), (v)(A), (c)(iii) and (e) are amended to read:

37-18-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(iii) “Low-carbon” means electricity that is generated while using carbon capture, utilization and storage technology that produces carbon emissions captures not greater less than six hundred fifty (650) pounds eighteen thousand seven hundred fifty (18,750) metric tons of carbon dioxide per megawatt hour of generated electricity averaged over during one (1) calendar year and that has a capture design capacity of not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the baseline

carbon dioxide production of the generation unit as specified in 26 U.S.C. § 45Q(e)(2).

37-18-102. Energy generation portfolio standards; reporting requirements; rate recovery and limitations.

(a) Consistent with the objective of ensuring Wyoming electric utilities maintain access to reliable and cost effective electric generation resources, the public service commission shall establish by rule energy portfolio standards that will maximize the use of dispatchable and reliable low-carbon electricity. In establishing standards, the commission:

(i) Shall require a public utility serving more than ten thousand (10,000) Wyoming electric customers to generate a specified percentage of electricity generated to be that is dispatchable and reliable low-carbon electricity from an existing coal-fired generation unit or an equivalent new coal-fueled generation unit;

(ii) Shall establish a date not later than July 1, ~~2030~~ 2033 for requiring a percentage of electricity generated by a public utility to be dispatchable and reliable low-carbon electricity taking into consideration any potentially expiring federal tax credits;

(iii) Shall establish intermediate ~~standards and~~ requirements for dispatchable and reliable low-carbon electricity that public utilities must generate before the electricity generation standard established in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection;

(iv) Beginning July 1, 2024, shall require each public utility to demonstrate in each integrated resource plan submitted to file with the commission an annual report outlining the steps in the past calendar year the public utility is taking has taken to determine the market for carbon dioxide from the electricity generation and to achieve the electricity generation standard established in paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this subsection. In the annual report required under this paragraph, each public utility shall, for purposes of determining the market for carbon dioxide from electricity generation, report the potential customers the public utility has contacted and any information or estimates the customers are willing to make public on the quantities of carbon dioxide they may need;

(v) Shall for each public utility:

(A) Not later than December 15, 2024, establish baseline standards for electric reliability to ensure adequate reliable dispatchable power in Wyoming. The standards established under this subparagraph may include limits on outages and shall ensure that new or expanded intermittent generation resources do not unreasonably diminish power quality or increase momentary outages across a utility's service territory or in any particular location;

(c) Subject to W.S. 37-3-117(a) and the limitation in subsection (b) of this section, the commission shall consider the following when establishing

reasonable rates for a public utility working toward and achieving the electricity generation standards established under subsection (a) of this section:

(iii) To the extent a public utility can demonstrate that it will incur incremental costs to comply with the reliable and dispatchable low-carbon energy standard, the commission shall authorize the public utility to implement a rate recovery mechanism that collects a surcharge from customers not to exceed two percent (2%) of each customer's total electric bill to provide for the recovery of the prudently incurred incremental costs to comply with the reliable and dispatchable low-carbon energy standard. A rate recovery mechanism may be authorized and established prior to the public utility incurring incremental costs to comply with the reliable and dispatchable low-carbon energy standard and the public utility may retain funds collected through a mechanism in a regulatory account approved by the commission to offset future costs. To the extent the rate recovery mechanism is insufficient to compensate the public utility for its prudently incurred incremental costs to comply with the reliable and dispatchable low-carbon energy standard, the commission shall take such actions as necessary ~~notwithstanding any other provision of this section~~ to ensure the public utility is able to recover its prudently incurred incremental costs and customers are not charged for those incremental costs other than through the rate recovery mechanism specified in this subsection. No rate recovery shall be allowed by the commission under this paragraph after the public utility has been authorized by the commission to collect these costs through the utility's base rates or another recovery mechanism approved by the commission.

(e) Beginning in 2023, and occurring every second year thereafter, the commission shall report to the ~~legislature joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee and the joint corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim committee~~ regarding implementation of the electricity portfolio standards and recommend whether it should be continued, modified or repealed. To the extent the electricity portfolio standards are modified or discontinued, nothing shall impair the ability of a public utility that has incurred costs to comply with the electricity portfolio standards to recover its prudently incurred costs as authorized by the commission.

Section 2. The public service commission shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act. As part of this rulemaking process, the public service commission shall amend deadlines for public utilities to submit final plans for achieving low-carbon energy production standards to the commission to account for the extension of deadlines provided by section 1 of this act.

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

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 76**PUBLIC UTILITIES-ENERGY RESOURCE PROCUREMENT****Original Senate File No. 23**

AN ACT relating to public utilities; establishing a solicitation process for specified electrical utilities acquiring or constructing significant energy resources; providing a waiver process; providing for the use of independent evaluators; providing rulemaking authority; authorizing a full time position; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-2-135 is created to read:

37-2-135. Energy resource procurement.

(a) An affected electrical utility shall comply with this section to acquire or construct a significant energy resource after July 1, 2024, provided that this section shall not apply to a significant energy resource for which the affected electrical utility has issued a solicitation before July 1, 2024.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, to acquire or construct a significant energy resource, an affected electrical utility shall conduct a solicitation process that is approved by the commission. To obtain the approval of the commission of a solicitation process, the affected electrical utility shall file with the commission a request for approval that includes a description of the solicitation process that the affected electrical utility will use, a complete proposed solicitation and any other information that the commission requires by rule.

(c) An affected electrical utility may obtain a waiver of the requirements of subsection (b) of this section if the commission determines that waiving the requirement is in the public interest because of a clear emergency, a time limited commercial or technical opportunity that provides value to the customers of the affected electrical utility or any other factor determined by the commission that makes waiving the requirement in the public interest. The commission shall adopt rules regarding the waiver process.

(d) The commission may adopt rules outlining the requirements for the solicitation approval process under this section. Rules adopted under this subsection may account for circumstances where an affected electrical utility is subject to regulation in more than one (1) state regarding the acquisition, construction or cost recovery of a significant energy resource, in which event the rules may allow the commission to consider the impact of the multistate regulation on the solicitation process, cost recovery of resources and methods by which the affected electrical utility may be able to mitigate the potential for cost disallowances.

(e) The commission shall appoint an independent evaluator to monitor any solicitation submitted for approval under this section. The independent evaluator shall not make the determination as to which bid shall be awarded

under the solicitation. The independent evaluator shall actively monitor the solicitation approval process for fairness and compliance with this section and rules of the commission. The independent evaluator shall report to the commission and others as directed by the commission and shall develop one (1) or more reports addressing the solicitation approval process, any concerns related to the solicitation and the ultimate results of the solicitation approval process including the opinions and conclusions of the independent evaluator. The report shall include an opinion as to whether the solicitation approval process is fair, done in compliance with this section and whether any modeling used by the affected electrical utility regarding the solicitation is sufficient. The independent evaluator shall perform other functions and provide other input and reports as directed by the commission. The commission shall adopt rules regarding independent evaluators under this subsection.

(f) As used in this section:

(i) “Affected electrical utility” means a public utility other than a cooperative electric utility as defined in W.S. 37-17-101(a)(i);

(ii) “Significant energy resource”:

(A) Means a resource that consists of:

(I) A total of one hundred (100) megawatts or more of new generating capacity that has a dependable life of ten (10) or more years;

(II) The purchase of electricity, electric generating capacity or both if the contract is for a term of ten (10) or more years and a total of not less than one hundred (100) megawatts;

(III) The purchase or lease by an affected electrical utility from an affiliated company of a generating facility, electricity, electrical generating capacity or both electricity and electrical generating capacity;

(IV) A contract with an option for the affected electrical utility or an affiliate to purchase a resource that consists of not less than one hundred (100) megawatts of new generating capacity that has a remaining dependable life of ten (10) or more years; or

(V) A type of resource designated by rule of the commission as a significant energy resource after considering the affected electrical utility’s integrated resource plan and action plan.

(B) Shall not include a resource procured for one (1) or more customers pursuant to an approved tariff, at the customer’s request and agreed upon with the affected electrical utility, provided that the agreement does not negatively impact the affected electrical utility’s other customers.

(iii) “Solicitation” means a request for proposals or other invitation for persons to submit a bid or proposal through an open bid process for construction or acquisition of a significant energy resource.

Section 2.

(a) The public service commission is authorized up to one (1) full-time position for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 for an analyst to implement the requirements of this act. It is the intent of the legislature that the public service commission include this full-time position in its standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated three hundred fifty-six thousand dollars (\$356,000.00) from the public service account under W.S. 37-2-106 within the special revenue fund to the public service commission for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for purposes of funding the position authorized in subsection (a) of this section. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 77**STATE FAIR BOARD-POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Original Senate File No. 14

AN ACT relating to agriculture, livestock and other animals; authorizing the state fair board to make disbursements from its budget; authorizing the state fair board to make and execute contracts; removing the requirement that the director of the department of agriculture be the chairman of any subcommittee created to execute the annual state fair; allowing the director of the department of agriculture to assign a designee to serve on the state fair board; authorizing rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-10-102(b), (c)(vii) and by creating new paragraphs (viii) and (ix) and 11-10-115(a)(x) are amended to read:

11-10-102. Duties and responsibilities with respect to the annual state fair and fairgrounds.

(b) The department shall prepare budget requests on behalf of and subject to the approval of the state fair board for the conduct and management of the annual state fair and for the operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds, including building and facility needs for major maintenance and repair. ~~The director is responsible for the proper disbursement of all funds appropriated for the annual state fair and fairgrounds.~~

(c) The state fair board shall:

(vii) To the extent establishing a subcommittee would aid in executing the annual state fair, appoint a subcommittee of state fair board members to plan, conduct or supervise the annual state fair; ~~The director shall serve as chairman of any subcommittee appointed under this paragraph.~~

(viii) Pursuant to W.S. 9-2-3204, make and execute contracts and other instruments, including financial contracts and instruments that the state fair board determines are reasonable and advisable to carry out the purposes and programs of the state fair board;

(ix) Expend funds appropriated for the conduct and management of the annual state fair and for the operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds.

11-10-115. State fair board; membership; terms; compensation.

(a) There is created the state fair board consisting of the following members:

(x) The director, or the director's designee, shall serve as a voting member;

Section 2. The state fair board shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 78

LIGHT AND HIGH PROFILE VEHICLE CLOSURES-2

Original Senate File No. 113

AN ACT relating to highways; creating a penalty for violating signs and markers for closures to light and high profile vehicles and other weight based closures; requiring fines imposed to be paid by the driver of the vehicle at the time of the violation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 24-1-109(a) and by creating a new subsection (d) is amended to read:

24-1-109. Closing or restricting use; failure to observe signs and markers; exceptions.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, any person who willfully fails to observe any sign, marker, warning, notice; or direction, placed

or given under W.S. 24-1-108 is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof by any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be subject to a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) or to imprisonment for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(d) Any person who willfully fails to observe any sign, marker, warning, notice or direction placed or given under W.S. 24-1-108 for closure to light and high profile vehicles or other weight based closures is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall:

(i) For a first offense, be subject to a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and may be subject to imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days;

(ii) For a second or subsequent offense within three (3) years after a conviction for a violation of this subsection, be subject to a fine of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) and may be subject to imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days. For purposes of any driver licensing action, a conviction under this paragraph shall be deemed reckless driving under W.S. 31-5-229;

(iii) As the driver of the light and high-profile vehicle at the time of the violation of this subsection, be required to pay any fine imposed under this subsection.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 79

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT-NUMBER OF JUDGES

Original Senate File No. 53

AN ACT relating to the judiciary; providing for an additional district judge for the sixth judicial district; specifying requirements for suitable facilities; providing an appropriation; authorizing positions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 5-3-102(a) is amended to read:

5-3-102. Number of judges; distribution among districts; concurrent jurisdiction; judicial conference to adopt rules.

(a) There shall be two (2) judges of the district court in the second, fourth, fifth and eighth judicial districts, three (3) judges of the district court in the ~~sixth and ninth judicial districts~~ sixth district and four (4) judges of the district court in the first, third, sixth and seventh judicial districts. In the second judicial district, one (1) judge shall reside in Albany county and one (1) shall reside

in Carbon county. In the third judicial district two (2) judges shall reside in Sweetwater county. In the fourth judicial district, one (1) judge shall reside in Sheridan county and one (1) shall reside in Johnson county. In the ninth judicial district one (1) judge shall reside in Fremont county, one (1) judge shall reside in Teton county and one (1) judge shall reside in Sublette county. All district judges in the state shall have concurrent jurisdiction throughout the state and for purposes of assignment, shall have concurrent jurisdiction throughout the state with all circuit court judges.

Section 2.

(a) There is appropriated from the general fund to the sixth judicial district court one million two hundred forty thousand seven hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$1,240,728.00) for purposes of funding the additional district judge authorized in this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 and shall only be expended for salaries, benefits, office equipment, supplies and fees necessary to implement the office of the sixth judicial district court judge in the sixth judicial district authorized in section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

(b) There are authorized four (4) full-time equivalent positions, one (1) of which shall be the judge authorized in section 1 of this act, for the sixth judicial district court for personnel necessary to staff and support the additional district judge for the sixth judicial district authorized by this act for the biennium beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026.

(c) Suitable facilities for the additional district judge for the sixth judicial district authorized in this act shall be provided in the sixth judicial district. Suitable facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other necessary auxiliary facilities.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 80

TRUSTS AND BANK ASSETS IN BANKRUPTCY-CLARIFICATION

Original Senate File No. 96

AN ACT relating to banks, banking and finance; specifying when certain accounts shall not be deemed assets or liabilities of financial institutions for purposes of receivership, conservatorship or bankruptcy; amending requirements for banks providing custodial or fiduciary services for digital assets; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 13-1-206 is created to read:

13-1-206. Financial institutions; fiduciary and custodial accounts; bankruptcy and receivership treatment.

(a) Covered accounts under the administration or management of a financial institution, as defined in W.S. 13-1-101(a)(ix), that meet the requirements of subsection (b) of this section shall not be deemed assets or liabilities of the financial institution for the purposes of any receivership or conservatorship under this title or a bankruptcy, receivership or other similar proceeding under federal law. This section, and other applicable provisions of Titles 4, 13 and 34, Wyoming Statutes, shall govern whether an account is a custodial account for the purposes of any proceedings pursuant to titles 7, 11, 12 and 15 of the United States Code or similar insolvency, receivership, conservatorship or restructuring proceedings.

(b) Consistent with subsection (a) of this section, a covered account shall be subject to the following requirements:

(i) The covered account shall be governed by a written agreement consistent with subsection (d) of this section;

(ii) Assets held in the covered account shall be segregated from the assets and liabilities of the financial institution, and shall be accounted for separately on the books and records of the financial institution;

(iii) Digital assets held in a covered account may be held in omnibus digital wallets that are commingled with digital assets held in other covered accounts, provided that the books and records of the financial institution reflect the assets held in each covered account;

(iv) Assets of the financial institution shall not be commingled with assets held in covered accounts;

(v) A financial institution may utilize a subcustodian to maintain a covered account if the agreement specified by paragraph (i) of this subsection meets each of the following requirements:

(A) Explicitly identifies the subcustodian by name; and

(B) The subcustodian may not commingle fiat or digital assets held in the covered account with the fiat or digital assets of the subcustodian.

(vi) The staking of digital assets held in a covered account shall be permitted, but only if the agreement specified by paragraph (i) of this subsection meets each of the following requirements:

(A) Explicitly authorizes staking;

(B) Prior to and after staking, the digital assets may never be commingled in digital wallets with the digital assets of the financial institution or any third party service provider;

(C) Third parties who provide staking services for covered accounts shall maintain a written agreement that prior to and after staking, customer digital assets are never commingled with the digital assets of that third party service provider; and

(D) Otherwise complies with W.S. 34-29-104.

(vii) Digital assets in a covered account may be held on third-party platforms for the limited purpose of trade execution, but only if the agreement specified by paragraph (i) of this subsection:

(A) Explicitly authorizes trading on third-party platforms;

(B) Provides that digital assets may not be held on third-party platforms for a period of time longer than reasonably required to execute transactions;

(C) Otherwise complies with W.S. 34-29-104.

(viii) Stablecoin reserves may be held in covered accounts and are subject to this section, but only if the financial institution complies with this section;

(ix) The covered account meets all other applicable requirements of law, including title 4 of the Wyoming statutes, W.S. 34-29-101 through 34-29-209 and 34.1-1-101 through 34.1-9-809.

(c) Covered account agreements between financial institutions and customers shall include the following or similar language:

“This is a covered account agreement entered into pursuant to W.S. 13-1-206. All parties intend for this agreement to create a covered account under which the assets provided pursuant to this agreement remain the property of the customer and not the financial institution. The financial institution agrees to comply with W.S. 13-1-206 and to refrain from commingling any customer assets with assets of the financial institution.”

(d) If a covered account will hold stablecoin reserves, the covered account agreements between financial institutions and customers shall include the following or similar language:

“This covered account will hold stablecoin reserves and the beneficiaries of this covered account are the holders of the corresponding stablecoins.”

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting or prohibiting use of a subcustodian that maintains a custodial account which complies with the requirements of this section.

(f) As used in this section:

(i) “Covered account” means either a custodial account or a fiduciary account;

(ii) “Custodial account” means an account under which a financial institution provides custodial services, as provided in W.S. 34-29-104(a);

(iii) “Custodial account agreement” means the agreement between a financial institution and customer pursuant to subsection (b) of this section;

(iv) “Fiduciary account” means an account governed by Title 4, Wyoming Statutes, and is an account established by a financial institution for which the institution owes a fiduciary duty to a customer and involves the exercise of substantial discretion, which shall include investment advice or investment decision making relating to financial assets, including currency, digital assets, securities and commodities;

(v) “Fiduciary account agreement” means the agreement between a financial institution and customer pursuant to subsection (b) of this section;

(vi) “Stablecoin” means digital assets that are designed to maintain a stable value in relation to another asset and which a holder of the stablecoin may convert, redeem or repurchase for another asset. “Stablecoin” includes the Wyoming Stable Token identified in W.S. 40-31-102(a)(viii);

(vii) “Stablecoin reserves” means the fiat or digital assets which are intended to be used for exchanging stablecoin for fiat or digital assets;

(viii) “Staking” means committing digital assets to participate in the validation of transactions relating to a blockchain protocol, or any substantially similar analog;

(ix) “Subcustodian” means a third-party that provides technical services concerning digital asset and fiat custody and that is a financial institution, licensed money transmitter under W.S. 40-22-101 et seq. or a bank organized under the laws of the United States.

Section 2. W.S. 13-5-417(f), 34-29-104(a), (d)(intro), by creating new subsections (p) and (q) and amending and renumbering (p) as (r) are amended to read:

13-5-417. Insolvency; unsafe condition; receivership.

(f) If determined by the commissioner to be in the best interests of both the state and the supervised trust company, the commissioner may require the supervised trust company to file a petition under title 11 of the United States Code in lieu of a receivership under this section. If the commissioner has been appointed receiver under this section prior to the filing of a petition under title 11, United States Code, the commissioner shall be discharged from further duties under the receivership after the resolution of any jurisdictional issues at the commencement of a bankruptcy proceeding.

34-29-104. Digital asset custodial services.

(a) A bank may provide custodial services for digital assets consistent with this section upon providing sixty (60) days written notice to the commissioner.

~~The provisions of this section are cumulative and not exclusive as an optional framework for enhanced supervision of digital asset custody. If a bank elects to provide custodial services under this section for digital assets, it shall comply with all provisions of this section.~~

(d) Digital assets held in custody under this section are not ~~depository~~ liabilities or assets of the bank. A bank, or a subsidiary, may register as an investment adviser, investment company or broker dealer as necessary. A bank shall maintain possession or control, as applicable, over a digital asset while in custody. A customer shall elect, pursuant to a written agreement with the bank, one (1) of the following relationships for each digital asset held in custody:

(p) A bank may provide custodial services for stablecoin reserves, provided those custodial services are consistent with this section and the rules and regulations of the commissioner.

(q) A supervised trust company that is chartered in this state may provide all the services provided in this section if it complies with the provisions of this section and the rules and regulations of the commissioner.

~~(p)~~(r) As used in this section:

(i) “Bank” has the meaning ascribed to it in W.S. 13-1-101(a)(i);

(ii) “Commissioner” means the banking commissioner;

(iii) “Custodial services” means the safekeeping, servicing and management of customer currency and digital assets. This term includes the exercise of fiduciary and trust powers involving the exercise of discretion, including transactions under subsection (e) of this section.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 81

SPECIAL DISTRICT VACANCIES

Original Senate File No. 26

AN ACT relating to special districts; clarifying the term of office for members of a special district governing body that filled a vacancy; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 22-29-103(b) and 22-29-202(c) are amended to read:

22-29-103. Applicability to special districts; general provisions.

(b) This act specifies requirements pertaining to elections and changes in the organization of the districts listed in subsection (a) of this section where

the principal act is silent or unclear. Except as provided by W.S. 22-29-401(b) and 22-29-202(c), the specific provisions of a principal act are effective and controlling to the extent they conflict with this act.

22-29-202. Filling by appointment.

(c) An appointee to the office of director shall serve until the office is filled following the next regular election. The term of office of an appointee shall not be extended in any manner beyond the term of office that the appointee was appointed to fill. If a vacancy exists following a regular election the vacancy shall be filled as provided in subsection (a) of this section.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 82

REVISOR'S BILL

Original Senate File No. 83

AN ACT relating to the revision of statutes and other legislative enactments; correcting statutory references and language resulting from inadvertent errors and omissions in previously adopted legislation; amending obsolete references; repealing an obsolete provision; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 7-4-204, 9-4-719(b)(i), 15-1-119(a), 19-7-301(a), 28-11-701(b)(ii), 31-2-231(b)(intro), 34-24-102(a)(xii), 35-11-316(c) and 36-6-301(a)(i) are amended to read:

7-4-204. Oath of witness; recording of testimony; compensation of reporter.

An oath shall be administered to each witness as follows: "You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony which you shall give to this inquest concerning the death of the person about whom this inquest is being held, shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God." The coroner shall ~~insure~~ ensure that all testimony in an inquest shall be recorded. The compensation of the court reporter or of the person transcribing the audio tape shall be as prescribed by the board of county commissioners. Unless specifically requested by the coroner or prosecuting attorney, audio tapes need not be transcribed.

9-4-719. Investment earnings spending policy permanent funds.

(b) There is created the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer as authorized under W.S. 9-4-715(a), (d), (e) and (r) and all investment earnings

from the account shall be credited to the account. Except for funds specified by the legislature that guarantee the obligations of permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund investment earnings and funds to be transferred into the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund, funds deposited into the reserve account created by this subsection are intended to be inviolate and constitute a permanent or perpetual trust fund. Beginning July 1, 2021 for fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter, to the extent funds are available, the state treasurer shall transfer unobligated funds from this account to the general fund on a quarterly, pro-rata basis as necessary to ensure that an amount equal to two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the previous five (5) year average market value of the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund, calculated on the first day of the fiscal year, is available for expenditure during each fiscal year. As soon as possible after the end of each of the fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2017, after making any transfer required pursuant to paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection, revenues in this account in excess of two hundred forty-five percent (245%) of the spending policy amount in subsection (d) of this section shall be credited to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund. For fiscal year 2020 and for each fiscal year thereafter:

(i) As soon as practicable after the end of the fiscal year, after making any other transfers provided by law from the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account, but prior to calculating the balance of the account under this subsection, the state treasurer shall transfer from the account an amount equal to the difference between the maximum amount which may be credited to the strategic investments and ~~project~~ projects account pursuant to subsection (q) of this section and the amount actually credited to that account in the applicable fiscal year;

15-1-119. Adoption of state traffic laws and other provisions by reference authorized; procedure; effect.

(a) Any city or town may adopt by reference all or part of The Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (W.S. 31-5-101 through ~~31-5-1214~~ 31-5-1701) and any national fire prevention, building, plumbing and electrical codes, and the Wyoming public works standard specifications published by the Wyoming public works council.

19-7-301. Jurisdiction of United States over certain military reservations.

(a) Exclusive jurisdiction is ceded to the United States over all the territory owned by the United States within the limits of the United States military ~~reservations~~ reservation known as Fort Francis E. Warren, ~~Fort Washakie, Camp Sheridan, Camp Pilot Butte, and the United States powder depot at Cheyenne;~~ together with such other lands in the state as are now or hereafter acquired or held by the United States for military purposes, either as additions to the ~~posts~~ post above named or as new military posts or reservations, established for the common defense.

28-11-701. Appointment of members; powers and duties; executive branch liaisons.

(b) The select committee shall:

(ii) Develop and introduce legislation as necessary to promote blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation in Wyoming unless the legislation relates to Title 13 of the Wyoming ~~statutes~~ statutes, in which case the legislation shall be recommended to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee for consideration.

31-2-231. Wildlife conservation license plates; wildlife conservation account; authority to receive and expend monies.

(b) The fees collected under subsection (a) of this section shall be payable to the department and shall be accounted for separately. Except as otherwise provided by law, the fees collected under subsection (a) of this section and funds collected under W.S. 23-2-101(p), 23-2-201(h), 23-2-306(d), 24-1-131(b), 31-2-225(a)(vi), 31-2-404(f)(ii), 31-2-409(h)(ii), 31-2-703(e)(ii), 31-3-101(j), ~~31-7-111(b)(xiv)~~ 31-7-111(b)(xiv) and 36-4-121(t) shall be distributed to the wildlife conservation account within the state highway fund, which is hereby created. The wildlife conservation account shall be administered in accordance with the following:

34-24-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(xii) "Mineral" means oil, gas, uranium, ~~sulphur-sulfur~~, lignite, coal and any other substance that is ordinarily and naturally considered a mineral, regardless of the depth at which the oil, gas, uranium, ~~sulphur-sulfur~~, lignite, coal or other substance is found;

35-11-316. Unitization of geologic sequestration sites; hearings on application, order; modifications.

(c) No order of the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission authorizing the commencement of unit operations shall become effective until the plan of unitization has been signed or in writing ratified or approved by those persons who own at least eighty percent (80%) of the pore space storage capacity within the unit area. If such consent has not been obtained at the time the ~~commissioner's~~ commission's order is made, the commission shall, upon application, hold supplemental hearings and make findings as may be required to determine when and if the consent will be obtained. The commission shall require the applicant to give notice of a supplemental hearing by regular mail at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing to each person owning interests in the pore space in the proposed unit area whose name and address was required by W.S. 35-11-315(a) to be listed in the application for the unit operations. If the required percentages of consent have not been obtained within a period of six

(6) months from and after the date on which the order of approval is made, the order shall be ineffective and revoked by the commission, unless, for good cause shown, the commission extends that time. Any interested person may file an application with the Wyoming oil and gas conservation commission requesting an order applicable only to the proposed unit area described in the application which shall provide for the percentage of approval or ratification to be reduced from eighty percent (80%) to seventy-five percent (75%). The application shall contain the information required by W.S. 35-11-315(a) and any order of the commission entered pursuant to the application shall comply with subsection (b) of this section. Notice of the hearing on the application shall be given in the same manner and to the same persons as required by subsection (a) of this section. If the commission finds that negotiations were being conducted since July 1, 2009, or have been conducted for a period of at least nine (9) months prior to the filing of the application, that the applicant has participated in the negotiations diligently and in good faith, and that the percentage of approval or ratification required by this subsection cannot be obtained, the commission may reduce any percentage of approval or ratification required by this section from eighty percent (80%) to seventy-five percent (75%). The order shall affect only the unit area described in the application and shall operate only to approve the proposed plan of unitization and proposed operating plan and to reduce the required percentage of approval or ratification thereof and shall not change any other requirement contained in this section.

36-6-301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Associated natural resource" means any substance, element or compound, either gaseous, liquid or solid, associated with the production, refining or processing of oil or gas. The term includes, but is not limited to, propane, butanes, ethane, methane, carbon dioxide, ~~sulphur~~-sulfur, helium, nitrogen and natural gas liquids;

Section 2. W.S. 31-5-102(a)(lix) is repealed.

Section 3. W.S. 9-3-412(a) and 9-3-413, as amended by 2024 House Bill 0083 and 2024 Senate File 0067, are amended to read:

9-3-412. Members' contributions; payroll deductions; employer authorized to pay employee's share.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section and W.S. 9-3-431 and 9-3-432, every member covered under this article shall pay into the account nine and one-quarter percent (9.25%) of his salary for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, nine and one-half percent (9.50%) of his salary for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, ~~and thereafter~~ nine and three quarters percent (9.75%) of his salary for the period from July 1,

~~2021-2025~~ through June 30, 2026 and thereafter a percentage of the member's salary determined in accordance with W.S. 9-3-413.1. Every firefighter member covered under this article shall pay into the account seven percent (7%) of his salary. Payments shall be deducted each pay period from each member's salary by the chief fiscal officer of each participating employer. Employee contributions shall be transferred to the account in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.

9-3-413. Employer's contributions; payable monthly; transfer to account; interest imposed upon delinquent contributions; recovery.

Except as provided by W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(III) or (IV), 9-3-431 and 9-3-432, each employer excluding employers of firefighter members, shall, on a monthly basis, pay into the account a contribution equal to nine and thirty-seven hundredths percent (9.37%) of the salary paid for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, nine and sixty-two hundredths percent (9.62%) of the salary paid for the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, ~~and thereafter nine and eighty-seven hundredths percent (9.87%)~~ of the salary paid to each of its members covered under this article for the period from July 1, ~~2021-2025~~ through June 30, 2026 and thereafter a percentage of the salary paid as determined in accordance with W.S. 9-3-413.1. Employers of firefighter members shall pay into the account a contribution equal to seven and twelve hundredths percent (7.12%) of the salary paid. Employer contributions for any month, together with the members' contributions for that month, if any, shall be transferred to the board not later than the twelfth day of the following month. These contributions shall be credited to the account in a manner as directed by the board. Any employer failing to transfer contributions under this section in sufficient time for the board to receive the contributions by the twenty-fifth day of the month due shall be assessed interest at the assumed rate of return as determined by the board, compounded annually. Interest imposed under this section shall be payable not later than the twelfth day of the next succeeding month. If the contributions and any interest imposed under this section are not transferred to the board when due, they may be recovered, together with court costs, in an action brought for that purpose in the first judicial district court in Laramie County, Wyoming.

Section 4. Section 3 of this act shall only be effective if both 2024 Senate File 0067 and 2024 House Bill 0083 are enacted into law during the 2024 budget session.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 83**STATE-MANAGED LOCAL GOVERNMENT EQUITY INVESTMENT
POOL****Original Senate File No. 90**

AN ACT relating to public funds; authorizing the establishment of a local government investment equities pool; authorizing the investment of local government funds in equities; specifying duties for the state treasurer and state treasurer's office; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-419 is created to read:

9-1-419. Local government investment equities pool.

(a) Upon request by any city, town, county, special district, school district or any other political subdivision, the state treasurer shall invest funds of one (1) or more of these entities on a pooled basis in the same manner as the state treasurer makes investments of state funds in equities, including stocks of corporations, in accordance with law. The state treasurer shall adopt rules that:

(i) Provide for the transmittal of funds from the entities to the state treasurer for investment, the manner in which the funds may be withdrawn from the investment pool by entities, limitations on withdrawal of funds, accounting and reporting procedures and any other provisions that will effectively carry out the purposes of this section;

(ii) If determined by the state treasurer to be necessary, establish fees to be charged to local governmental entities that request the investment of funds under this section. Any fees collected under this paragraph shall not exceed the direct costs incurred by the state treasurer in investing funds for each local governmental entity. Fees collected under this paragraph shall be deposited into the investment assistance account created by W.S. 9-1-416(a)(ii);

(iii) Establish a minimum fund size for the investment of funds on a pooled basis under this section.

(b) Before requesting the state treasurer to invest funds under this section, a local governmental entity shall acknowledge in writing that the entity understands that investing in equities involves risk of loss of some or all of the amount invested.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the state of Wyoming to reimburse local governmental entities for any losses that may occur on investments under this section.

Section 2. W.S. 9-4-831(a) by creating a new paragraph (xxviii) is amended to read:

9-4-831. Investment of public funds.

(a) The state treasurer, or treasurer of any political subdivision, municipality or special district of this state, and the various boards of trustees and boards of directors of county hospitals, airports, fairs and other duly constituted county boards and commissions, may invest in:

(xxviii) Investments in equities, including stocks of corporations, as part of an investment fund for local governmental entities, upon request by any county, city, town, school district, special district or any other political subdivision, as provided in W.S. 9-1-419. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit or alter the state treasurer's authority to invest state funds in equities in accordance with law. The investment fund under this paragraph shall:

(A) Be a third local investment pool with more long-term redemption options than the local investment pools established in paragraph (xxvii) of this subsection and W.S. 9-1-416 and that are in line with appropriate redemptions of investments in equities;

(B) Have additional and appropriate penalties for the early withdrawal of funds as provided by rules adopted by the state treasurer;

(C) Be subject to rules adopted by the state treasurer in accordance with W.S. 9-1-419;

(D) Subject to this paragraph, be managed in accordance with W.S. 9-1-419.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 84

CHILD CARE IS A RESIDENTIAL USE OF PROPERTY

Original House Bill No. 126

AN ACT relating to property; providing that day care is a residential use of property for the purposes of restrictive covenants; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 34-1-501 is created to read:

ARTICLE 5 COVENANTS

34-1-501. Home based child care limitations.

For residential property subject to a covenant that does not clearly and expressly prohibit child care, the provision of child care in a family day care home is a

residential use of property and is a residential purpose. For purposes of this section “family day care home” means a private residence or other structure in which day care is provided to not more than ten (10) children on a regular basis.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 85

FORENSIC GENETIC GENEALOGY PILOT PROGRAM

Original House Bill No. 58

AN ACT relating to law enforcement; establishing a pilot program for forensic genetic genealogical DNA analyses and searches as specified; providing grants; providing a sunset date; providing an appropriation; requiring rulemaking; and providing an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The forensic genetic genealogy pilot program is hereby created. The division of criminal investigation shall establish and administer this program for forensic genetic genealogical DNA analyses and searches as set forth in this section.

(b) The division may use funds made available to operate the forensic genetic genealogy pilot program for the following purposes:

(i) For forensic genetic genealogical DNA analyses and searches to assist in generating leads for criminal investigations or identifying human remains in investigations conducted by the division pursuant to W.S. 9-1-618;

(ii) To award grants to law enforcement agencies in this state for forensic genetic genealogical DNA analyses and searches to assist in generating leads for criminal investigations or identifying human remains in investigations, according to an application process established by the division.

(c) The forensic genetic genealogy pilot program shall terminate, and no grants shall be awarded after, June 30, 2029. Grants awarded prior to June 30, 2029 may be expended after the pilot program terminates.

(d) Nothing in this act shall be construed as a restriction on the division using other available funding to conduct forensic genetic genealogical DNA analyses and searches.

Section 2. There is appropriated one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to the division of criminal investigation for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2029. This appropriation

shall only be used to operate the forensic genetic genealogy pilot program created by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2029.

Section 3. The division of criminal investigation shall promulgate any rules necessary to administer this act.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 86

COLD CASE DATABASE AND INVESTIGATIONS

Original House Bill No. 29

AN ACT relating to the attorney general; requiring the division of criminal investigation to develop and maintain a cold case database; requiring law enforcement agencies in the state to provide cold case information to the division as specified; requiring rulemaking; requiring a report; authorizing funds for cold case investigations; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-1-624(a) by creating a new paragraph (vii) and (b) is amended to read:

9-1-624. Division of criminal investigation; uniform procedures and forms for collecting and disseminating identification data; missing persons repository; annual crime statistics report; cold case database; agencies to cooperate.

(a) The division shall:

(vii) Develop and maintain a cold case database, subject to the following:

(A) As used in this section, "cold case" means a homicide or felony sexual offense that remains unsolved for two (2) years or more after being reported to a law enforcement agency;

(B) The division shall adopt rules specifying the information for each cold case that shall be collected from law enforcement agencies in the state and maintained in the database;

(C) Each law enforcement agency in the state that has a cold case committed or reported on or after January 1, 1972 shall provide to the division the information specified by rule of the division for inclusion in the database.

(b) All law enforcement agencies within the state shall cooperate with the division in establishing and maintaining an efficient and coordinated system

of identification and in reporting missing persons and cold case information to the division.

Section 2.

(a) The office of the attorney general shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

(b) Not later than October 15, 2024, the office of the attorney general shall report to the joint judiciary interim committee on the status of the cold case database, including the development, operation, maintenance and information collection of the database.

Section 3.

(a) There is appropriated one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to the office of the attorney general for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for the purposes as specified in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The appropriation under subsection (a) of this section shall be expended in accordance with the following:

(i) This appropriation shall first be expended to develop a cold case database pursuant to section 1 of this act;

(ii) Upon completion of the development of the cold case database, any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall be expended to investigate cold cases, as defined by section 1 of this act.

(c) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that the office of the attorney general include the portion of this appropriation that is necessary for maintenance of the cold case database in the office's standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 87

STATE FUNDS-POOL A PARTICIPATION AND FUND LIMITS

Original House Bill No. 138

AN ACT relating to the investment of state funds; specifying a minimum size for new accounts added to the pool A investment account; removing specified accounts from participation in the pool A investment account; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-4-715(p)(intro) and (ix), 34-24-124(c) and 41-2-124(f) are amended to read:

9-4-715. Permissible investments.

(p) There is created the pool A investment account. The state treasurer, or his designee, which shall be registered under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940 as amended if required to be registered by the terms of that act as amended, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section and after consultation with the state agency or agencies receiving or administering investment earnings from the monies invested in the pool A investment account, may invest monies comprising the pool A investment account in equities including stocks of corporations in accordance with subsections (a) and (c) through (e) of this section and W.S. 9-4-716. The state loan and investment board, in consultation with the state agency or agencies receiving or administering investment earnings from the monies invested in the pool A investment account, shall annually review the state investment policy statements for the investment pool created by this subsection as required under W.S. 9-4-716. On and after July 1, 2024, any new fund or account that is added to the pool A investment account shall have and maintain a cash balance, as determined consistent with W.S. 9-4-108, of not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). Monies in the following funds shall be invested in the pool A investment account:

(ix) The emergency water projects account created by W.S. 41-2-124(f), ~~including~~ excluding the voluntary pool program subaccount within that account;

34-24-124. Deposit of funds; investment of funds; loans; immunity from liability.

(c) An action or proceeding shall not be commenced against the state, the administrator or his designee because of an act of the administrator under this section ~~or under W.S. 9-4-715(p)(viii)~~ involving the investment of unclaimed property funds.

41-2-124. Accounts created; unexpended balance.

(f) There is created the emergency water projects account. All funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the water development commission for the purpose of funding emergency water projects as authorized by this subsection and subsections (g) and (h) of this section. Except for funds associated with the voluntary pool program that are placed in the voluntary pool program subaccount within the emergency water projects account, funds within the emergency water projects account shall be invested in the pool A investment account by the state treasurer pursuant to W.S. 9-4-715(p). Earnings from funds in the account shall be deposited in the account. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-1-417, if the state loan and investment board determines that funds in

the account are insufficient to make payment for the full cost of addressing emergency water projects which may occur in any year, the board is authorized to obtain a loan from the legislative stabilization reserve account of up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) which loan shall be repaid by interest earnings or loan repayments from the emergency water projects account.

Section 2. W.S. 9-4-715(p)(viii), (xii) and (xv) is repealed.

Section 3.

(a) There is appropriated two million thirty-five thousand dollars (\$2,035,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming public television matching funds account created by W.S. 21-23-202, or an amount up to two million thirty-five thousand dollars (\$2,035,000.00), whichever amount is less, as necessary to increase the cash balance of the Wyoming public television matching funds account, as measured on June 30, 2024, to five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation and not deposited in the Wyoming public television matching funds account shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2025.

(b) There is appropriated one million nine hundred five thousand dollars (\$1,905,000.00) from the general fund to the state fair endowment account created by W.S. 11-10-118, or an amount up to one million nine hundred five thousand dollars (\$1,905,000.00), whichever amount is less, as necessary to increase the cash balance of the state fair endowment account, as measured on June 30, 2024, to five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation and not deposited in the state fair endowment account shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2025.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 88

PUBLIC RECORDS-DOC INVESTIGATIONS

Original Senate File No. 35

AN ACT relating to public records; applying the investigatory records disclosure exception to department of corrections records as specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 16-4-203(b)(i) is amended to read:

16-4-203. Right of inspection; grounds for denial; access of news media; order permitting or restricting disclosure; exceptions.

(b) The custodian may deny the right of inspection of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law, on the ground that disclosure to the applicant would be contrary to the public interest:

(i) Records of investigations conducted by, or of intelligence information or security procedures of, any sheriff, county attorney, city attorney, the attorney general, the state auditor, police department, upon approval by the attorney general the department of corrections investigation services unit or any investigatory files compiled for any other law enforcement or prosecution purposes;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 15, 2024.

Chapter 89

SPECIAL DISTRICTS-REVERSAL OF DISSOLUTION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

Original Senate File No. 74

AN ACT relating to special districts; providing a process by which special districts required to dissolve for audit report noncompliance may reinstate the special district or cease the dissolution; specifying requirements for reinstatement; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 22-29-103(b) and 22-29-401(b) and by creating a new subsection (c) are amended to read:

22-29-103. Applicability to special districts; general provisions.

(b) This act specifies requirements pertaining to elections and changes in the organization of the districts listed in subsection (a) of this section where the principal act is silent or unclear. Except as provided by W.S. 22-29-401(b) and (c), the specific provisions of a principal act are effective and controlling to the extent they conflict with this act.

22-29-401. Dissolution procedure.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, dissolution of a district shall be initiated by resolution of the board of county commissioners if the director of the department of audit has notified the board of county commissioners of the district's failure to comply with the reporting requirements of W.S. 9-1-507, and the district has failed to comply with W.S. 9-1-507(a)(vii) by December 30 of that same calendar year. The board of county commissioners shall declare the board of directors vacant under W.S. 22-29-201, and shall fill the board by appointment under W.S. 22-29-202 for the purpose of dissolving the district.

(c) A board of county commissioners may, by resolution, reinstate a district or cease dissolution procedures required under subsection (b) of this section in accordance with the following:

(i) The district shall become compliant with the requirements of W.S. 9-1-507 by not later than April 1 of the year following the calendar year in which the district fails to comply with the annual reporting requirement under W.S. 9-1-507;

(ii) Before a district is reinstated or before dissolution procedures are ceased under this subsection, the district shall provide a corrective action plan to the board of county commissioners, which shall approve the plan submitted by the district before proceeding under this subsection;

(iii) No reinstatement of a district or cessation of dissolution procedures shall occur unless the department of audit certifies to the board of county commissioners in writing that the district has become compliant with the reporting requirements of W.S. 9-1-507;

(iv) A district reinstated under this subsection shall be deemed to have never been dissolved;

(v) The board of county commissioners may:

(A) Allow the district to proceed with the board of directors appointed under subsection (b) of this section; or

(B) Upon reinstatement, declare the board of directors vacant under W.S. 22-29-201. Upon a declaration of vacancy under this subparagraph, the board of county commissioners shall fill the board by appointment under W.S. 22-29-202.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 18, 2024.

Chapter 90

UNIFORM CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION ACT

Original Senate File No. 36

AN ACT relating to domestic relations; adopting the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act; authorizing a district court to order child abduction prevention measures when the evidence establishes a credible risk of abduction; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 20-8-101 through 20-8-112 are created to read:

CHAPTER 8
CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION

20-8-101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.”

20-8-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) “Abduction” means the wrongful removal or wrongful retention of a child;

(ii) “Child” means an unemancipated person who is less than eighteen (18) years of age;

(iii) “Child custody determination” means a judgment, decree or other order of a court providing for the legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child, including a permanent, temporary, initial or modification order;

(iv) “Child custody proceeding” means a proceeding in which legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child is at issue, including a proceeding for divorce, dissolution of marriage, separation, neglect, abuse, dependency, guardianship, paternity, termination of parental rights or protection from domestic violence;

(v) “Court” means an entity authorized under the law of a state to establish, enforce or modify a child custody determination;

(vi) “Record” means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form;

(vii) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or a federally recognized Indian tribe or nation;

(viii) “Travel document” means a record relating to a travel itinerary, including travel tickets, passes and reservations for transportation or accommodations. “Travel document” does not include a passport or visa;

(ix) “Wrongful removal” means the taking of a child that breaches rights of custody or visitation given or recognized under the law of this state;

(x) “Wrongful retention” means the keeping or concealing of a child that breaches rights of custody or visitation given or recognized under the law of this state;

(xi) “This act” means W.S. 20-8-101 through 20-8-112.

20-8-103. Cooperation and communication among courts.

W.S. 20-5-210 through 20-5-212 shall apply to cooperation and communications among courts in proceedings under this act.

20-8-104. Actions for abduction prevention measures.

(a) A party to a child custody determination or another person or entity having a right under the law of this state or any other state to seek a child custody determination for the child may file a petition seeking abduction prevention measures to protect the child under this act.

(b) A prosecutor or public authority designated under W.S. 20-5-415 may seek a warrant to take physical custody of a child under W.S. 20-8-109 or other appropriate prevention measures.

(c) A court on its own motion or petition under subsection (a) of this section may order abduction prevention measures in a child custody proceeding if the court finds that the evidence establishes a credible risk of abduction of the child.

20-8-105. Jurisdiction.

(a) A petition under this act may be filed only in a court that has jurisdiction to make a child custody determination with respect to the child at issue under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

(b) A court of this state has temporary emergency jurisdiction under W.S. 20-5-304 if the child is present in this state and the court finds a credible risk of abduction.

20-8-106. Contents of petition.

(a) A petition under this act shall be signed and sworn to be accurate before a person authorized to administer oaths and include a copy of any existing child custody determination, if available. The petition shall specify the risk factors for abduction, including the relevant factors described in W.S. 20-8-107. Subject to W.S. 20-5-309(e), if reasonably ascertainable, the petition shall contain:

- (i) The name, date of birth and gender of the child;
- (ii) The customary address and current physical location of the child;
- (iii) The identity, customary address and current physical location of the respondent;
- (iv) A statement of whether a prior action to prevent abduction or domestic violence has been filed by a party or other person having custody of the child, and the date, location and disposition of the action;
- (v) A statement of whether a party to the proceeding has been arrested for a crime related to domestic violence, stalking or child abuse or neglect, and the date, location and disposition of the case;

(vi) Any other information required to be submitted to the court for a child custody determination under W.S. 20-5-309.

20-8-107. Factors to determine risk of abduction.

(a) In determining whether there is a credible risk of abduction of a child, the court shall hold a hearing and consider any evidence that the petitioner or respondent:

- (i) Has previously abducted or attempted to abduct the child;
- (ii) Has threatened to abduct the child;
- (iii) Has recently engaged in activities that may indicate a planned abduction, including:
 - (A) Abandoning employment;
 - (B) Selling a primary residence;
 - (C) Terminating a lease;
 - (D) Closing bank or other financial management accounts, liquidating assets, hiding or destroying financial documents or conducting any unusual financial activities;
 - (E) Applying for a passport or visa or obtaining travel documents for the respondent, a family member or the child; or
 - (F) Seeking to obtain the child's birth certificate or school or medical records.
- (iv) Has engaged in domestic violence, stalking or child abuse or neglect;
- (v) Has refused to follow a child custody determination;
- (vi) Lacks strong familial, financial, emotional or cultural ties to the state or the United States;
- (vii) Has strong familial, financial, emotional or cultural ties to another state or country;
- (viii) Is likely to take the child to a country that:
 - (A) Is not a party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and does not provide for the extradition of an abducting parent or for the return of an abducted child;
 - (B) Is a party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction but:
 - (I) The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction is not in force between the United States and that country;
 - (II) Is noncompliant according to the most recent compliance report issued by the United States department of state; or

(III) Lacks legal mechanisms for immediately and effectively enforcing a return order under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

(C) Poses a risk that the child's physical or emotional health or safety would be endangered in the country because of specific circumstances relating to the child or because of human rights violations committed against children;

(D) Has laws or practices that would:

(I) Enable the respondent, without due cause, to prevent the petitioner from contacting the child;

(II) Restrict the petitioner from freely traveling to or exiting from the country because of the petitioner's gender, nationality, marital status or religion; or

(III) Restrict the child's ability legally to leave the country after the child reaches the age of majority because of a child's gender, nationality or religion.

(E) Is included by the United States Department of State on a current list of state sponsors of terrorism;

(F) Does not have an official United States diplomatic presence in the country; or

(G) Is engaged in active military action or war, including a civil war, to which the child may be exposed.

(ix) Is undergoing a change in immigration or citizenship status that would adversely affect the respondent's ability to remain in the United States legally;

(x) Has had an application for United States citizenship denied;

(xi) Has forged or presented misleading or false evidence on government forms or supporting documents to obtain or attempt to obtain a passport, a visa, travel documents, a Social Security card, a driver's license or other government-issued identification card or has made a misrepresentation to the United States government;

(xii) Has used multiple names to attempt to mislead or defraud;

(xiii) Has engaged in any other conduct the court considers relevant to the risk of abduction.

(b) In the hearing on a petition under this act, the court shall consider any evidence showing that the respondent believed in good faith that the respondent's conduct was necessary to avoid imminent harm to the child or respondent and any other evidence that may be relevant.

20-8-108. Provisions and measures to prevent abduction.

(a) If a petition is filed under this act, the court may enter an order that shall include:

- (i) The basis for the court's exercise of jurisdiction;
- (ii) The manner in which notice and opportunity to be heard were given to the persons entitled to notice of the proceeding;
- (iii) A detailed description of each party's custody and visitation rights and residential arrangements for the child;
- (iv) A provision stating that a violation of the order may subject the party in violation to civil and criminal penalties;
- (v) Identification of the child's country of habitual residence at the time of the issuance of the order.

(b) If, at a hearing on a petition under this act or on the court's own motion, the court after reviewing the evidence finds a credible risk of abduction of the child, the court shall enter an abduction prevention order. The order shall include the information required by subsection (a) of this section and measures and conditions, including those specified in subsections (c) through (e) of this section, that are reasonably calculated to prevent abduction of the child, giving due consideration to the custody and visitation rights of the parties. The court shall consider the age of the child, the potential harm to the child from an abduction, the legal and practical difficulties of returning the child to the jurisdiction if abducted and the reasons for concluding that there is a credible risk of abduction of the child, including evidence of domestic violence, stalking or child abuse or neglect.

(c) An abduction prevention order may include one (1) or more of the following:

(i) An imposition of travel restrictions that require that a party traveling with the child outside a designated geographical area provide the other party with the following:

- (A) The travel itinerary of the child;
- (B) A list of physical addresses and telephone numbers at which the child can be reached at specified times; and
- (C) Copies of all travel documents.

(ii) A prohibition of the respondent directly or indirectly:

(A) Removing the child from this state, the United States or another geographic area without permission of the court or the petitioner's written consent;

(B) Removing or retaining the child in violation of a child custody determination;

(C) Removing the child from school or a child care or similar facility;

(D) Approaching the child at any location other than a site designated for supervised visitation.

(iii) A requirement that a party register the order in another state as a prerequisite to allowing the child to travel to that state;

(iv) With regard to the child's passport:

(A) A direction that the petitioner place the child's name in the United States department of state's child passport issuance alert program;

(B) A requirement that the respondent surrender to the court or the petitioner's attorney any United States or foreign passport issued in the child's name, including a passport issued in the name of both the parent and the child; and

(C) A prohibition upon the respondent from applying on behalf of the child for a new or replacement passport or visa.

(v) As a prerequisite to exercising custody or visitation, a requirement that the respondent provide:

(A) To the United States department of state office of children's issues and the relevant foreign consulate or embassy, an authenticated copy of the order detailing passport and travel restrictions for the child;

(B) To the court:

(I) Proof that the respondent has provided the information specified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph; and

(II) An acknowledgment in a record from the relevant foreign consulate or embassy that no passport application has been made, or passport issued, on behalf of the child.

(C) To the petitioner, proof of registration with the United States embassy or other United States diplomatic presence in the destination country and with the Central Authority for the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, if that Convention is in effect between the United States and the destination country, unless one of the parties objects; and

(D) A written waiver under the federal Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a as amended, with respect to any document, application or other information pertaining to the child authorizing its disclosure to the court and the petitioner.

(vi) Upon the petitioner's request, a requirement that the respondent obtain an order from the relevant foreign country containing terms identical to the child custody determination issued in the United States.

(d) In an abduction prevention order, the court may impose conditions on the exercise of custody or visitation that:

(i) Limit visitation or require that visitation with the child by the respondent be supervised until the court finds that supervision is no longer necessary and order the respondent to pay the costs of supervision;

(ii) Require the respondent to post a bond or provide other security in an amount sufficient to serve as a financial deterrent to abduction, the proceeds of which may be used to pay for the reasonable expenses of recovery of the child, including reasonable attorneys fees and costs if there is an abduction;

(iii) Require the respondent to obtain education on the potentially harmful effects to the child from abduction.

(e) To prevent imminent abduction of a child, a court may:

(i) Issue a warrant to take physical custody of the child under W.S. 20-8-109 or the law of this state;

(ii) Direct the use of law enforcement to take any action reasonably necessary to locate the child, obtain return of the child or enforce a custody determination under this act or the law of this state;

(iii) Grant any other relief allowed under the law of this state.

(f) The remedies provided in this act are cumulative and do not affect the availability of other remedies to prevent abduction.

20-8-109. Warrant to take physical custody of child.

(a) If a petition under this act contains allegations, and the court finds that there is a credible risk that the child is imminently likely to be abducted, the court may issue an ex parte warrant to take physical custody of the child.

(b) The respondent on a petition under subsection (a) of this section shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard at the earliest possible time after the ex parte warrant is executed, but not later than the next judicial day unless a hearing on that date is impossible. In that event, the court shall hold the hearing on the first judicial day possible.

(c) An ex parte warrant issued under subsection (a) of this section to take physical custody of a child shall:

(i) Recite the facts upon which a determination of a credible risk of imminent abduction of the child is based;

(ii) Direct law enforcement officers to take physical custody of the child immediately;

(iii) State the date and time for the hearing on the petition; and

(iv) Provide for the safe interim placement of the child pending further order of the court.

(d) If feasible, before issuing a warrant and before determining the interim placement of the child after the warrant is executed, the court may order a

search of the relevant databases of the national crime information center system and similar state databases to determine if either the petitioner or respondent has a history of domestic violence, stalking or child abuse or neglect.

(e) The petition and warrant shall be served on the respondent when or immediately after the child is taken into physical custody.

(f) A warrant to take physical custody of a child, issued by this state or another state, is enforceable throughout this state. If the court finds that a less intrusive remedy will not be effective, the court may authorize law enforcement officers to enter private property to take physical custody of the child. If required by exigent circumstances, the court may authorize law enforcement officers to make a forcible entry at any hour.

(g) If the court finds, after a hearing, that a petitioner sought an ex parte warrant under subsection (a) of this section for the purpose of harassment or in bad faith, the court may award the respondent reasonable attorney's fees, costs and expenses.

20-8-110. Duration of abduction prevention order.

(a) An abduction prevention order remains in effect until the earliest of:

- (i) The time stated in the order;
- (ii) The emancipation of the child;
- (iii) The child's attaining eighteen (18) years of age;

(iv) The time the order is modified, revoked, vacated or superseded by a court with jurisdiction under W.S. 20-5-301 through 20-5-303.

20-8-111. Uniformity of application and construction.

In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

20-8-112. Relation to electronic signatures in global and national commerce act.

This act modifies, limits and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. § 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in § 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 18, 2024.

Chapter 91**MINOR NAME CHANGES****Original Senate File No. 123**

AN ACT relating to the code of civil procedure; authorizing natural or adoptive parents or legal guardians to change a minor child's name without giving public notice of the name change; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-25-103 is amended to read:

1-25-103. Notice to be given by publication.

Except in a proceeding in which the court has issued a confidentiality order pursuant to W.S. 35-21-112 or any other court order allowing a party to maintain confidentiality of addresses, city or state of residence or other information identifying the residence of the party, public notice of the petition for a change of name shall be given in the same manner as service by publication upon nonresidents in civil actions. Upon good cause shown to the court or if the petitioners are petitioning to change a minor's name and are the minor's natural or adoptive parents or legal guardians and all natural or adoptive parents or legal guardians sign the petition, public notice shall not be required with respect to a petition for a change of name of a minor.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 18, 2024.

Chapter 92**WYOMING STABLE TOKEN ACT-AMENDMENTS****Original Senate File No. 52**

AN ACT relating to trade and commerce; amending the Wyoming Stable Token Act to allow for investments in cash and government securities as specified; authorizing the Wyoming stable token commission to issue different types and amounts of stable tokens and to contract with financial service providers; requiring reporting only for fully reserved stable tokens as specified; providing for a competitive bidding and procurement process; making conforming amendments to criminal history records statutes; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 40-31-110 is created to read:

40-31-110. Bidding requirements; contract procedures.

(a) The commission shall enter into contracts for procurements by competitive bidding. The requirement for competitive bidding shall not apply in the case of a single vendor having exclusive rights to offer a particular service or product.

(b) Procedures adopted by the board shall be designed to allow the selection of proposals that provide the greatest long term benefit to the state, the greatest integrity for the commission and the best service and products for the public.

(c) In any bidding process, the commission may administer its own bidding and procurement or may utilize the services of the department of administration and information or other state agency or subdivision thereof.

Section 2. W.S. 7-19-106(a) by creating a new paragraph (xli), 7-19-201(a) by creating a new paragraph (xxxv), 40-31-102(a)(x), 40-31-105(c)(i), (iii) and (e) and 40-31-106(a) are amended to read:

7-19-106. Access to, and dissemination of, information.

(a) Criminal history record information shall be disseminated by criminal justice agencies in this state, whether directly or through any intermediary, only to:

(xli) The Wyoming stable token commission for purposes of W.S. 40-31-103(b)(iv) and 40-31-105(c)(vii).

7-19-201. State or national criminal history record information.

(a) The following persons shall be required to submit to fingerprinting in order to obtain state and national criminal history record information:

(xxxv) Persons applying to be a subject matter expert of the Wyoming stable token commission or the director of the Wyoming stable token commission as required by W.S. 40-31-103(b)(iv) or 40-31-105(c)(vii).

40-31-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(x) "This act" means W.S. 40-31-101 through ~~40-31-109~~ 40-31-110.

40-31-105. Powers of the commission.

(c) The commission may:

(i) Issue Wyoming stable tokens as provided in this act, and provide for matters related to the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens, including the ~~overall number types~~ supply characteristics for each type of Wyoming stable tokens to be issued, the means used to issue, maintain and manage the Wyoming stable tokens and the manner of and requirements for redemption;

(iii) Make and enter into any contracts, agreements or arrangements and retain, employ and contract for the services of financial institutions, financial service providers and research, technical and other services as necessary to implement this act;

(e) Before ~~initially~~ publicly issuing any fully reserved Wyoming stable tokens, the director shall provide a comprehensive report to the select committee on blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation technology and the

joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee on all actions taken under this act.

40-31-106. Wyoming stable token accounts.

(a) The Wyoming stable token trust account is created. The commission shall deposit all funds received for the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens into the account. Funds within the account received from the sale of Wyoming stable tokens shall be held in trust to support the redemption of Wyoming stable tokens, and shall not be expended for any other purpose but shall be expended to redeem Wyoming stable tokens. The commission shall invest funds within the account exclusively in cash, United States treasury bills—securities with a maturity of three hundred sixty-five (365) days or less or United States treasury security repurchase agreements with a term of thirty (30) days or less. By creation of this trust, the state does not create any fiduciary duty to token holders. Investment earnings generated by the funds in the account may be deposited in the Wyoming stable token administration account as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

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

Approved March 18, 2024.

Chapter 93

SPECIAL DISTRICTS BOND ELECTIONS EXCEPTION

Original Senate File No. 27

AN ACT relating to special districts; providing an exception to special district bond elections for improvement and service districts and water and sewer districts as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 18-12-120 and 41-10-128 are amended to read:

18-12-120. Bond elections; resolution for submission of proposition to voters.

(a) By resolution of its board a district may submit to its qualified voters, by mail ballot or at an election on a date authorized under W.S. 22-21-103, as determined by the board of county commissioners, the proposition of issuing bonds pursuant to this act to provide funds for the acquisition, construction, improving or financing of improvements as well as performing services for the benefit of the residents of the district, including any or all expenses incidental thereto or connected therewith.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section and the provisions of W.S. 22-21-101 through 22-21-112, any document executed by the board of a district evidencing an agreement to repay funds borrowed from the United States of America, the state of Wyoming or from any subdivision, agency or department of either the United States or the state of Wyoming, shall not be considered a bond, and shall not require an election under this chapter when:

(i) Repayment is to be made solely from revenues generated by the service with which a financed improvement or service is associated; and

(ii) Security for the loan or borrowed funds is restricted to a claim on the revenues generated from the service or to a claim on the assets of the improvement or service.

41-10-128. Borrowing money and issuing bonds for purpose of acquiring or improving water or sewer system or other income-producing project.

(a) A district in pursuance of a resolution may borrow money, issue bonds, or otherwise extend its credit for the purpose of acquiring or improving a water or sewer system, or other income-producing project; provided that the bonds or other obligations shall be made payable solely out of the net revenues derived from the operation of the system or other such project; and the systems and projects may be combined, operated and maintained as joint systems or projects, in which case the bonds or other obligations shall be made payable solely out of the net revenues derived from the operation of the joint systems or projects. No revenue bonds or other like securities shall be issued unless the issuance thereof has been submitted to a vote of the electors and approved by a majority of the qualified taxpaying electors voting on the question and by a majority of other qualified electors voting thereon, or, if no ballots are cast in one (1) of the ballot boxes and a majority of the ballots in the other ballot box favor the issuance of such bonds or other like securities, approved either by a majority of the qualified taxpaying electors voting thereon or by a majority of the other qualified electors voting thereon, as the case may be, at an election held as provided for bond elections by the Political Subdivision Bond Election Law, W.S. 22-21-101 through 22-21-112.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section and the provisions of W.S. 22-21-101 through 22-21-112, any document executed by a district evidencing an agreement to repay funds borrowed from the United States of America, the state of Wyoming or from any subdivision, agency or department of either the United States or the state of Wyoming, shall not be considered a bond and shall not require an election under this chapter when:

(i) Repayment is to be made solely from revenues generated by the service with which a financed improvement or service is associated; and

(ii) Security for the loan or borrowed funds is restricted to a claim on the revenues generated from the service or to a claim on the assets of the improvement or service.

Section 2. Nothing in this act shall be construed to impair or affect any bond, note or obligation issued or created before the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 18, 2024.

Chapter 94

WYOMING ADULT HEARING AID PROGRAM

Original Senate File No. 57

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; creating a hearing aid program for hearing impaired adults as specified; requiring rulemaking; providing appropriations; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-25-601 through 35-25-603 are created to read:

ARTICLE 6

WYOMING ADULT HEARING AID PROGRAM

35-25-601. Wyoming adult hearing aid program.

There is created a hearing aid program for adults with hearing impairment.

35-25-602. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Department" means the department of health;

(ii) "Eligible adult" means a Wyoming resident not less than eighteen (18) years of age who has been diagnosed by a physician or audiologist with a profound hearing impairment that requires hearing aids and who has a monthly modified adjusted gross family income at or below two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level;

(iii) "Federal poverty level" means the federal poverty guideline updated annually in the federal register by the United States department of health and human services under the authority of section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981;

(iv) "Hearing aid" means as defined by W.S. 33-35-102(a)(ii).

35-25-603. Program eligibility; benefits.

(a) Subject to available state funding, the department shall provide hearing aids for eligible adults. Eligibility under this section shall be determined by the department or its designee. To be determined eligible to receive hearing aids under this section, a person shall not be eligible to receive hearing aids through private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare or any other available third-party payor.

Recipients shall not receive more than one (1) set of hearing aids under this article in any five (5) year period.

(b) An adult eligible for services under this article shall receive:

(i) Up to one (1) hearing aid per ear at a cost of not more than the rate paid for hearing aids under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act and including hearing aid insurance for loss or damage;

(ii) A hearing aid fitting at a cost of not more than the rate paid under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act; and

(iii) An initial set of ear molds at a cost of not more than the rate paid under the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act.

Section 2. The department of health shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this act.

Section 3.

(a) The department of health is authorized one (1) at-will employee contract position for the purpose of implementing and administering this act. There is appropriated nine thousand dollars (\$9,000.00) from the general fund to the department of health for the salary of the position authorized under this subsection. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this subsection and ending June 30, 2026 and shall only be expended for the additional position authorized under this section. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

(b) There is appropriated ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000.00) from the general fund to the department of health for purposes of providing hearing aids, hearing aid molds and fittings to eligible adults under this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget of the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

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

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 95**DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL FUNDING****Original Senate File No. 19**

AN ACT relating to developmental preschool funding; modifying the per child amounts used to calculate payments to service providers; modifying requirements for the department of health's budget request for developmental preschool services as specified; modifying the date utilized to count the number of children that participate in the program; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-2-705(c)(i) and (iii) and 21-2-706(b), (d)(intro), (e) and by creating a new subsection (g) are amended to read:

21-2-705. Fund allocation.

(c) All funds received by the state from the federal government pursuant to section 611(d) and reserved by the state pursuant to section 611(e)(2) of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act shall be retained by the department of education for state level activities authorized by federal law. The department of education shall expend these amounts in accordance with the following:

(i) A per student allocation shall be determined by dividing the retained amount, less funds allowed to be retained in the state's high risk pool under section 611(e)(3)(A) of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, by the number of students aged three (3) through twenty-one (21) years receiving special education services on ~~December~~ May 1 of the ~~preceding~~ school year immediately preceding the budget request;

(iii) For purposes of this subsection, "children aged three (3) through five (5) years receiving special education services through the division" means the actual number of students receiving services through the division on ~~December~~ May 1 of the ~~preceding~~ school year immediately preceding the budget request;

21-2-706. Developmental preschool funding.

(b) For purposes of calculating payments to service providers for the subsequent fiscal year and preparing the division's budget request to the legislature, the division shall multiply the number of children age birth through five (5) years of age with developmental disabilities who are eligible for and placed on an individualized education program or individualized family service plan through developmental preschool services on ~~or before December~~ May 1 of the ~~school year in which immediately preceding~~ the budget request ~~is being prepared by eight thousand five hundred three dollars (\$8,503.00)~~ eleven thousand seven hundred ninety-six dollars (\$11,796.00) per child per year. Eligibility for developmental preschool services shall be determined by the state rules and regulations governing an individualized education program or an individualized family service plan.

(d) The per child amount specified in subsection (b) of this section shall be increased by the amount of ~~three hundred sixty-three dollars (\$363.00)~~ five hundred four dollars (\$504.00) to provide:

(e) Commencing with the budget request for the fiscal year ~~2010~~ 2026 and for each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall prepare an exception budget request necessary to adjust the amounts calculated pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) of this section and as previously adjusted pursuant to this subsection, to reflect the most recent external cost adjustment enacted by the legislature pursuant to W.S. 21-13-309(o). The intent of this subsection is for each budget request to incorporate all previous adjustments made pursuant to this subsection.

(g) For purposes of calculating payments to service providers made under this section for the subsequent fiscal year, if the per child amounts specified in this section would result in service providers receiving payments that are different from the available appropriation, the payments shall be adjusted on a pro rata basis so each service provider receives the same percentage of the per child amounts without exceeding the total available appropriation.

Section 2.

(a) For purposes of calculating payments to service providers under W.S. 21-2-705 and 21-2-706, as amended by section 1 of this act, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, the division shall multiply the number of children age birth through five (5) years of age with developmental disabilities who are eligible for and placed on an individualized education program or individualized family service plan through developmental preschool services on May 1, 2023.

(b) There is appropriated sixteen million three hundred eighty-seven thousand one hundred four dollars (\$16,387,104.00) from the general fund to the department of health to be allocated pursuant to W.S. 21-2-706, as amended by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the standard budget for the department of health for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 96**LAW ENFORCEMENT RETIREMENT-CONTRIBUTIONS****Original Senate File No. 47**

AN ACT relating to compensation and benefits; increasing employee and employer contributions for law enforcement officers under the Wyoming Retirement Act; providing a monthly death benefit for officers killed in the line of duty; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 9-3-432(a), (b) and (j) by creating a new paragraph (iv) is amended to read:

9-3-432. Law enforcement officers; contributions; benefit eligibility; service and disability benefits; death benefits; benefit options.

(a) Each law enforcement officer shall pay into the account eight and six-tenths percent (8.6%) of his salary through June 30, 2024, nine and one-half percent (9.5%) of his salary through June 30, 2025, ten and four-tenths percent (10.4%) of his salary through June 30, 2026 and thereafter eleven and three-tenths percent (11.3%) of his salary to fund benefits provided to law enforcement officers. Any contribution required under this subsection or subsection (b) of this section shall be paid by the employer from the source of funds used to pay officer salaries in order to be treated as employer contributions for the sole purpose of determining tax treatment under the United States Internal Revenue Code, § 414(h). These payments by the employer are subject to W.S. 9-3-412(c).

(b) Each employer of a law enforcement officer covered under this article shall pay into the account a contribution equal to eight and six-tenths percent (8.6%) of the salary paid through June 30, 2024, nine and one-half percent (9.5%) of his salary through June 30, 2025, ten and four-tenths percent (10.4%) of his salary through June 30, 2026 and thereafter eleven and three-tenths percent (11.3%) of the salary paid to each of its law enforcement officers covered under this article and may pay into the account any amount of the officer's share of contributions under subsection (a) of this section. Payments under this subsection shall be made monthly to the account in accordance with W.S. 9-3-413 and are subject to the penalties imposed under W.S. 9-3-413 for delinquent contributions. No additional contribution shall be imposed upon the state, any city, town or county for benefits provided law enforcement officers under this article.

(j) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-3-421, any surviving spouse of an officer:

(iv) Who is killed in the line of duty on or after January 1, 2024 shall, notwithstanding paragraph (i) of this subsection, receive a monthly death benefit payment of ninety-percent (90%) of the officer's salary, plus six percent (6%) of that salary for each child under age eighteen (18);

Section 2.

(a) There is appropriated to the state auditor from the general fund two million twenty-five thousand dollars (\$2,025,000.00) to provide payment of the increase in employer contributions for executive branch law enforcement employees for the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated to the University of Wyoming from the general fund seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) to provide payment of the increase in employer contributions for University of Wyoming law enforcement employees for the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium.

(c) For state agency employers whose retirement contributions are made from non-general fund sources, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds amounts necessary to provide payment of the increase in employer contribution rates required by W.S. 9-3-432(b), as amended by section 1 of this act.

(d) The appropriations in this section shall only be expended to provide payment of the increase in each state agency's employer contribution rates required by W.S. 9-3-432(b), as amended by section 1 of this act, for the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium.

(e) No amount of the appropriations made in this section shall be used to provide the increased employee contribution required by this act.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the appropriations under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose other than as specified in this section. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriations made in this section shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

(g) The state auditor shall transfer the funds to the state retirement system or to individual state agencies as determined by the department of administration and information to be necessary to meet the provisions of this act.

(h) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriations made in this section be included in each state agency's standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 97**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION-INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANS****Original Senate File No. 24**

AN ACT relating to public utilities; providing for the review of integrated resource plan action plans by the public service commission; providing rulemaking authority; authorizing a position; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 37-2-135 is created to read:

37-2-135. Review of integrated resource plan action plans.

(a) The commission shall engage in long-range planning regarding public utility regulatory policy in order to facilitate the well-planned development and conservation of utility resources. Pursuant to this subsection, the commission shall require each affected electrical utility to file any action plan developed as part of the affected electrical utility's integrated resource plan to enable the commission to review and provide guidance to the affected electrical utility.

(b) The commission shall adopt rules providing a process for the review and acknowledgement of an action plan and integrated resource plan under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) As used in this section:

(i) "Affected electrical utility" means a public utility other than a cooperative electric utility as defined in W.S. 37-17-101(a)(i);

(ii) "Integrated resource plan" means a plan that shall contain each of the following:

(A) The demand and energy forecast by the affected electrical utility for not less than a ten (10) year period;

(B) The affected electrical utility's options for meeting the requirements shown in its load and resource forecast in an economic and reliable manner, including:

(I) Demand-side and supply-side options; and

(II) A description and summary cost-benefit analysis of each option that was considered.

(C) The affected electrical utility's assumptions and conclusions with respect to the effect of the plan on the cost and reliability of energy service;

(D) A description of the external environmental and economic consequences of the plan to the extent practicable; and

(E) Any other data and analyses the commission may require.

Section 2.

(a) The public service commission is authorized up to one (1) additional full-time position for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 for one (1) analyst to implement the requirements of this act. It is the intent of the legislature that the public service commission include this full-time position in its standard budget request for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated three hundred seventy-six thousand dollars (\$376,000.00) from the public service commission account under W.S. 37-2-106 within the special revenue fund to the public service commission for the purpose of funding the position authorized in subsection (a) of this section. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 98

OMNIBUS WATER BILL-PLANNING

Original House Bill No. 104

AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing specified level I and level II studies; providing appropriations; requiring reports; providing for the reversion of unexpended funds; authorizing unobligated funds to be used to complete other designated projects as specified; providing an appropriation for the office of water programs; transferring funds from the general fund to water development account I; clarifying authority of the Wyoming water development commission regarding Inflation Reduction Act funding for drought mitigation projects and regional conservation partnership program funding; and providing for an effective date.

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

[2024-2025 WATER PROGRAM]

[AUTHORIZED LEVEL I AND LEVEL II STUDIES]

Section 1. LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT.
The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to

July 1, 2027 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2026 legislative session:

[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Alpine Water Master Plan	Lincoln County	\$153,000
Bairoil Water Master Plan	Sweetwater County	\$147,000
Chugwater Water Master Plan	Platte County	\$209,000
Douglas Water Master Plan	Converse County	\$286,000
GR/RS/SC JPWB Regional Water Master Plan	Sweetwater County	\$432,000
Hudson Water Master Plan	Fremont County	\$210,000
Salt River Watershed Study	Lincoln County	\$344,000
Shoshone Municipal Pipeline Regional Water Master Plan	Park County	\$216,000
Sinclair Water Master Plan	Carbon County	\$147,000
UW Water Research Program	Statewide	\$397,514 ¹
Total appropriation for Section 1		\$2,541,514

Footnotes:

1. Funds for these projects are contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 5 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

Section 2. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT. The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the feasibility study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2027 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2026 legislative session:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES - NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Cody Areas Evaluation 2024	Park County	\$139,000
Greybull Water System Improvements	Big Horn County	\$160,000
Hot Springs County Supply		

Evaluation	Hot Springs County	<u>\$365,000</u>
Total appropriation for Section 2		\$664,000

Section 3. LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES – REHABILITATION.
The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account II, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following reconnaissance studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular project that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete the reconnaissance study for any other project listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2027 shall revert to water development account II. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2026 legislative session.

[LEVEL I RECONNAISSANCE STUDIES - REHABILITATION]		
<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Big Horn Canal Irrigation District Master Plan	Big Horn County	\$289,000
Elk Canal Master Plan	Park County	\$265,000
Horse Creek Conservation District Master Plan	Goshen County	\$248,000
Midvale Irrigation District Master Plan	Fremont County	\$409,000
Powder River Irrigation District Master Plan	Johnson County	\$176,000
Strawberry Canal Master Plan	Lincoln County	<u>\$235,000</u> ²
Total appropriation for Section 3		\$1,622,000
Footnotes:		

2. Funds from this appropriation shall not be expended until the project sponsor has formed a public entity.

Section 4. There is appropriated one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000.00) to the water development commission from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to fund the office of water programs established under W.S. 41-2-125 for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

Section 5. The state auditor shall transfer three hundred ninety-seven thousand five hundred fourteen dollars (\$397,514.00) from the general fund to water development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i).

Section 6. INFLATION REDUCTION ACT DROUGHT MITIGATION IN THE RECLAMATION STATES.

(a) Section 50233 of Public Law 117-169, 136 Stat. 1818, (commonly known as the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022) appropriates four billion dollars (\$4,000,000,000.00) to the secretary of the interior, acting through the commissioner of the bureau of reclamation, to mitigate the impacts of drought in the reclamation states with priority given to the Colorado River Basin.

(b) The bureau of reclamation is authorized to contract with public entities such as the Wyoming water development commission through September 30, 2026, for grants, contracts or financial assistance agreements that provide for the conduct of activities to mitigate the impacts of drought.

(c) The water development commission shall continue to be authorized to contract with the bureau of reclamation and accept funding for grants, contracts and financial assistance agreements that provide for the conduct of the drought mitigation activities identified in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and related to Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River Basin. The commission shall identify, evaluate, prioritize and recommend to the bureau of reclamation drought mitigation activities in accordance with criteria established for funding those activities.

(d) The water development commission shall be authorized to contract with Wyoming water right holders and others to implement the drought mitigation activities identified in this section.

(e) The identification, evaluation, prioritization and recommendation of qualifying drought mitigation activities under this section, and the decisions of the water development commission relating to the identification, evaluation, prioritization and recommendation to the bureau of reclamation of qualifying drought mitigation activities for funding under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, shall be exempt from the provisions of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act including judicial review under W.S. 16-3-114 and 16-3-115.

(f) The definition of "sponsor" as defined in the rules and regulations of the water development commission, Chapter 1, Section 3(i), shall not apply to qualifying drought mitigation activities within the state of Wyoming for Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 funding.

(g) The authority granted to the water development commission under this section shall be effective only when Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 funding for drought mitigation activities remains available.

Section 7. Regional CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM - FUNDING.

(a) Section 2701 of Public Law 115-334, 132 Stat. 4592, (commonly known as the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 or "Farm Bill") establishes the regional conservation partnership program (16 U.S.C. 3871 through 3871f, and

7 CFR 1464), appropriating three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000.00) to the secretary of agriculture, for the purpose of furthering conservation, protection restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, agricultural land and related natural resources on eligible land on a regional or watershed scale, and to encourage eligible partners to cooperate with producers in achieving conservation outcomes and benefits.

(b) Section 2501 of Public Law 115-334, 132 Stat. 4592 designates the United States department of agriculture, natural resources conservation service (NRCS), as the lead agency in developing and establishing technical standards and requirements for conservation programs carried out under the regional conservation partnership program.

(c) Section 21001 of Public Law 117-169, 136 Stat. 1818, (commonly known as the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022) appropriates two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000.00) for fiscal year 2023 to the secretary of agriculture to carry out the regional conservation partnership program.

(d) The secretary of agriculture is authorized to enter into partnership agreements with the Wyoming water development commission to implement eligible regional conservation partnership program projects.

(e) NRCS has granted the Wyoming water development commission twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) to manage regional conservation partnership program projects for the purpose of water efficiency and conservation in Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River Basin.

(f) The water development commission shall continue to be authorized to enter into partnership agreements with NRCS to implement regional conservation partnership program projects. The commission shall utilize the regional conservation partnership program funding to implement eligible regional conservation partnership program projects in Wyoming's portion of the Colorado River Basin. The commission shall identify, evaluate, prioritize and recommend to NRCS regional conservation partnership program projects in accordance with criteria established for funding those projects.

(g) The water development commission shall be authorized to contract with Wyoming water right holders and others to implement the regional conservation partnership program funding projects identified in this section.

(h) The identification, evaluation, prioritization and recommendation of qualifying regional conservation partnership program projects under this section, and the decisions of the water development commission relating to the evaluation, prioritization and recommendation to the NRCS of qualifying regional conservation partnership program projects are specifically exempt from the provisions of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act including judicial review under W.S. 16-3-114 and 16-3-115.

(j) The definition of "sponsor" as defined in the rules and regulations of

the water development commission, Chapter 1, Section 3(i), shall not apply to qualifying projects within the state of Wyoming for regional conservation partnership program funding.

(k) The authority granted to the water development commission under this section and any criteria or administrative procedures established pursuant to this section shall be effective only when regional conservation partnership program funding remains available.

Section 8. 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 84, Section 2 is amended to read:

Section 2. LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT. The following sums of money are appropriated from water development account I, as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i), to the water development commission to be expended to conduct the following feasibility studies as defined in W.S. 41-2-114. Funds appropriated under this section for a particular study that are in excess of the actual amount necessary to complete the study may, subject to the review and recommendation of the select water committee, be expended by the commission to complete any other feasibility study listed in this section. Appropriated funds not expended or obligated prior to July 1, 2025 shall revert to water development account I. The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on each of the following studies prior to the 2024 legislative session:

[LEVEL II FEASIBILITY STUDIES – NEW DEVELOPMENT]

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
Cloud Seeding: Operations Hydrological Assessment Medicine Bow & Sierra Madre Mountain Ranges	Albany and Carbon Counties	\$300,000
Fontenelle Reservoir Storage Sweetwater Counties	Lincoln and \$1,700,000	
LaGrange Groundwater Supply & Improvements	Goshen County	\$725,000
Pavillion Groundwater Supply	Fremont County	\$687,000 \$1,116,000
Total 2022 appropriation for Section 2		\$3,412,000
Total 2024 appropriation for Section 2		\$429,000

Section 9. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 99**OMNIBUS WATER BILL-CONSTRUCTION****Original Senate File No. 75**

AN ACT relating to water development projects; authorizing construction of designated water projects; describing projects; specifying terms and conditions of funding for projects; providing grants; providing appropriations; amending the sponsor's contingency fund; amending amounts and terms of appropriations for specified prior projects; repealing the sunset for the small water projects program; transferring funds from water development account I to water development account II; transferring funds from the general fund to water development accounts I and II; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 99-3-2901 through 99-3-2904 are created to read:

ARTICLE 29**2024 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS****99-3-2901. Definitions.**

The definitions in W.S. 99-3-101 apply to this article.

99-3-2902. General authorization.

The provisions of W.S. 99-3-102 apply to this article.

99-3-2903. Level III construction projects – new development.

(a) Authorization is granted for the Level III new development construction projects identified in this section subject to the general conditions specified in W.S. 99-3-103, provided that W.S. 99-3-103(a)(iii) shall not apply to the projects identified in this section unless required by W.S. 41-2-121.

(b) Project – Big Horn Regional JPB Lucerne Tank and Pump Station 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Big Horn Regional Joint Powers Board;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of water transmission pipelines, storage tanks, pump stations, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Three million six hundred six thousand dollars (\$3,606,000.00);

(v) Project grants:

(A) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement and pre-construction engineering of the project an amount not to exceed one hundred forty-three thousand three hundred dollars (\$143,300.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(B) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million six hundred fifty-nine thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,659,700.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less.

(vi) Appropriations:

(A) There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one hundred forty-three thousand three hundred dollars (\$143,300.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(A) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2029;

(B) There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one million six hundred fifty-nine thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,659,700.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(B) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to the general fund on July 1, 2029.

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project under subparagraph (vi)(B) of this subsection is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 5 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(c) Project – Cloud Seeding: Wind River and Sierra Madre mountain ranges 2025 (ground-based):

(i) Project sponsor: The state of Wyoming;

(ii) Project purpose: To enhance the winter snowpack in the Wind River Mountain and Sierra Madre mountain ranges;

(iii) Project description: Conduct a ground-based operational winter snowpack augmentation program during the 2024-2025 season;

(iv) Total project budget: Seven hundred ninety-eight thousand six hundred fifty-one dollars (\$798,651.00);

(v) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the Wyoming water development office two hundred ninety-eight thousand six hundred fifty-one dollars (\$298,651.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2026;

(vi) Special conditions:

(A) The state of Wyoming shall participate at a rate up to thirty-seven percent (37%) of actual project operational costs not to exceed two hundred ninety-eight thousand six hundred fifty-one dollars (\$298,651.00);

(B) Prior to commencing project operations, the Wyoming water development office shall acquire funding commitments from other Colorado River basin water users or other interested parties for a minimum of sixty-three percent (63%) of actual project operational costs;

(C) If the project is cancelled, the Wyoming water development office is authorized to use the appropriated funds to remove weather modification equipment and reclaim project sites.

(d) Project – Skyline ISD Well Connection 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Skyline Improvement & Service District;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a well connection, pumping facilities, transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Eight hundred ninety-six thousand dollars (\$896,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed four hundred forty-eight thousand dollars (\$448,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission four hundred forty-eight thousand dollars (\$448,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(e) Project – Cloud Seeding: Medicine Bow and Sierra Madre mountain ranges 2025 (aerial):

(i) Project sponsor: The state of Wyoming;

(ii) Project purpose: To enhance the winter snowpack in the Medicine Bow and Sierra Madre mountain ranges;

(iii) Project description: Conduct an aerial operational winter snowpack augmentation program during the 2024-2025 season;

(iv) Total project budget: Eight hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$875,000.00);

(v) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the Wyoming water development office eight hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$825,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2026;

(vi) Special conditions:

(A) The Wyoming water development office shall acquire funding commitments from Wyoming water users or other interested parties for operational costs which exceed the project appropriation;

(B) The Wyoming water development office is authorized to enter into contracts with Colorado organizations to extend aerial weather modification efforts into Colorado, provided that these organizations pay one hundred percent (100%) of the additional costs associated with operations in Colorado.

(f) Project – Redundancy of water delivery systems:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming water development commission;

(ii) Project purpose: Statewide municipal and rural domestic water supply;

(iii) Project description: Adding redundancy of domestic water delivery systems statewide;

(iv) Total project budget: six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00);

(v) Appropriations:

(A) There is appropriated from water development accounts I, II and III from monies previously obligated for projects that may be recaptured with current unobligated American Rescue Plan Act funds to the commission six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the statewide adding of redundancy of water delivery systems [~~as specified in paragraph (c)(iii) of this subsection~~]. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to water development accounts I, II and III on July 1, 2029. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 20, 2024.]**

99-3-2904. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(a) Authorization is granted for the Level III rehabilitation construction projects identified in this section subject to the general conditions specified in W.S. 99-3-104, provided that W.S. 99-3-104(a)(iii) shall not apply to the projects identified in this section unless required by W.S. 41-2-121.

(b) Project – Bridger Valley JPB Tank Replacement 2024:

- (i) Project sponsor: Bridger Valley Joint Powers Board;
 - (ii) Project purpose: Municipal and rural domestic water supply;
 - (iii) Project description: Design and construction of a water storage tank, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;
 - (iv) Total project budget: One million four hundred fifty-seven thousand dollars (\$1,457,000.00);
 - (v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed seven hundred twenty-eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$728,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;
 - (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission seven hundred twenty-eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$728,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;
 - (vii) Special conditions:
 - (A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;
 - (B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.
- (c) Project – Dayton Water System Rehabilitation 2024:
- (i) Project sponsor: Town of Dayton;
 - (ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;
 - (iii) Project description: Design and construction of a diversion structure, pumping facilities, pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;
 - (iv) Total project budget: Four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00);
 - (v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;
 - (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development

account II to the commission two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

(d) Project – Deaver ID Laterals 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Deaver Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Three hundred thirty-two thousand dollars (\$332,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission an amount not to exceed one hundred seventy-two thousand dollars (\$172,000.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the approved materials costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one hundred seventy-two thousand dollars (\$172,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for all project costs with the exception of the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission, up to the amount appropriated in this subsection;

(B) The sponsor is responsible for retaining professional engineering services to design the project, compile materials and bidding documents and monitor construction activities including the installation of project components and the tracking of project expenditures.

(e) Project – Dry Creek ID Phase V 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Dry Creek Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: One million five hundred fifty-four thousand dollars (\$1,554,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed seven hundred seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$777,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission seven hundred seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$777,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(f) Project – Goshen Irrigation District Tunnels 1 and 2 Rehabilitation:

(i) Project sponsor: Goshen Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Construction engineering and construction of tunnels, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Eighty-four million dollars (\$84,000,000.00). The sponsor's project budget is twenty-one million eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$21,810,000.00) or forty-nine percent (49%) of the total project budget, whichever is less;

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed twenty-one million eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$21,810,000.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of these actual development costs within the sponsor's project budget, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 74, Section 1(a) (ii), as amended, appropriated twenty-one million eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$21,810,000.00) to the commission to carry out the purpose of this subsection.

(g) Project – Hanover ID Bighorn River Flume Replacement 2024:

- (i) Project sponsor: Hanover Irrigation District;
- (ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;
- (iii) Project description: Design and construction of water control structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;
- (iv) Total project budget: Three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00);
- (v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;
- (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(h) Project – Kirby Ditch ID Pipeline Phase II 2024:

- (i) Project sponsor: Kirby Ditch Irrigation District;
- (ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;
- (iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;
- (iv) Total project budget: Three million seven hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$3,765,000.00);
- (v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million eight hundred eighty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,882,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million eight hundred eighty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,882,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(j) Project – LaPrele Dam Rehabilitation:

(i) Project sponsor: LaPrele Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a new dam on LaPrele Creek, dam decommissioning, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: One hundred eighteen million dollars (\$118,000,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design and construction of the project an amount not to exceed thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 74, Section 1(a)(iii), as amended, appropriated thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00) to the commission to carry out the purpose of this subsection.

(k) Project – Laramie Dowlin Diversion Rehabilitation 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: City of Laramie;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a diversion structure and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$2,275,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and

construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million one hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,137,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million one hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,137,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(m) Project – Lovell Bench Lateral 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Lovell Irrigation District;

(ii) Project purpose: Agricultural water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million eight hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$2,890,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission an amount not to exceed one million four hundred forty-eight thousand dollars (\$1,448,000.00) or one hundred percent (100%) of the approved materials costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission one million four hundred forty-eight thousand dollars (\$1,448,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for all project costs with the exception of the purchase of project materials as supported by vendor invoices and as approved by the commission, up to the amount appropriated in this subsection;

(B) The sponsor is responsible for retaining professional engineering services to design the project, compile materials and bidding documents and

monitor construction activities including the installation of project components and the tracking of project expenditures;

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 4 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(n) Project – Ranchester Transmission Line 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Ranchester;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of water transmission pipelines, pump stations, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Four million nine hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$4,930,000.00);

(v) Project grants:

(A) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, and pre-construction engineering of the project an amount not to exceed two hundred sixty-eight thousand six hundred dollars (\$268,600.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(B) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million one hundred ninety-six thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,196,400.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less.

(vi) Appropriations:

(A) There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two hundred sixty-eight thousand six hundred dollars (\$268,600.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(A) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(B) There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million one hundred ninety-six thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,196,400.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(B) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to the general fund on July 1, 2029.

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project under subparagraph (vi)(B) of this subsection is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account II as described in section 6 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(o) Project – Wheatland Tank Replacement 2024:

(i) Project sponsor: Town of Wheatland;

(ii) Project purpose: Municipal water supply;

(iii) Project description: Design and construction of a water storage tank, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: Five million three hundred seventy-one thousand dollars (\$5,371,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account II through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million six hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,685,500.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission two million six hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,685,500.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, 2029;

(vii) Special Conditions: The sponsor is responsible for acquiring fifty percent (50%) of the total project budget from other sources.

Section 2. W.S. 99-3-1903(g)(vii) and (k)(iii) through (vi) and (viii) by creating a new subparagraph (H), 99-3-2103(b)(vi), 99-3-2205(c)(v) and (e)(iv) through (vii), 99-3-2404(b)(vi), (c)(vi) and (f)(vi), 99-3-2406(b)(vii), (h)(vi), (j)(vii) and (q)(vi), 99-3-2505(a)(iv) and (vii), 99-3-2704(k)(vii) and 99-3-2803(d)(iii) through (vii) and (e)(iii) through (vii) are amended to read:

99-3-1903. Level III construction projects – new development.

(g) Project – Laramie North Side Tank:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission eight million five hundred three thousand dollars (\$8,503,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025.

(k) Project - Small Water Development Projects - 2014:

(iii) Project description: Construction of small dams, windmills, spring

development, guzzlers and other water collection, storage and drinking systems, pipelines, etc., to impound, develop and convey water for livestock, wildlife, irrigation, environmental and recreational purposes;

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Seventeen million three hundred twenty-six thousand dollars (\$17,326,000.00)~~ Twenty million three hundred twenty-six thousand dollars (\$20,326,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to sponsors from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed ~~eight million six hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$8,663,000.00)~~ ten million one hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$10,163,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of the actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission ~~eight million six hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$8,663,000.00)~~ ten million one hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$10,163,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. The funds appropriated shall not lapse at the end of any fiscal period but shall carry over until expended or reverted by the legislature to water development account I;

(viii) Special conditions:

(H) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) of the appropriation of funds for this project under paragraph (vi) of this subsection is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 5 of this act or transfer from another funding source.

99-3-2103. Level III construction projects – new development.

(b) Project – Arapahoe Water Supply 2016:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two million two hundred forty-seven thousand eight hundred fifty dollars (\$2,247,850.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2024~~ 2026.

99-3-2205. Level III construction projects – dams and reservoirs.

(c) Project – Middle Piney Reservoir:

(v) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account III to the commission for project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project fourteen million two hundred twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$14,228,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this

subsection shall revert to water development account III on July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025;

(e) Project – Leavitt Reservoir Expansion:

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Seventy-eight million dollars (\$78,000,000.00)~~
Eighty-eight million eight hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$88,850,000.00);

(v) Project Grant: The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account III through the commission for project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed ~~seventy-six million two hundred eighty-four thousand dollars (\$76,284,000.00)~~ eighty-seven million one hundred thirty-four thousand dollars (\$87,134,000.00) or ~~ninety-seven and eight tenths percent (97.8%)~~ ninety-eight and seven hundredths percent (98.07%) of the actual development costs, whichever is less;

(vi) Project loan: The state of Wyoming shall loan to the sponsor from water development account III through the commission for project land procurement, construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million seven hundred sixteen thousand dollars (\$1,716,000.00) or ~~two and two tenths percent (2.2%)~~ one and ninety-three hundredths percent (1.93%) of actual development costs, whichever is less, for a term of fifty (50) years from the date the commission determines that project benefits accrue to the sponsor, at an annual interest rate of four percent (4%);

(vii) Appropriation and authorization: There is appropriated from water development account III to the commission ~~forty-six million dollars (\$46,000,000.00)~~ fifty-six million eight hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$56,850,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account III on July 1, ~~2027~~ 2028. There is authorized for expenditure by the commission from the sponsor's contingency fund – account III, created by W.S. 99-3-2505(a), thirty-two million dollars (\$32,000,000.00) to carry out the purpose of this subsection.

99-3-2404. Level III construction projects – new development.

(b) Project – Buffalo Wells and Transmission 2019:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one million two hundred thirty-eight thousand one hundred sixty dollars (\$1,238,160.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2024~~ 2026;

(c) Project – Clearmont Well Connection 2019:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission three hundred twenty-eight thousand nine

hundred seventy dollars (\$328,970.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2024~~2026;

(f) Project – Lander Storage Tanks and Pump Station 2019:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission seven million twenty-eight thousand three hundred dollars (\$7,028,300.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, ~~2024~~2025;

99-3-2406. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(b) Project – Austin-Wall Reservoir Rehabilitation 2019:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission three hundred seventy-four thousand dollars (\$374,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2024~~2026;

(h) Project – Eden Valley Irrigation District System Improvements 2019:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission three hundred fifty-one thousand dollars (\$351,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2024~~2026;

(j) Project – Interstate Diversion Structure Rehabilitation 2019:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission four hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$420,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2024~~2026.

(q) Project – Wind River Inter-Tribal Council Rehabilitation 2019:

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission nine hundred twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$929,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2024~~2025;

99-3-2505. Sponsor's Contingency Funds.

(a) Project – Sponsor's Contingency Funds – Account III:

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000.00)~~
Fifty-five million dollars (\$55,000,000.00);

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account III to the commission ~~thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000.00)~~ fifty-five million dollars (\$55,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account III on July 1, 2030;

99-3-2704. Level III construction projects – rehabilitation.

(k) Project – Owl Creek Irrigation District System Improvements:

(vii) Appropriation: There is appropriated from water development account II to the commission five million forty thousand dollars (\$5,040,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended ~~and unobligated~~ funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account II on July 1, ~~2027~~ 2028;

99-3-2803. Level III construction projects – new development.

(d) Project – Happy Valley Water Transmission and Storage 2023:

(iii) Project description: Design and ~~pre-construction~~ construction of water transmission pipelines, storage tanks, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Four hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$460,000.00)~~ Six million one hundred thirty-four thousand nine hundred dollars (\$6,134,900.00);

(v) Project grants:

(A) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement and pre-construction engineering of the project an amount not to exceed three hundred eight thousand two hundred dollars (\$308,200.00) or sixty-seven percent (67%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(B) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed two million eight hundred thirty-seven thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$2,837,450.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less.

(vi) ~~Appropriation~~ Appropriations:

(A) There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission three hundred eight thousand two hundred dollars (\$308,200.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v) (A) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2028;

(B) There is appropriated from water development account I to the

commission two million eight hundred thirty-seven thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$2,837,450.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(B) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the general fund on July 1, 2028.

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring thirty-three percent (33%) of the total project design, permit procurement, project land procurement and pre-construction engineering budget and fifty percent (50%) of the construction engineering and construction budget from other sources;

(B) The appropriation of funds for this project under subparagraph (vi)(B) of this subsection is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 5 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

(e) Project – Sheridan Northeast Transmission Main Extension 2023:

(iii) Project description: Design and ~~pre-construction~~ construction of water transmission pipelines, structures and appurtenances necessary to make the project function in the manner intended;

(iv) Total project budget: ~~Three hundred eighteen thousand dollars (\$318,000.00)~~ Three million eight hundred twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$3,828,000.00);

(v) Project grants:

(A) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the design, permit procurement, project land procurement and pre-construction engineering of the project an amount not to exceed two hundred thirteen thousand sixty dollars (\$213,060.00) or sixty-seven percent (67%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less;

(B) The state of Wyoming shall grant to the sponsor from water development account I through the commission for the construction engineering and construction of the project an amount not to exceed one million seven hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$1,755,000.00) or fifty percent (50%) of these actual development costs, whichever is less.

(vi) ~~Appropriation~~ Appropriations:

(A) There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission two hundred thirteen thousand sixty dollars (\$213,060.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v) (A) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this ~~subsection~~ subparagraph shall revert to water development account I on July 1, 2028;

(B) There is appropriated from water development account I to the commission one million seven hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$1,755,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of subparagraph (v)(B) of this subsection. Unexpended funds appropriated under this subparagraph shall revert to the general fund on July 1, 2028.

(vii) Special conditions:

(A) The sponsor is responsible for acquiring thirty-three percent (33%) of the total project design, permit procurement, project land procurement and pre-construction engineering budget and fifty percent (50%) of the construction engineering and construction budget from other sources;

(B) No funds granted for this project under subparagraph (v)(B) of this subsection shall be expended until motions supporting the project have passed by a majority vote of both the Sheridan Board of County Commissioners and the Sheridan Area Water Supply Joint Powers Board.

(C) The appropriation of funds for this project under subparagraph (vi)(B) of this subsection is contingent upon the transfer of funds to water development account I as described in section 5 of this act or a transfer from another funding source.

Section 3. W.S. 99-3-1903(k)(ix) and 99-3-1904(m)(ix) are repealed.

Section 4. The Wyoming water development commission is hereby authorized to transfer seven million dollars (\$7,000,000.00) from water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) to water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii).

Section 5. Subject to section 7 of this act, the state auditor shall transfer up to six million seven hundred fifty-two thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$6,752,150.00) from the general fund to water development account I as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) on or after July 1, 2024.

Section 6. Subject to section 7 of this act, the state auditor shall transfer up to two million one hundred ninety-six thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,196,400.00) from the general fund to water development account II as created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii) on or after July 1, 2024.

Section 7. The general fund appropriations to water development accounts I and II in section 5 and section 6 of this act shall be reduced one (\$1.00) dollar for each one (\$1.00) dollar available in water development accounts I and II respectively from other project funds that are offset by American Rescue Plan Act direct funds in accordance with law. To the extent that contractually obligated project payments may be missed pending the determination of available offset American Rescue Plan Act direct funds, general funds shall be transferred pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of this act.

Section 8. 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 74, Section 1(a)(i) through

(iii), as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 180, Section 6, is amended to read:

Section 1.

(a) The following sums of money are appropriated from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the following accounts for the purposes specified. The governor is authorized to direct up to:

(i) Twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) to water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i) which shall be further appropriated from water development account I to the Wyoming water development commission for the purpose of acquiring water storage capacity in Fontenelle reservoir. The Wyoming water development office is hereby authorized to negotiate a purchase agreement with the bureau of reclamation to acquire water storage capacity in Fontenelle reservoir. No funds shall be expended from this appropriation to acquire water storage capacity in Fontenelle reservoir until the negotiated purchase agreement is approved by the Wyoming water development commission and the governor; ~~and the state loan and investment board authorizes the purchase of water storage capacity as a water development program construction project;~~

(ii) Twenty-one million eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$21,810,000.00) to water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii) which shall be further appropriated from water development account II to the Wyoming water development commission for the Goshen irrigation district tunnels 1 and 2 rehabilitation water development project. ~~No funds shall be expended from this appropriation until the state loan and investment board authorizes the project as a water development program construction project or as much thereof~~ as necessary to carry out the purpose of W.S. 99-3-2904(f). Unexpended funds appropriated under this paragraph shall revert to the legislative stabilization reserve account on July 1, 2032;

(iii) Thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00) to water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii) which shall be further appropriated from water development account II to the Wyoming water development commission for the purpose of the LaPrele dam rehabilitation water development project. ~~No funds shall be expended from this appropriation until the state loan and investment board authorizes the~~

project as a water development program construction project or as much thereof as necessary to carry out the purpose of W.S. 99-3-2904(j). Unexpended funds appropriated under this paragraph shall revert to the legislative stabilization reserve account on July 1, 2032.

Section 9. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 20, 2024.

Chapter 100

BANKING DIVISION-CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY EXEMPTIONS

Original Senate File No. 41

AN ACT relating to banks, banking and finance; generally exempting employees of the division of banking from state personnel classification and compensation provisions; requiring the state banking commissioner with the approval of the governor to establish personnel classifications and salaries for positions within the division of banking as specified; requiring reports; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 13-1-603 by creating a new subsection (g) is amended to read:

13-1-603. State banking commissioner; powers and duties.

(g) Except for the salary of the commissioner as provided by W.S. 13-1-602(b), the commissioner shall establish personnel classifications and salaries for the division of banking in consultation with and subject to the approval of the governor and subject to legislative appropriation. Classifications and salaries shall be commensurate with other state and federal financial regulators. The specialized skills required to supervise special purpose depository institutions and financial technology shall be defined by the state banking commissioner. Classifications and salaries established pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to any classifications or any compensation plan established pursuant to W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(i) and (ii), (b) and (c). The provisions of W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(viii) shall not apply to personnel of the division of banking. Upon the creation of the classifications and salaries for the division of banking the division shall provide a report on the classifications and salaries to the joint appropriations committee. The report shall include any estimated increase in requested appropriations, the duties of each person for which the classification shall apply, including specific skills required to skillfully and competently fill

the position, and any other information requested by the joint appropriations committee. Salary increases requested pursuant to this subsection shall be included in the department's exception budget.

Section 2. There is appropriated seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) from the agency's account within the special revenue fund to the department of audit, division of banking for purposes of salary increases within the division of banking authorized by this act for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that the division of banking include these salary increases in its standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Became law without signature March 20, 2024.

Chapter 101

VETERANS AD VALOREM EXEMPTION-AMOUNT

Original Senate File No. 89

AN ACT relating to taxation and revenue; increasing the amount of exemption for veterans for ad valorem taxation; requiring rulemaking; specifying applicability; providing an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-13-105(b) is amended to read:

39-13-105. Exemptions.

(b) The exemption for veterans is limited to an annual exemption of ~~three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00)~~ six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) of assessed value.

Section 2.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, there is appropriated eight million two hundred thousand dollars (\$8,200,000.00) from the general fund to the state treasurer to be expended only for purposes of providing reimbursements to county treasurers for the veterans' tax exemption as provided by W.S. 39-13-102(k). This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unobligated, unexpended funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2027.

(b) The appropriation in subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by one dollar (\$1.00) for every one dollar (\$1.00) appropriated to the state treasurer

during the 2024 budget session in excess of eleven million five hundred forty-five thousand eight hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$11,545,839.00) for purposes of providing reimbursements to counties under W.S. 39-13-102(k).

(c) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriation in subsection (a) of this section be included in the state treasurer's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act shall apply to ad valorem tax assessed on and after January 1, 2025.

Section 4. The department of revenue shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

Section 5.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective January 1, 2025.

(b) Sections 4 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 102

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION-REGISTERABLE OFFENSES

Original Senate File No. 34

AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; inserting and amending offenses for which convicted offenders must register as a sex offender; repealing a definition associated with sex offender registration; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 7-19-302(g) through (j) is amended to read:

7-19-302. Registration of offenders; procedure; verification; fees.

(g) For an offender convicted of a violation of W.S. 6-2-316(a)(i) and (iv), ~~6-2-705~~, 6-4-303(b)(iv) or ~~W.S. 6-4-304(b)~~ if the victim was a minor, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252B, 2252C, 2424 and 2425, an offense in another jurisdiction containing the same or similar elements, or arising out of the same or similar facts or circumstances as a criminal offense specified in this subsection or an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses specified in this subsection, the division shall annually verify the accuracy of the offender's registered address, and the offender shall annually report, in person, his current address to the sheriff in the county in which the offender resides, during the period in which he is required to register. During the annual in-person verification, the sheriff

shall photograph the offender. Confirmation of the in-person verification required under this subsection, along with the photograph of the offender, shall be transmitted by the sheriff to the division within three (3) working days. Any person under this subsection who has not established a residence or is transient, and who is reporting to the sheriff as required under subsection (e) of this section, shall be deemed in compliance with the address verification requirements of this section.

(h) For an offender convicted of a violation of W.S. 6-2-304(a)(iii) if the victim was at least fourteen (14) years of age, W.S. 6-2-314(a)(ii) and (iii), 6-2-315(a)(i) and (iii), W.S. 6-2-315(a)(iv) if the victim was thirteen (13) through fifteen (15) years of age, W.S. 6-2-317(a)(i) and (ii) or 6-2-318, W.S. 6-2-706, W.S. 6-4-102 if the person solicited was a minor, W.S. 6-4-103 if the person enticed or compelled was a minor, W.S. 6-4-302(a)(i) if the offense involves the use of a minor in a sexual performance or W.S. 6-4-303(b)(i) through (iii), 18 U.S.C. § 2251, an offense in another jurisdiction containing the same or similar elements, or arising out of the same or similar facts or circumstances as a criminal offense specified in this subsection, an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses specified in this subsection, or any offense enumerated in subsection (g) of this section if the offender was previously convicted of any offense enumerated in subsection (g) of this section, the division shall verify the accuracy of the offender's registered address, and the offender shall report, in person, his current address to the sheriff in the county in which the offender resides, every six (6) months after the date of the initial release or commencement of parole. If the offender's appearance has changed substantially, and in any case at least annually, the sheriff shall photograph the offender. Confirmation of the in-person verification required by this subsection, and any new photographs of the offender, shall be transmitted by the sheriff to the division within three (3) working days. Any person under this subsection who has not established a residence or is transient, and who is reporting to the sheriff as required under subsection (e) of this section, shall be deemed in compliance with the address verification requirements of this section.

(j) For an offender convicted of a violation of W.S. 6-2-201 if the victim was a minor, W.S. 6-2-302 or 6-2-303, W.S. 6-2-304(a)(iii) if the victim was under fourteen (14) years of age, W.S. 6-2-314(a)(i), W.S. 6-2-314(a)(ii) and (iii) if the victim was less than thirteen (13) years of age, W.S. 6-2-315(a)(ii), W.S. 6-2-315(a)(iii) and (iv) if the victim was less than thirteen (13) years of age, W.S. 6-2-316(a)(ii) and (iii), 6-2-702 or 6-2-703, 6-4-402, 18 U.S.C. § 2245, or an offense in another jurisdiction containing the same or similar elements, or arising out of the same or similar facts or circumstances as a criminal offense specified in this subsection, an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses specified in this subsection, any offense enumerated in subsection (h) of this section if the offender was previously convicted of any offense

enumerated in subsection (g) of this section or any offense enumerated in subsection (g) or (h) of this section if the offender was previously convicted of any offense enumerated in subsection (h) of this section, the division shall verify the accuracy of the offender's registered address, and the offender shall report, in person, his current address to the sheriff in the county in which the offender resides every three (3) months after the date of the initial release or commencement of parole. If the offender's appearance has changed substantially, and in any case at least annually, the sheriff shall photograph the offender. Confirmation of the in-person verification required by this subsection, and any new photographs of the offender, shall be transmitted by the sheriff to the division within three (3) working days. Any person under this subsection who has not established a residence or is transient, and who is reporting to the sheriff as required under subsection (e) of this section, shall be deemed in compliance with the address verification requirements of this section.

Section 2. W.S. 7-19-301(a)(iv) is repealed.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 103

HOSPICE CARE REIMBURSEMENTS

Original Senate File No. 69

AN ACT relating to welfare; increasing the Medicaid reimbursement rate for hospice care as specified; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 42-4-103(a)(xxv) is amended to read:

42-4-103. Authorized services and supplies.

(a) Services and supplies authorized for medical assistance under this chapter include:

(xxv) Hospice care as defined in W.S. 35-2-901(a)(xii) and authorized under 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(A)(ii)(VII) including hospice care in a hospice facility for an eligible individual and room and board for individuals receiving the care in a hospice facility. Reimbursement rates for hospice care shall be set annually to match Medicare hospice reimbursement rates. The room and board reimbursement rate for hospice facilities shall not exceed ~~fifty percent (50%)~~ one hundred percent (100%) of the statewide average of the Medicaid nursing home room and board rate when an eligible individual is receiving

hospice. For the purposes of this paragraph, “eligible individual” means a person who is eligible for hospice care as defined in the state Medicaid plan in effect on July 1, 2012;

Section 2. There is appropriated four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) from the general fund to the department of health for purposes of providing hospice care reimbursement under this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 104

PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING ACTIVITIES-AMENDMENTS

Original Senate File No. 125

AN ACT relating to gaming; specifying persons involved in horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering activities who shall be subject to criminal background checks; specifying rulemaking requirements for the Wyoming gaming commission; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-25-104(e) and (f) is amended to read:

11-25-104. Gaming commission; officers; director; meetings; quorum; records; licenses generally; effect of financial interest in events.

(e) The commission may authorize by license or permit and supervise all the conduct of all events provided for and regulated by this act. The commission may make reasonable rules for the control, supervision and direction of applicants, permittees and licensees. The rules shall include procedures for resolving scheduling conflicts and settling disputes between permittees, for the supervising, disciplining, suspending, fining and barring from pari-mutuel events of all persons required to be licensed or permitted by this act, and for the holding, conducting and operating of all pari-mutuel events pursuant to this act. The rules shall include requirements for internal controls for all aspects of pari-mutuel wagering, including procedures for system integrity, system security, operations and accounting. The commission may require that license applicants be fingerprinted for identification purposes as a condition of licensing. The commission shall announce the place, time and duration

of pari-mutuel events for which license or permit fees shall be required and establish reasonable fees for all licenses and permits provided for by this act. The fees shall be established to ensure that the costs of administering this act are recovered through the total revenues received under this act. The commission shall establish security access safeguards for licensees to use for advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering. The commission shall prohibit advance deposit pari-mutuel advertising that it determines to be deceptive to the public.

(f) Each permittee, ~~participant~~ licensee, any current and prospective employee, volunteer and contract employee of a permittee or ~~participant~~ licensee and each person who is directly involved in the has access to restricted areas or animals housed on permitted event grounds for horse racing or for pari-mutuel wagering activities of the permittee or participant, as defined in commission rule and regulation, shall be licensed by the commission and shall comply with all rules and regulations and all orders issued by the commission. No person shall hold any event with pari-mutuel wagering without obtaining a permit. The commission may require that all permittees, licensees, current and prospective employees, volunteers and contract employees of a permittee or licensee and each person who has access to restricted areas or animals housed on permitted event grounds for horse racing or for pari-mutuel activities submit fingerprints to the Wyoming division of criminal investigation to perform a criminal history background check pursuant to W.S. 7-19-201 in order to obtain state and national criminal history record information. The division may share the results of the criminal history background check with the commission pursuant to W.S. 7-19-106(a)(xxxv). For purposes of this subsection, permittees, licensees, current and prospective employees, volunteers and contract employees of a permittee or licensee, shall include the following as defined:

(i) “Assistant starter” means a person who handles a horse in the starting gate on race day and during training;

(ii) “Assistant trainer” means a person who is designated by the trainer to make decisions on behalf of the trainer during the trainer’s absence;

(iii) “Clerk of scales” means a person whose primary responsibility is to weigh the riders before and after a race to ensure proper weight is carried;

(iv) “Commission or permittee employee” means a person who is an employee that by virtue of their required duties has access to restricted areas of the permitted event grounds or has access to information that is limited by law or confidential in nature and could effectuate or manipulate wagering activity or wagering information;

(v) “Commission safety officer” means a person who is employed by the commission to monitor activities and practices in the stable area, barn area and on the racetrack for compliance with this act and rules of the commission;

(vi) "Commission veterinarian" means a Wyoming licensed veterinarian hired directly by the commission;

(vii) "Exercise rider" means a person who exercises a horse during a training session;

(viii) "Farrier" means a person who provides hoof care, including the trimming and balancing of horses hooves and placing of shoes on hooves, if necessary;

(ix) "Groom" means a person who cleans stalls, bathes, brushes and provides general care to a race horse;

(x) "Horseman's bookkeeper" means a person whose primary responsibility is to keep and preserve books which will reflect the deposits or other credits and withdrawals or other charges that may be made by an owner or other licensee;

(xi) "Host facility" means a person who leases their property to a permitholder to operate or host pari-mutuel wagering;

(xii) "Identifier" means a person who verifies the identity of each race horse prior to the race;

(xiii) "Jockey" means a person who is a race rider of a horse, including a licensed jockey or an apprentice jockey;

(xiv) "Jockey agent" means a person who handles the daily business of a jockey or apprentice;

(xv) "Mutuel employee" means a person who acts under the direction of the mutuel managers and sells betting tickets;

(xvi) "Mutuel manager" means a person who is an employee of the permittee who manages the mutuel department overseeing all wagering activity;

(xvii) "Owner" means a person who is the owner, part owner or lessee of a horse;

(xviii) "Paddock judge" means a person who is responsible for the paddock area and saddling routine of the race horses;

(xix) "Pari-mutuel service provider" means any business or person providing goods or services to a pari-mutuel permitholder who is required to have access to designated and secured areas of the pari-mutuel event or provides direct services for the support of players or wagering terminals;

(xx) "Patrol judge" means a person who observes the progress of a race from various vantage points around the track;

(xxi) "Permitholder" means a person or entity holding a permit issued by the Wyoming gaming commission to operate a pari-mutuel facility;

(xxii) “Permittee official” means any mutuel manager, steward, events judge, placing judge, patrol judge, paddock judge, clerk of scale, identifier, starter, horsemen bookkeeper, track safety officer, racing secretary and track superintendent who by virtue of their position has unrestricted access to the pari-mutuel event grounds and animals participating;

(xxiii) “Placing judge” means a person who posts the order of finish in a race;

(xxiv) “Pony rider” means a person that rides a horse while leading another race horse, either during a training session or escorting the race horse to the post on race days;

(xxv) “Private practice veterinarian” means a Wyoming licensed veterinarian hired to provide services to owners and trainers;

(xxvi) “Racing secretary” means a person who drafts conditions of races and assigns weights for handicap events;

(xxvii) “Security employee” means a person who is responsible for the protection of property, people, acting in accordance with the permittee’s guidelines;

(xxviii) “Service provider employee” means a person who is an employee of the pari-mutuel service providers who provide additional support to the vendor;

(xxix) “Starter” means a person who is responsible for the official dispatching of horses for a race;

(xxx) “Steward or event judge” means a person who is the head event official, or their designee, charged with the duty of making sure the events comply with this act and the rules of the commission;

(xxxi) “Track safety officer” means a person who monitors the paddock and racetrack areas during all training and racing hours for safety related issues;

(xxxii) “Track superintendent” means a person who is responsible for all track maintenance, ensuring that the track surface is properly groomed and prepared for training and racing hours;

(xxxiii) “Trainer” means a person who is engaged in the training of race horses;

(xxxiv) “Valet” means a person who assists in the saddling of horses for the jockeys in a pari-mutuel event;

(xxxv) “Veterinarian assistant” means a person who is hired by a commission veterinarian or a private practice veterinarian to assist in providing veterinarian services under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 105

BIGHORN AND DOMESTIC SHEEP RELOCATION-FEDERAL ACTION

Original Senate File No. 118

AN ACT relating to wildlife and livestock; providing legislative findings; requiring the game and fish department to relocate or remove bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit in response to specified federal action; providing for the reimbursement of costs for relocation or removal of bighorn sheep; requiring and authorizing attorney general action as specified; amending the duties of the wildlife/livestock research partnership board; providing appropriations; and providing for a delayed effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 11-19-605 is created to read:

11-19-605. Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep relocation and removal; legislative findings; reimbursement; attorney general action.

(a) The legislature finds and declares that it is the state's policy to vigorously defend its interests in maintaining and enhancing viable livestock grazing operations on public lands in conjunction with the conservation and maintenance of healthy bighorn sheep populations in the state of Wyoming. These two (2) policies are mutually compatible as demonstrated since the adoption of the collaboratively developed Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan in 2004, which was codified into law under W.S. 11-19-604 in 2015. The legislature further finds and declares that:

(i) Reintroduction of bighorn sheep and management action to protect existing populations of bighorn sheep on federal public lands has been effectively accomplished in conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan;

(ii) It is the policy of the state of Wyoming to accept any risk of contact between bighorn sheep and livestock in the vicinity of any bighorn sheep transplant or relocation and to hold livestock producers harmless in the event such contact occurs;

(iii) All wildlife in the state of Wyoming is the property of the state, and it is the policy of the state to provide an adequate and flexible system for control, propagation, management, protection and regulation of all Wyoming wildlife;

(iv) Any removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd

unit under this act shall not be attributable to domestic livestock grazing on federal bureau of land management administered lands. Rather, the removal of bighorn sheep shall be directly attributable to:

(A) Onerous federal regulation that unduly impedes the state of Wyoming's ability to manage wildlife and domestic livestock grazing in conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan;

(B) Third-party action designed to use bighorn sheep as a means of eliminating domestic livestock grazing on bureau of land management administered lands within or in the vicinity of the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit.

(v) The provisions of this section shall be enforced by the state.

(b) In conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan in W.S. 11-19-604 and pursuant to W.S. 23-1-103, the game and fish department shall relocate or remove all bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit if any federal judicial action or federal agency action requires or indicates it may require the following:

(i) The elimination, reduction or suspension of domestic livestock grazing or trailing in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit; or

(ii) Any changes to a United States bureau of land management resource management plan, grazing allotment plan or livestock grazing permit terms and conditions due to the presence of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit or grazing allotment in that vicinity that is not in a designated bighorn sheep herd unit after July 1, 2024 without the consent of the grazing permittee.

(c) Any relocation or removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit required by subsection (b) of this section shall commence as soon as practicable but not later than six (6) months after the Wyoming department of agriculture certifies to the governor that a condition specified in subsection (b) of this section is met. The governor shall notify the game and fish department that the removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit shall commence in accordance with this section.

(d) The game and fish department shall be responsible for the expedient removal of bighorn sheep that stray outside the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit if that straying or foray is not into another designated bighorn sheep herd unit.

(e) The state and its agencies shall coordinate and assist the Wyoming congressional delegation in pursuing changes to federal law, rules and policies in order to bring them into conformance with the policies and findings of the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan created under W.S. 11-19-604.

(f) The Wyoming game and fish department shall not seek to change, alter or otherwise affect changes to domestic livestock grazing authorization on public and state lands due to the presence of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit or grazing allotments in that vicinity that are not within an existing bighorn sheep herd unit.

(g) The game and fish department shall be reimbursed for the costs of relocation or removal of bighorn sheep pursuant to subsection (b) of this section from any available funds in the wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account created by W.S. 11-19-603.

(h) With the approval of the governor, the attorney general shall seek to intervene in any lawsuit if a federal action is contrary to the state's policy regarding Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section or that is inconsistent with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan.

(j) With the approval of the governor, the attorney general shall file an action against any federal agency to stop the enforcement, administration or implementation of any federal agency rule, instructional memo, handbook or other action taken by a federal agency if the rule, instructional memo, handbook or other action is contrary to the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan or is otherwise contrary to law.

Section 2. W.S. 11-19-602(b) by creating a new paragraph (vii) and 11-19-603 are amended to read:

11-19-602. Wyoming wildlife/livestock disease research partnership board created; membership; duties; purposes.

(b) The board shall:

(vii) Allocate funds for monitoring, tracking and conducting disease surveillance before and following the introduction of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit.

11-19-603. Account created.

There is created a wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account. Funds from this account shall be used only for purposes specified in W.S. 11-19-601 through ~~11-19-604~~ 11-19-605. Any interest earned on the account shall remain within the account.

Section 3.

(a) There is appropriated one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account for purposes of reimbursing the game and fish department for the costs of relocation or removal of bighorn sheep under this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2030. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2030.

(b) There is appropriated fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from the general fund to the department of agriculture for the rangeland health assessment program to conduct rangeland monitoring of the United States bureau of land

management grazing allotments in the Sweetwater Rocks bighorn sheep herd unit vicinity. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2030. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2030.

Section 4. This act is effective not later than fifteen (15) days after applicable federal law is enacted and the attorney general certifies to the secretary of state that federal law has been enacted that aligns with the purposes of this act. If no federal law is enacted that aligns with the purposes of this act, this act is effective January 1, 2026.

Section 5. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 106

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR LONG-TERM HOMEOWNERS

Original House Bill No. 3

AN ACT relating to taxation; establishing a tax exemption for long-term homeowners; providing a penalty for false claims; providing a sunset date; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-11-105(a) by creating a new paragraph (xliii) is amended to read:

39-11-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following property is exempt from property taxation:

(xliii) A portion of property used as a primary residence by long-term homeowners as provided in this paragraph. The following shall apply to this exemption:

(A) For residential real property used as a primary residence, if the owner or their spouse is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and the owner or their spouse has paid residential property tax in Wyoming for twenty-five (25) years or more on any residential property, the amount of the exemption shall be fifty percent (50%) of the assessed value of the residential real property;

(B) Not more than one (1) exemption under this paragraph shall apply to the same property in any year and no owner shall claim more than one (1) exemption under this paragraph in any year including property that houses more than one (1) family. To claim an exemption under this paragraph the owner of the residential real property shall submit a claim to the county

assessor not later than the fourth Monday in May each year on forms provided by the department of revenue demonstrating that the person is the owner of the property, that the person or the person's spouse is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and has paid residential property tax in Wyoming for twenty-five (25) years or more on any residential property and that the property is the person's primary residence. A surviving spouse of a person who qualified under this paragraph and who would not otherwise qualify under this paragraph shall continue to qualify for the exemption under this paragraph. False claims are punishable as provided by W.S. 6-5-303;

(C) As used in this paragraph:

(I) "Owner" means any of the following provided that no other person who may qualify as a co-owner shall apply for an exemption under this paragraph for the same property in the same year:

(1) A person who occupies and owns a primary residence either solely or with other owners;

(2) A person who occupies a primary residence as a vendee in possession under a contract of sale;

(3) A person who occupies a primary residence owned by a corporation, partnership or limited liability company if the owner of the property is a shareholder or owner of the corporation, partnership or limited liability company;

(4) A person who occupies a primary residence that is held in a trust established by or for the benefit of the occupant; or

(5) Military personnel who declare Wyoming as their domicile.

(II) "Primary residence" means residential real property where the person claiming the exemption actually resides for not less than eight (8) months of the year;

(III) "Residential real property" means real property improved by a dwelling designed to house not more than four (4) families and includes associated residential land up to thirty-five (35) acres where the dwelling is located if the land is owned by the owner of the dwelling. The dwelling may include any type of residence including a single family home, an individual condominium unit, a mobile home or a trailer if the dwelling is used as a primary residence.

Section 2. This act is repealed effective July 1, 2027.

Section 3. This act is effective January 1, 2025.

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 107**PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES AND LAND****Original House Bill No. 45**

AN ACT relating to taxation; establishing a property tax exemption for single family residential structures based on the prior year assessed value; establishing a property tax exemption for land associated with a single family residential structure based on the prior year assessed value; providing definitions; requiring information related to the tax exemption to be included on the tax assessment schedule and tax notice; providing rulemaking authority; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-11-105(a) by creating new paragraphs (xliii) and (xliv), 39-13-103(b)(viii) and 39-13-107(b)(i)(C) are amended to read:

39-11-105. Exemptions.

(a) The following property is exempt from property taxation:

(xliii) A portion of a single family residential structure. The following shall apply to the exemption under this paragraph:

(A) Subject to subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the amount of the exemption under this paragraph shall be any assessed value of the single family residential structure that is in excess of the prior year assessed value less any exemption authorized under this paragraph in the prior year, plus four percent (4%);

(B) The exemption under this paragraph is not applicable and the property shall be valued at full value if:

(I) The increase in value is attributable to structural changes to the single family residential structure including new construction or additions to an existing structure; or

(II) The owner acquired the property during the prior calendar year. The following shall not be deemed to be an acquisition of property under this subdivision:

(1) A transfer of property between spouses;

(2) A transfer of property pursuant to a court order including to effectuate a settlement agreement or in compliance with a decree of divorce or judicial separation;

(3) A transfer of property to a trust established for the benefit of the prior owner;

(4) A transfer of property to a corporation, partnership or limited liability company if the prior owner of the property is a shareholder or owner of the corporation, partnership or limited liability company;

(5) Any other transfer of property that the department determines by rule should not be an acquisition of property due to the relationship of the parties.

(C) The department shall adopt rules necessary to administer the exemption under this paragraph;

(D) As used in this paragraph, "single family residential structure" means a structure intended for human habitation including a house, modular home, mobile home, townhouse or condominium that is a privately owned single family dwelling unit.

(xliv) A portion of improved land associated with a single family residential structure. The following shall apply to the exemption under this paragraph:

(A) Subject to subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the amount of the exemption under this paragraph shall be any assessed value of improved land associated with a residential structure that is in excess of the prior year assessed value less any exemption authorized under this paragraph in the prior year, plus four percent (4%);

(B) The exemption under this paragraph is not applicable and the property shall be valued at full value if the owner acquired the property during the prior calendar year. The following shall not be deemed to be an acquisition of property under this subparagraph:

(I) A transfer of property between spouses;

(II) A transfer of property pursuant to a court order including to effectuate a settlement agreement or in compliance with a decree of divorce or judicial separation;

(III) A transfer of property to a trust established for the benefit of the prior owner;

(IV) A transfer of property to a corporation, partnership or limited liability company if the prior owner of the property is a shareholder or owner of the corporation, partnership or limited liability company;

(V) Any other transfer of property that the department determines by rule should not be an acquisition of property due to the relationship of the parties.

(C) The department shall adopt rules necessary to administer the exemption under this paragraph;

(D) As used in this paragraph, "improved land associated with a single family residential structure" means land that is improved by a structure intended for human habitation including a house, modular home, mobile home, townhouse or condominium that is a privately owned single family dwelling unit.

39-13-103. Imposition.

(b) Basis of tax. The following shall apply:

(viii) Every assessment schedule sent to a taxpayer shall contain the property's estimated fair market value for the current and previous year, or, productive value in the case of agricultural property. The schedule shall also contain the assessment ratio as provided by paragraph (b)(iii) of this section for the taxable property, the amount of taxes assessed on the taxable property from the previous year, ~~and~~ an estimate of the taxes which will be due and payable for the current year based on the previous year's mill levies and, if the property is a single family residential structure, an estimate of the taxes that will be avoided if the property is eligible for the exemptions under W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xliii) and (xliv). The schedule shall contain a statement of the process to contest assessments as prescribed by W.S. 39-13-109(b)(i);

39-13-107. Compliance; collection procedures.

(b) The following provisions shall apply to the payment of taxes, distraint of property and deferral:

(i) The following shall apply to the payment of taxes due:

(C) Annually, on or before October 10 the county treasurer shall send a written statement to each taxpayer by mail at his last known address or, if offered by the county and upon request of the taxpayer, by electronic transmission of the total tax due, itemized as to property description, assessed value and mill levies. The notice shall contain information, including contact information, of any property tax relief program authorized by state law and, if the property is a single family residential structure, the taxes that will be avoided pursuant to the exemptions under W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xliii) and (xliv). Failure to send notice, or to demand payment of taxes, does not invalidate any taxes due;

Section 2. The exemption provided by W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xliii) as created in section 1 of this act shall first apply to the tax year beginning January 1, 2024. The exemption provided by W.S. 39-11-105(a)(xliv) as created in section 1 of this act shall first apply to the tax year beginning January 1, 2025.

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

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 108**EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS-1****Original House Bill No. 166**

AN ACT relating to education; authorizing education savings accounts; creating the Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account; providing for a transfer of funds to the Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account; providing for the use and administration of education savings accounts for education; specifying duties of the state superintendent of public instruction; providing rulemaking authority; making conforming amendments; providing appropriations; authorizing full-time positions; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-2-901 through 21-2-909 are created to read:

ARTICLE 9**WYOMING EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS****21-2-901. Short title.**

This act shall be known as the “Wyoming Education Savings Accounts Act.”
The program created by this act shall be known as the “ESA program.”

21-2-902. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) “Curriculum” means a course of study for content areas or grade levels, including any supplemental materials required or recommended by the curriculum;

(ii) “Education savings account” or “ESA” means the spending account for a child’s education to which funds are allocated by the state superintendent of public instruction, for which a parent of an ESA student enters into an agreement with the state superintendent to choose and pay for qualifying education expenses to educate the ESA student, subject to the requirements and conditions of this act;

(iii) “Education service provider” means a person or organization, including a qualified school, that receives payments authorized by a parent from education savings accounts to provide educational goods and services to ESA students;

(iv) “ESA student” means a student eligible for an ESA pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a) who is participating in the ESA program;

(v) “Parent” means a resident of this state who is the parent or legal guardian of an eligible student or ESA student and may include an eligible student or ESA student who is an emancipated minor;

(vi) “Pre-kindergarten” means an educational program with the primary goal of preparing children for kindergarten that provides up to one (1) school year of education prior to entry into kindergarten;

(vii) “Qualified school” means a pre-kindergarten or a nonpublic primary or secondary school, certified by the state superintendent of public instruction pursuant to W.S. 21-2-906(a), located in or that provides education services in this state, that may include through online means;

(viii) “This act” means W.S. 21-2-901 through 21-2-909.

21-2-903. Education savings accounts; Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account.

(a) The total amount to be deposited in an education savings account for an ESA student each year shall be determined by the student’s household income compared to the federal poverty levels, using the most recent federal poverty guidelines for the student’s household size and income, as follows:

~~[(i)] Six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) for students whose household income is at or below one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty level[;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(ii) Four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800.00) for students whose household income is at or below two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level but more than one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(iii) Three thousand six hundred dollars (\$3,600.00) for students whose household income is at or below two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level but more than two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(iv) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for students whose household income is at or below three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty level but more than two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(v) Two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400.00) for students whose household income is at or below three hundred fifty percent (350%) of the federal poverty level but more than three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(vi) One thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00) for students whose household income is at or below four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty level but more than three hundred fifty percent (350%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(vii) One thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) for students whose household income is at or below four hundred fifty percent (450%) of the federal poverty level but more than four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty level;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

~~[(viii) Six hundred dollars (\$600.00) for students whose household income is at or below five hundred percent (500%) of the federal poverty level but more than four hundred fifty percent (450%) of the federal poverty level]. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]~~

(b) Payments to ESAs under this act shall be made by the state superintendent of public instruction from the Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account, which is hereby created. The Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account shall consist of funds transferred to the expenditure account and other funds appropriated by the legislature to the expenditure account. All earnings from investment of the expenditure account shall be credited to the expenditure account. Any unencumbered, unobligated balance of the expenditure account at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain in the expenditure account and shall be expended to fund ESAs as provided by this act.

(c) Payments to each approved ESA shall be disbursed on a quarterly basis by the state superintendent.

21-2-904. ESA program eligibility; parent agreement; ESA administration.

(a) Subject to the availability of funds as determined by the legislature, any child who is a Wyoming resident, who meets one (1) of the following qualifications, and subject to W.S. 21-2-903(a), shall be eligible to receive an ESA subject to the provisions of this act:

(i) The child has not graduated from high school or received a high school equivalency certificate and is eligible to attend a public school in this state; or

(ii) The child is not less than four (4) years of age as of August 1 of the year in which the application for an ESA is made and has not yet attained the age to attend public school in this state.

(b) To participate in the ESA program, the custodial parent of an ESA student shall sign an agreement with the state superintendent that:

(i) Requires use of the ESA funds for the following qualifying expenses to educate the ESA student:

(A) Tuition and fees at a qualified school;

(B) Tutoring services provided by an individual or a tutoring facility. The tutoring services shall not be provided by an ESA student's immediate family;

(C) Services contracted for and provided by a public school district, including services provided by a public charter school. Services under this subparagraph may include, without limitation, individual classes and extracurricular activities and programs;

(D) Textbooks, curriculum and other instructional materials, including, but not limited to, any supplemental materials or associated online instruction required by either a curriculum or an education service provider;

(E) Computer hardware or other technological devices that are primarily used to help meet an ESA student's educational needs;

(F) Educational software and applications;

(G) School uniforms;

(H) Fees for nationally standardized assessments, advanced placement examinations, examinations related to college or university admission and tuition and fees for preparatory courses for the exams;

(J) Tuition and fees for summer education programs and specialized after school education programs;

(K) Tuition, fees, instructional materials and examination fees at a career or technical school;

(M) Educational services and therapies including, but not limited to, occupational, behavioral, physical, speech-language and audiology therapies;

(N) Tuition and fees at an institution of higher education;

(O) Fees for transportation paid to a fee-for-service transportation provider for the student to travel to and from an education service provider;

(P) Any other educational expense approved by the state superintendent.

(ii) For students eligible for an ESA under paragraph (a)(i) of this section:

(A) Requires that the ESA student receive instruction in, at minimum, reading, writing, mathematics, civics, including studies of the United States constitution and the constitution of the state of Wyoming, history, literature and science. No parent shall be required to include any instruction that conflicts with the parent's or the ESA student's religious doctrines;

(B) Requires that the ESA student take the statewide assessments administered pursuant to W.S. 21-2-304(a) or a nationally normed achievement exam;

(C) Certifies that the ESA student is not, or will not be, enrolled in a public school district upon receipt of the ESA and releases the applicable school district from all obligations to educate the ESA student. This subparagraph shall not:

(I) Require an eligible student to withdraw from a public school

district before applying for or receiving an ESA if the student withdraws from the public school district before receiving or expending any monies in the student's ESA;

(II) Prevent a qualified student from applying in advance for an ESA student to be funded beginning the following school year; or

(III) Prevent a public school district from charging an ESA for any services provided to the qualified student to the extent authorized by law.

(c) Funds in an ESA shall not be refunded, rebated or shared with a parent of an ESA student in any manner. Any refund or rebate for goods or services purchased with ESA funds shall be credited directly to the student's ESA.

(d) Parents may make payments for costs of educational goods and services not covered by the funds in the ESA. Personal deposits into an ESA shall not be permitted.

(e) An ESA shall remain active and any unused funds shall not revert until the parent withdraws the ESA student from the ESA program or until the ESA student is no longer eligible for the ESA program, unless the ESA is closed because of a substantial misuse of funds. When an ESA is closed, any unused funds shall revert to the Wyoming education savings accounts expenditure account.

(f) Nothing in this act shall be construed to require an ESA student to be enrolled, full-time or part-time, in a nonpublic school. An ESA student receiving individualized instruction in a non-school setting shall not be construed to be a student of a home-based educational program as defined in W.S. 21-4-101(a)(v).

21-2-905. Application, award and allocation of ESAs.

(a) A parent may apply to the state superintendent of public instruction to establish an ESA for an eligible student.

(b) The state superintendent shall establish procedures for approving applications in an expeditious manner.

(c) The state superintendent shall create a standard form that parents may submit to establish their student's eligibility for the ESA program and shall ensure that the application form is publicly available and that completed applications may be submitted through various sources, including the internet.

(d) Except as provided under subsection (e) of this section, the state superintendent shall approve an application for an ESA if:

(i) The parent submits an application for an ESA in accordance with application procedures established by the state superintendent;

(ii) The student is an eligible student pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a);

(iii) Funds are available for the ESA;

(iv) The parent signs an agreement with the state superintendent as provided in W.S. 21-2-904(b).

(e) Except as provided under this subsection, eighty percent (80%) of the ESAs shall be awarded to students eligible pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a)(i) and the remaining twenty percent (20%) shall be awarded to students eligible pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a)(ii) each year. Any funds allocated under this subsection for the award of ESAs to students eligible pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a)(ii) that are not awarded in any school year may be awarded to students eligible pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(a)(i). If the number of applications for ESAs exceeds the available funds for any school year, the students shall be selected on a first-come, first-served basis, except preference shall be given to an eligible student who received funds under the ESA program in the immediately preceding school year.

(f) For students eligible for an ESA under W.S. 21-2-904(a)(i), the following shall apply:

(i) A signed agreement between the parent and state superintendent under W.S. 21-2-904(b) shall satisfy the compulsory school attendance requirements of W.S. 21-4-102 and the parent shall annually provide the student's resident public school district notice of intent to participate in the ESA program;

(ii) Upon notice to the state superintendent, an ESA student may choose to stop receiving an ESA and enroll full-time in a public school. Enrolling as a full-time student in a public school shall result in the immediate suspension of payment of additional funds to the student's ESA and the state superintendent may close the ESA. If an eligible student applies to the state superintendent to return to the ESA program, payments into the student's existing ESA may resume if the ESA is still open and active. A new ESA may be established if an eligible student's ESA was closed;

(iii) The state superintendent may adopt rules and policies to provide the least disruptive process for ESA students who choose to enroll full-time in a public school.

21-2-906. Duties of the state superintendent of public instruction to administer the education savings accounts program.

(a) The state superintendent of public instruction shall:

(i) Establish a certification process for education service providers, which shall, at minimum, ensure ESA students attending qualified schools in kindergarten through grade twelve (12) receive instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, including studies of the United States constitution and the constitution of the state of Wyoming, history, literature and science and for pre-kindergarten ensure ESA students at minimum receive instruction necessary for preparation to enter kindergarten;

(ii) Maintain a list of certified education service providers and ensure the list is available to parents of ESA students. The list shall enable the education service provider to indicate if the education service provider is accepting new ESA students;

(iii) Provide parents with a written explanation of the qualified expenses for ESA funds, the responsibilities of parents and the duties of the state superintendent related to administration of the ESA program;

(iv) For students eligible for an ESA under W.S. 21-2-904(a)(i), ensure that parents of ESA students with disabilities receive notice that participation in the ESA program is a parental placement under 20 U.S.C. § 1412, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), along with an explanation of the rights that parentally placed students possess under IDEA and any applicable state laws and regulations;

(v) If determined necessary by the state superintendent, contract with one (1) or more private organizations to administer the ESA program or specific functions of the ESA program including, without limitation, contracting with private financial management firms to manage ESAs. The state superintendent shall comply with applicable procurement statutes and rules in securing services under this paragraph;

(vi) Implement a commercially viable, cost-effective and user-friendly system for payment of services from ESAs to education service providers by electronic or online funds transfer. The payment system shall not rely exclusively on requiring parents to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. The payment system shall provide maximum flexibility to parents by facilitating direct payments to education service providers as well as requests for pre-approval of and reimbursements for qualifying expenses listed in W.S. 21-2-904(b)(i). The state superintendent may contract with private organizations to develop the payment system;

(vii) Continue certifying deposits into a student's ESA until:

(A) The state superintendent determines that the ESA student is no longer an eligible student;

(B) The state superintendent determines there was an intentional and substantial misuse of the funds in the ESA;

(C) The ESA student withdraws from the ESA program; or

(D) The ESA student enrolls full-time in a public school.

(viii) Conduct or contract for the auditing of individual ESAs and shall at a minimum conduct or contract for audits of not less than two percent (2%) of all ESAs, selected randomly, on an annual basis;

(ix) Investigate reports of intentional and substantial misuse of ESA funds and prohibit an eligible ESA student from receipt of ESA funds if the

state superintendent determines that the ESA student or ESA student's parent intentionally and substantially misused ESA funds. The state superintendent shall by rule create procedures to ensure that a fair process exists to determine whether an intentional and substantial misuse of ESA funds has occurred. The state superintendent shall have the authority to refer suspected cases of intentional and substantial misuse of ESA funds to the department of audit or the attorney general for investigation if evidence of fraudulent use of ESA funds is obtained;

(x) Establish rules to prohibit an education service provider from accepting payments from ESAs if the state superintendent determines the education service provider has:

(A) Intentionally and substantially misrepresented information or failed to refund any overpayments in a timely manner; or

(B) Routinely failed to provide students with required educational goods or services.

(xi) Notify parents and ESA students within ten (10) business days if the state superintendent prohibits an education service provider from receiving ESA funds under paragraph (x) of this subsection;

(xii) For students eligible for an ESA under W.S. 21-2-904(a)(i), ensure ESA students, who choose to, participate in the statewide assessments administered pursuant to W.S. 21-2-304(a) and compile the assessment results to analyze student proficiency and academic progress among the students participating in the ESA program, including an analysis of graduation rates, proficiency and progress based on grade level. The results of the analysis under this paragraph shall be included in the annual report required pursuant to W.S. 21-2-204(k).

(b) If an education service provider requires partial payment of tuition or fees prior to the start of the school year to reserve space for an ESA student admitted to the education service provider, the state superintendent may certify the partial payment prior to the start of the school year in which the ESA is awarded and deduct that amount from subsequent quarterly ESA deposits. If an ESA student decides not to use the education service provider, the partial payment made under this subsection shall be returned to the state superintendent by the education service provider and credited to the student's ESA.

(c) The state superintendent may adopt rules that are not inconsistent with this act and that are necessary for the administration of this act including rules:

(i) Establishing or contracting for the establishment of an online anonymous fraud reporting service;

(ii) Establishing an anonymous telephone hotline for fraud reporting;

(iii) Requiring a surety bond for education service providers receiving more than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) in ESA funds; and

(iv) Establishing a procedure for refunding payments from education service providers to ESAs.

21-2-907. Education service providers.

(a) Before receiving payment from an ESA, a prospective education service provider shall:

(i) Be certified by the state superintendent of public instruction pursuant to W.S. 21-2-906(a) to receive payments from ESAs;

(ii) Agree not to refund, rebate or share ESA funds with parents or ESA students in any manner, except that funds may be remitted or refunded to an ESA in accordance with procedures established by the state superintendent.

(b) Nothing in this act shall be deemed to limit the independence or autonomy of an education service provider or to make the actions of an education service provider the actions of state government or public school district.

(c) Education service providers shall be given maximum freedom to provide instruction and services in their usual and customary manner to meet the educational needs of ESA students.

(d) An education service provider that accepts payment from an ESA pursuant to this act is not an agent of the state or federal government or a public school district.

(e) Nothing in this act shall be construed to expand the regulatory authority of the state, its officers, or any school district to impose any additional regulation of education service providers beyond those necessary to enforce the requirements of the ESA program.

(f) An education service provider shall not be required to alter its creed, practices, admission policy or curriculum to accept payments authorized by a parent from an ESA.

21-2-908. Responsibilities of public schools and school districts.

A public school or school district that previously enrolled an ESA student shall provide an education service provider that has enrolled the ESA student with a complete copy of the ESA student's school records as necessary, while complying with 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

21-2-909. Legal liability.

No liability shall arise on the part of the state superintendent of public instruction or the state or any public school or school district based on the award of or use of an ESA pursuant to this act.

Section 2. W.S. 21-4-102 by creating a new subsection (d), 21-4-301 and 21-13-310(a)(ix) are amended to read:

21-4-102. When attendance required; exemptions; withdrawal.

(d) A child participating in the ESA program specified by W.S. 21-2-901 and who provides notice of participation in the ESA program to the child's school district shall be deemed to be in compliance with the compulsory attendance requirement under this section.

21-4-301. Schools to be free and accessible to all children; minimum school year.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by law, the public schools of each school district in the state shall at all times be equally free and accessible to all children resident therein of five (5) years of age as of August 1, or September 15 if pursuant to an approved request under W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxxviii), of the year in which they may register in kindergarten as provided in W.S. 21-4-302(b) and under the age of twenty-one (21), subject to regulations of the board of trustees. Each school district shall operate its schools and its classes for a minimum of one hundred seventy-five (175) days each school year unless an alternative schedule has been approved by the state board. Prior to submission of a proposed alternative schedule to the state board, the board of trustees shall hold at least two (2) advertised public meetings within the district, at which the board shall present the proposed alternative schedule and respond to public questions and comments. Any school district operating under an alternative schedule shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of that schedule in meeting the educational goals and purposes for which the schedule was adopted.

(b) A parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of any child eligible to attend public school in Wyoming under subsection (a) of this section shall have the option to apply for the ESA program specified by W.S. 21-2-901 on behalf of the child.

21-13-310. Annual computation of district revenues.

(a) To ensure revenues available to each district are uniformly sufficient to enable compliance with the uniform standards for educational programs prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and to secure state board accreditation of educational programs under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(ii), the revenues specified under this subsection shall be deemed state revenues and shall be considered in determining the amount to be distributed to each district under W.S. 21-13-311. A district shall make an annual computation of the following revenues:

(ix) The amount of tuition paid to the district during the previous school year, including any amount charged under W.S. 21-4-501 and any amount assessed in excess of the costs incurred for adult education programs, summer school programs, programs provided under an agreement for cooperative educational programs under W.S. 21-20-101 through 21-20-111 and any amount assessed for programs and services for children with disabilities, but

excluding any tuition assessed by a district for the provision of virtual education programs to participating students pursuant to W.S. 21-13-330, any tuition assessed by a district for the provision of part-time educational programs to participating students pursuant to W.S. 21-2-904(b)(i)(C) and 21-4-502(c), any revenues received by a district from post secondary education option programs provided under W.S. 21-20-201 or for the provision of educational programs to a nonresident student placed in a juvenile detention facility pursuant to an agreement with the student's resident school district;

Section 3. There is appropriated twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) from the general fund to the education savings accounts expenditure account created by W.S. 21-2-903(b) for purposes of the Wyoming education savings accounts program. This appropriation shall be subject to the terms of W.S. 21-2-903(b).

Section 4.

(a) The department of education is authorized two (2) full-time employees for the purposes of this act. There is appropriated four hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$480,000.00) from the general fund for the salary and benefits of the positions created by this section for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent of the legislature that four hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$480,000.00) and these positions be included in the department of education's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) There is appropriated to the department of education four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) from the general fund for contractual services (900 series) necessary to implement this act for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law. It is the intent of the legislature that four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) for contractual services (900 series) necessary to implement this act be included in the department of education's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. As a condition of this appropriation, the department of education shall regularly report on the expenditures from the appropriation under this subsection to the legislature through the joint education interim committee.

Section 5. The state superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules and take other actions as necessary to enable students to enroll in the ESA program created by this act for school year 2025-2026. The state superintendent shall begin accepting applications for the ESA program not later than January 1, 2025.

Section 6.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 1 and 2 of this act are effective January 1, 2025.

(c) Section 3 of this act is effective July 1, 2025.

Approved March 21, 2024

Chapter 109**PROPERTY TAX REFUND PROGRAM****Original House Bill No. 4**

AN ACT relating to property tax; amending qualifications for the property tax refund program; amending qualifications for the county optional property tax refund program; amending the maximum refund under the property tax refund program; requiring audits; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 39-13-109(c)(v)(B)(intro), (C), by creating a new subparagraph (G), (vi)(A), (C) and (E) is amended to read:

39-13-109. Taxpayer remedies.

(c) Refunds. The following shall apply:

(v) The following shall apply to the property tax refund program:

(B) Gross income as used in this subparagraph shall be defined by the department through rules and regulations. Such gross income shall be verified by federal income tax returns which shall accompany the application for refund, if federal income tax returns were required and filed, or whatever other means necessary as determined by the department through rules and regulations. The tax refund for qualifying persons shall be in the form of a refund of any ad valorem tax due and timely paid upon the person's principal residence for the preceding calendar year in the amount specified in this paragraph. The department shall issue all refunds due under this paragraph on or before September 30 of the year in which application is made for the refund. Any person shall qualify for a refund in the amount specified under this paragraph if the person's gross income including the total household income of which the person is a member does not exceed the greater of ~~one hundred twenty-five percent (125%)~~ one hundred sixty-five percent (165%) of the median gross household income for the applicant's county of residence or the state, as determined annually by the economic analysis division of the department of administration and information. Additionally, unless the person's tax liability is greater than ten percent (10%) of the person's household income, no person

shall qualify for a refund under this paragraph unless the person has total household assets as defined by the department of revenue through rules and regulations of not to exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) per adult member of the household as adjusted annually by the statewide average Wyoming cost-of-living index published by the economic analysis division of the department of administration and information, excluding the following:

(C) A maximum refund granted under this paragraph shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the applicant's prior year's property tax, but in no instance shall the maximum amount of refund exceed one-half (1/2) of the median residential property tax liability for the applicant's county of residence as determined annually by the department of revenue.; The maximum refund calculated under this subparagraph shall be adjusted as follows, using the highest applicable percentage determined below, based on the person's gross income as determined in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph:

(I) If the person's gross income is one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) or less of the applicable median income, the refund shall be one hundred percent (100%) of the maximum refund calculated under this paragraph;

(II) If the gross income is one hundred forty-five percent (145%) or less of the applicable median income, the refund shall be sixty-five percent (65%) of the maximum refund calculated under this paragraph[;] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]

~~[(HH) If the gross income is one hundred sixty-five percent (165%) or less of the applicable median income, the refund shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the maximum refund calculated under this paragraph].~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]

(G) The department of audit, upon the request of a county treasurer or the department of revenue, may conduct a review of the distributed property tax refund under this program for compliance with the requirements of this paragraph.

(vi) Each county shall have the option to implement a county-optional property tax refund program that is in addition to the program established under paragraph (v) of this subsection, subject to the adoption of rules as required by subparagraph (H) of this paragraph. The following shall apply to a county-optional property tax refund program implemented under this paragraph:

(A) On or before the first-second Monday in September-October, an applicant may apply to the county treasurer for a property tax refund from property taxes paid on or before the first Monday in June for the preceding

calendar year upon the applicant's principal residence including the land upon which the residence is located. An applicant shall have been a resident of this state for not less than five (5) years before applying for a refund under this paragraph. The affidavit shall include information as required by rule of the county on a form approved by the county. The tax refund granted shall be as provided by subparagraph (E) of this paragraph;

(C) Except as provided in subparagraph (D) of this paragraph, any person in the participating county shall qualify for a refund in the amount specified under this paragraph if any ad valorem tax due upon the person's principal residence in the county for the preceding calendar year was timely paid and if the person's gross income including the total household income of which the person is a member does not exceed an amount as determined by the county, which shall not exceed ~~one hundred twenty-five percent (125%)~~ one hundred sixty-five percent (165%) of the median gross household income for the county, as determined annually by the economic analysis division of the department of administration and information. As used in this subparagraph "gross income" shall have the same meaning as defined by department rules promulgated under paragraph (v) of this subsection. Gross income shall be verified by federal income tax returns, which shall accompany the application for refund, if federal income tax returns were required and filed, or by whatever other means necessary as determined by the county through rules;

(E) The tax refund for qualifying persons shall be in the form of a refund of any ad valorem tax due and timely paid upon the person's principal residence for the preceding calendar year in the amount specified in this paragraph. A maximum refund granted under this paragraph shall not exceed a percentage of the applicant's prior year's property tax as determined by the county subject to this paragraph, which shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the applicant's prior year's property tax. In no instance shall the maximum amount of the refund exceed one-half (1/2) of the median residential property tax liability for the applicant's county as determined annually by the department of revenue. The maximum refund shall be adjusted using the highest applicable percentage, based on the person's gross income as determined in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, using the percentages specified in subdivisions (v)(C) (I) through (II)(I) of this subsection. The total amount of the refunds under this paragraph and paragraph (v) of this section shall not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the applicant's prior year's property tax. The county shall issue all refunds due under this paragraph on or before December 30 of the year in which application is made for the refund; **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2024.]**

Section 2.

(a) There is appropriated ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) from the general

fund to the department of revenue for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for purposes of programming costs to administer the property tax refund program under W.S. 39-13-109. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

(b) There is appropriated sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) from the general fund to the department of revenue for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for purposes of personnel costs to administer the property tax refund program under W.S. 39-13-109. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

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

Approved March 21, 2024.

Chapter 110

PROTECTION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

Original House Bill No. 92

AN ACT relating to parental rights; specifying applicability of parental rights protections; specifying duties for school district boards of trustees; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 14-2-206 by creating a new subsection (c) and 21-3-110(a) by creating a new paragraph (xlii) are amended to read:

14-2-206. Protection of parental rights; applicability.

(c) The parental right as provided under this section shall also apply to any state or local education agency, school district, board of trustees, commission or school under title 21 of the Wyoming statutes regarding communication or disclosure to a parent about that parent's unemancipated child.

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xlii) Require communication and disclosure to a parent or guardian regarding their student to ensure the protection of parental rights under W.S. 14-2-206.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Became law without signature March 21, 2024.

Chapter 111

NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS-TEMPORARY LICENSES

Original Senate File No. 6

AN ACT relating to professions and occupations; authorizing the board of nursing home administrators to issue temporary licenses for nursing home administrators as specified; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 33-22-111 is created to read:

33-22-111. Temporary licenses.

(a) The board may issue a temporary license to an applicant for:

(i) Licensure who has provided all of the information required for licensure and is awaiting the results of the applicant's criminal history record background check under W.S. 7-19-201. A temporary license issued under this paragraph shall expire when the board receives the results of the applicant's criminal history record background check and issues the applicant a license or denies the application for licensure;

(ii) Licensure pending completion of the experience and examination requirements established by rule of the board. A temporary license issued under this paragraph shall be valid for not more than six (6) months. No applicant shall receive more than two (2) separate temporary licenses under this paragraph; or

(iii) A temporary license who, by training or experience in the field of institutional administration, the board determines is qualified to serve as the administrator of a nursing home that does not have a licensed nursing home administrator. A temporary license issued under this paragraph shall be valid for not more than six (6) months.

(b) The holder of a temporary license under the provisions of this act shall be authorized to serve as a nursing home administrator for the period that the temporary license is valid.

(c) The holder of a temporary license shall be subject to the standards of conduct imposed on a license holder under this act.

Section 2. 33-22-108(a)(i) and 33-22-110 are amended to read:

33-22-108. Powers and duties of board.

(a) The board shall:

(i) Develop, impose and enforce standards which must be met by individuals in order to receive a license or temporary license as a nursing home administrator, which standards shall be designed to insure that nursing home administrators will be individuals who have backgrounds that do not evidence conduct adverse to the practice of nursing home administration or to the ability to practice nursing home administration and are otherwise suitable, and who, by training or experience, in the field of institutional administration, are qualified to serve as nursing home administrators;

33-22-110. Misdemeanor.

It shall be unlawful and a misdemeanor for any person to act or serve in the capacity of a nursing home administrator unless he is the holder of a license or temporary license as a nursing home administrator, issued in accordance with the provisions of this act.

Section 3. The board of nursing home administrators shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

Section 4.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective immediately upon the completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Became law without signature March 21, 2024.

Chapter 112

NEWBORN CHILD SAFE HAVENS-AGE OF CHILD

Original House Bill No. 90

AN ACT relating to children; amending the age of newborn children who may be relinquished to a safe haven provider; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 14-11-102(a)(vi) is amended to read:

14-11-102. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(vi) "Newborn child" means a child who is ~~fourteen (14)~~ sixty (60) days of age or younger as determined within a reasonable degree of medical certainty;

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 113

CHILDREN GENDER CHANGE PROHIBITION

Original Senate File No. 99

AN ACT relating to public health and safety; prohibiting physicians from performing procedures for children related to gender transitioning and gender reassignment; providing an exception; providing that gender transitioning and reassignment procedures are grounds for suspension or revocation of a physician's or health care provider's license; providing definitions; specifying applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. W.S. 35-4-1001 is created to read:

ARTICLE 10

GENDER-RELATED PROCEDURES

35-4-1001. Gender transitioning and reassignment procedures for children prohibited.

(a) As used in this section:

(i) "Child" means a person who is younger than eighteen (18) years of age;

(ii) "Health care provider" means a person other than a physician who is licensed, certified or otherwise authorized by Wyoming law to provide or render health care or to dispense or prescribe a prescription drug in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession;

(iii) "Physician" means any person licensed to practice medicine in this state by the state board of medicine under the Medical Practice Act.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section and for purposes of transitioning a child's biological sex as determined by the sex organs, chromosomes and endogenous profiles of the child or affirming the child's perception of the child's sex if that perception is inconsistent with the child's biological sex, no physician or health care provider shall:

(i) Perform a surgery that sterilizes the child, including castration, vasectomy, hysterectomy, oophorectomy, metoidioplasty, orchiectomy, penectomy, phalloplasty and vaginoplasty;

(ii) Perform a mastectomy;

(iii) Provide, administer, prescribe or dispense any of the following prescription drugs that induce transient or permanent infertility:

(A) Puberty suppression or blocking prescription drugs to stop or delay normal puberty;

(B) Supraphysiologic doses of testosterone to females;

(C) Supraphysiologic doses of estrogen to males.

(iv) Remove any otherwise healthy or nondiseased body part or tissue.

(c) This section shall not apply to:

(i) Procedures or treatments that are performed with the consent of the child's parent or guardian and are for a child who is born with a medically verifiable genetic disorder of sex development, including 46, XX chromosomes with virilization, 46, XY with undervirilization or both ovarian and testicular tissue;

(ii) Any procedure or treatment that is performed with the consent of the child's parent or guardian and is for a child with medically verifiable central precocious puberty.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a minor from receiving mental health treatment, provided that such treatment shall not include any treatments prohibited by subsection (b)(iii) of this section.

Section 2. W.S. 33-21-146(a)(xi), (xii) and by creating a new paragraph (xiii), 33-24-122(a)(intro), (ix) and by creating a new paragraph (xi) and 33-26-402(a) by creating a new paragraph (xxxvi) are amended to read:

33-21-146. Disciplining licensees and certificate holders; grounds.

(a) The board of nursing may refuse to issue or renew, or may suspend or revoke the license, certificate or temporary permit of any person, or to otherwise discipline a licensee or certificate holder, upon proof that the person:

(xi) Has failed to submit to a mental, physical or medical competency examination following a proper request by the board made pursuant to board rules and regulations and the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act;~~or~~

(xii) Has violated a previously entered board order; ~~or~~

(xiii) Has violated W.S. 35-4-1001.

33-24-122. Revocation or suspension of license and registration; letter of admonition; summary suspension; administrative penalties; probation; grounds.

(a) The license and registration of any pharmacist may be revoked or suspended by the board of pharmacy or the board may issue a letter of admonition, refuse to issue or renew any license or require successful completion of a rehabilitation program or issue a summary suspension for any one (1) or more of the following causes:

(ix) For senility or mental impairment which impedes the pharmacist's

professional abilities or for habitual personal use of morphine, cocaine or other habit forming drugs or alcohol; or

(xi) For violating W.S. 35-4-1001.

33-26-402. Grounds for suspension; revocation; restriction; imposition of conditions; refusal to renew or other disciplinary action.

(a) The board may refuse to renew, and may revoke, suspend or restrict a license or take other disciplinary action, including the imposition of conditions or restrictions upon a license on one (1) or more of the following grounds:

(xxxvi) Violating W.S. 35-4-1001.

Section 3. W.S. 35-4-1001, as created by section 1 of this act, shall apply only to conduct or procedures occurring on and after the effective date of this act.

Section 4. The department of health, state board of medicine and state board of pharmacy shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

Section 5.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

(b) Sections 4 and 5 of this act are effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 114

CONCEALED FIREARMS-PERMIT ELIGIBILITY

Original Senate File No. 73

AN ACT relating to weapons; amending the eligibility requirements for a person to receive a permit to carry a concealed firearm as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 6-8-104(b)(v)(B) is amended to read:

6-8-104. Wearing or carrying concealed weapons; penalties; exceptions; permits.

(b) The attorney general is authorized to issue permits to carry a concealed firearm to persons qualified as provided by this subsection. The attorney general shall promulgate rules necessary to carry out this section no later than October 1, 1994. Applications for a permit to carry a concealed firearm shall be made available and distributed by the division of criminal investigation and

local law enforcement agencies. The permit shall be valid throughout the state for a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance. The permittee shall carry the permit, together with valid identification at all times when the permittee is carrying a concealed firearm and shall display both the permit and proper identification upon request of any peace officer. The attorney general through the division shall issue a permit to any person who:

(v) Has not been:

(B) Convicted of a felony violation of the Wyoming Controlled Substances Act of 1971, W.S. 35-7-1001 through 35-7-1057 or similar laws of any other state or the United States relating to controlled substances and has not been pardoned or had his firearm rights restored pursuant to W.S. 7-13-105(a) or (f); or

Section 2. This act shall apply to any person applying for a permit to carry a concealed firearm on and after the effective date of this act.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 115

WYOMING SECOND AMENDMENT FINANCIAL PRIVACY ACT

Original Senate File No. 105

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; prohibiting disclosure or use of protected information relating to firearms and ammunition sales as specified; providing exceptions; providing requirements for disclosure; authorizing civil actions; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-39-122 and 9-14-301 through 9-14-304 are created to read:

1-39-122. Liability; financial privacy.

A governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from a violation of W.S. 9-14-303 caused by the negligent, reckless or intentional acts of public employees while acting within the scope of their duties.

ARTICLE 3

SECOND AMENDMENT FINANCIAL PRIVACY ACT

9-14-301. Short title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the “Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.”

9-14-302. Definitions.

(a) As used in this act:

(i) “Assign” or “assignment” means a policy, process or practice that labels, links or otherwise associates a firearms or ammunition code with a merchant or payment card transaction in a manner that allows any entity facilitating or processing the payment card transaction to identify whether a merchant is a firearms retailer or whether a transaction involves the sale or purchase of firearms or ammunition;

(ii) “Customer” means any person engaged in a payment card transaction;

(iii) “Disclosure” means the transfer, publication or distribution of protected financial information to another person or entity for any purpose other than to process or facilitate a payment card transaction;

(iv) “Financial record” means a financial record held by a merchant servicer related to a payment card transaction that the merchant servicer has processed or facilitated;

(v) “Firearms code” means any code or other indicator that a merchant servicer assigns to a merchant or to a payment card transaction that identifies whether a merchant is a firearms retailer or whether the payment card transaction involves the purchase of a firearm, firearm accessories or ammunition. The term “firearms code” includes, but is not limited to, a merchant category code assigned to a retailer by a payment card network or other merchant servicer;

(vi) “Firearms retailer” means any person engaged in the lawful business of selling or trading firearms or ammunition to be used in firearms;

(vii) “Government entity” means any county or municipality, or state board, commission, agency, bureau, department or any other political subdivision of the state;

(viii) “Protected financial information” means any record of a sale, purchase, return or refund involving a payment card that is retrieved, characterized, generated, labeled, sorted or grouped based on the assignment of a firearms code;

(ix) “Merchant category code” means classification codes assigned by a merchant processor to merchants or payees that accept its payment cards to classify the goods or services provided or furnished by a merchant or payee;

(x) “Merchant servicer” means a payment settlement entity, merchant acquiring entity or third party settlement organization as defined by 26 U.S.C. 6050W or any other entity that specifically assigns a merchant category code for use in a payment card transaction;

(xi) “This act” means W.S. 9-14-301 through 9-14-304.

9-14-303. Prohibitions on data collection and use.

(a) No state governmental agency or local government, special district or other political subdivision or official, agent or employee of the state or other

governmental entity or any other person, public or private, shall knowingly or willfully keep or cause to be kept any list, record or registry of privately owned firearms or any list, record or registry of the owners of those firearms created or maintained through the use of a firearms code. This subsection shall not apply to any financial institution that is not a merchant servicer or to any record maintained in the ordinary course of business of any financial institution or federal firearm licensee as required by 18 U.S.C. 922.

(b) No merchant servicer shall require the usage of or assign a firearms code or other merchant category code to any merchant located in Wyoming that is a seller of firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition.

(c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit or prevent accurate firearm record keeping for any firearm involved in a law enforcement investigation, or any firearm lawfully seized or collected pursuant to a law enforcement investigation.

9-14-304. Civil actions.

(a) The attorney general may investigate alleged violations of this act and, upon finding a violation, shall provide written notice to any person or entity, public or private, believed to be in violation of this act. Upon receipt of written notice from the attorney general, the person or entity shall have thirty (30) days to cease the usage of a firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition merchant code for any Wyoming merchant.

(b) If the person or entity fails to cease the usage of a firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition merchant code for any merchant located in Wyoming after the expiration of thirty (30) days from the receipt of the written notice by the attorney general's office, the attorney general may pursue an injunction against any person or entity, public or private, alleged to be in violation of this act. A court may order an injunction, in addition to any other relief, as the court may consider appropriate.

(c) It shall not be a defense to a civil action filed under this act that information was disclosed to a federal government entity unless the disclosure or action is required by federal law or regulation.

Section 2. W.S. 1-39-104(a) is amended to read:

1-39-104. Granting immunity from tort liability; liability on contracts; exceptions.

(a) A governmental entity and its public employees while acting within the scope of duties are granted immunity from liability for any tort except as provided by W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112 and 1-39-122. Any immunity in actions based on a contract entered into by a governmental entity is waived except to the extent provided by the contract if the contract was within the powers granted to the entity and was properly executed and except as

provided in W.S. 1-39-120(b). The claims procedures of W.S. 1-39-113 apply to contractual claims against governmental entities.

Section 3. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 116

PROHIBIT RED FLAG GUN SEIZURE ACT

Original Senate File No. 109

AN ACT relating to the protection of constitutional rights; prohibiting the implementation or enforcement of a red flag gun seizure; preempting local law; providing definitions; providing for a civil action; providing a penalty; waiving sovereign immunity; authorizing attorney's fees; authorizing the attorney general to initiate a civil action; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 1-39-122 and 9-14-301 through 9-14-303 are created to read:

1-39-122. Liability; enforcement of a red flag gun seizure.

A governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from a violation of W.S. 9-14-302(b) pursuant to W.S. 9-14-303.

ARTICLE 3

PROHIBIT RED FLAG GUN SEIZURE ACT

9-14-301. Short title.

This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act."

9-14-302. Prohibiting the implementation or enforcement of a red flag gun seizure, preempting local law, penalties.

(a) For purposes of this act:

(i) "Red flag gun seizure" means a federal statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial finding or any state statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial finding that does any of the following:

(A) Prohibits a specific person from owning, possessing, transporting, transferring or receiving a firearm, ammunition or related accessories unless the person has been convicted of a felony crime, is currently adjudicated to be legally incompetent, has been committed to a mental institution, is an alien who is illegally or unlawfully in the state of Wyoming, has been dishonorably discharged from a branch of the armed forces of the United States, has been convicted of a crime listed under W.S. 6-2-510(b)(ii) or 6-2-511(b)(ii), is a fugitive from justice under 7-3-213, is subject to an order of protection

prohibiting firearms pursuant to W.S. 7-3-508, 7-3-509, 35-21-104, 35-21-105 or a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction, is ordered not to possess a firearm, ammunition or related accessories as a condition of bond, parole or probation, is subject to an order of involuntary hospitalization under W.S. 25-10-110 or is subject to an order to seize a firearm, ammunition or related accessories under W.S. 23-6-208; or

(B) Orders the removal or requires the surrender of a firearm, ammunition or related accessories from a specific person unless the person has been convicted of a felony crime, is currently adjudicated to be legally incompetent, has been committed to a mental institution, is an alien who is illegally or unlawfully in the state of Wyoming, has been dishonorably discharged from a branch of the armed forces of the United States, has been convicted of a crime listed under W.S. 6-2-510(b)(ii) or 6-2-511(b)(ii), is a fugitive from justice under 7-3-213, is subject to an order of protection prohibiting firearms pursuant to W.S. 7-3-508, 7-3-509, 35-21-104, 35-21-105 or a substantially similar law of another jurisdiction, is ordered not to possess a firearm, ammunition or related accessories as a condition of bond, parole or probation, is subject to an order of involuntary hospitalization under W.S. 25-10-110 or is subject to an order to seize a firearm, ammunition or related accessories under W.S. 23-6-208.

(ii) "This act" means W.S. 9-14-301 through 9-14-303.

(b) The state of Wyoming, including any agency or any political subdivision in the state, shall be prohibited from implementing or enforcing any federal statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial findings or any state statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial findings that would enforce a red flag gun seizure order against or upon a resident of Wyoming.

(c) This state and any agency or any political subdivision, including any law enforcement agency, in the state of Wyoming shall be prohibited from using any personnel or funds appropriated by the legislature of the state of Wyoming, any other source of funds that originated within the state of Wyoming or accepting any federal funds to implement any federal statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial findings or any state statute, rule, executive order, judicial order or judicial findings that would enforce a red flag gun seizure order against or upon a resident of Wyoming. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit Wyoming officials from accepting aid from federal officials to enforce any Wyoming law not in conflict with this act.

(d) This act shall preempt any local law, ordinance or regulation regarding a red flag gun seizure order or any other law, ordinance or regulation that may conflict with any provision of this act.

(e) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit or prevent a firearm, firearm accessory or ammunition from being seized as evidence or collected by law enforcement in the course of a lawful investigation.

9-14-303. Civil actions permitted, remedies.

(a) Any agency of the state, political subdivision or law enforcement agency that employs any public officer or peace officer, as defined in W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv), who knowingly violates any provision of this act and enforces a red flag gun seizure against any resident of the state of Wyoming while acting within the scope of their employment shall be liable to the injured party for damages resulting from the public officer's or peace officer's conduct in a civil action before the district court in which county the red flag gun seizure was enforced. The court, upon a finding of a violation of this act, may impose a civil penalty against the agency or political subdivision in an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) per violation and may order any injunctive or other equitable relief as permitted by law. The court shall hold a hearing on a motion for injunctive or equitable relief of a red flag gun seizure within thirty (30) days of service of the petition.

(b) An interested party may bring a civil action to enforce the provisions of this act. The district court may order injunctive or other equitable relief, recovery of damages or other legal remedies permitted by law and payment of reasonable attorney fees.

(c) In any action brought under subsection (b) of this section, the court may award the prevailing party, other than the state of Wyoming or any political subdivision of the state, reasonable attorney fees. Sovereign immunity shall not be an affirmative defense in any action pursuant to this section.

Section 2. W.S. 1-39-104(a) is amended to read:

1-39-104. Granting immunity from tort liability; liability on contracts; exceptions.

(a) A governmental entity and its public employees while acting within the scope of duties are granted immunity from liability for any tort except as provided by W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112 and 1-39-122. Any immunity in actions based on a contract entered into by a governmental entity is waived except to the extent provided by the contract if the contract was within the powers granted to the entity and was properly executed and except as provided in W.S. 1-39-120(b). The claims procedures of W.S. 1-39-113 apply to contractual claims against governmental entities.

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

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 117**SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY-FUNDING****Original Senate File No. 86**

AN ACT relating to education; creating the firearms on school property account; providing for reimbursement to school districts for costs related to possession of firearms on school property; authorizing rulemaking; providing a continuous appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 21-3-135 is created to read:

21-3-135. Firearms on school property account.

(a) There is created the firearms on school property account. The account shall include all legislative appropriations and all monies received from grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations to the account. The account is authorized to accept grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations. All monies received shall be deposited into the account. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) or 9-4-207, unobligated and unexpended funds in the account shall not lapse or revert and shall remain in the account and available for distribution as provided in this section.

(b) Monies deposited into the firearms on school property account shall be continuously appropriated to and expended by the department of education to reimburse school districts only for costs related to possession of firearms on school property by school district employees in accordance with the law. School districts shall apply to the department of education for reimbursement of the costs identified under this subsection on a form provided by the department within one (1) year of the expenses being incurred. As part of the application required under this subsection, school districts shall submit final receipts and certificates of completion for each employee's training completed in accordance with the law or documents evidencing the expenses incurred by the rules adopted by the school district. Reimbursement shall be limited to costs for which funding is not already provided by law. If there are insufficient funds to reimburse all school districts that apply for reimbursement under this section, the department of education shall prorate reimbursement among all approved school district applications in proportion to the amount of costs approved for reimbursement.

(c) Funds in the firearms on school property account shall be invested by the state treasurer pursuant to law and the investment earnings shall be credited to the account.

Section 2. The department of education may promulgate rules as necessary to implement this act.

Section 3. There is appropriated four hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$480,000.00) from the general fund to the firearms on school property account created in section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall not revert. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation shall not be included in the department of education's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 22, 2024.

Chapter 118

GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Original House Bill No. 1

AN ACT to make appropriations for the fiscal biennium commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026; providing definitions; providing for appropriations and transfers of funds for the period of the budget and for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2024 as specified; providing for carryover of certain funds beyond the biennium as specified; providing for employee positions as specified; providing for duties, terms and conditions and other requirements relating to appropriations for the remainder of the current biennium ending June 30, 2024 and the period of the budget as specified; providing for position and other budgetary limitations; authorizing rulemaking; authorizing a charter school; providing appropriations for purposes related to state funded capital construction; creating accounts; amending existing law by redirecting revenues for the period of the budget; making conforming amendments; amending and repealing prior appropriations; providing for reports related to appropriations; continuing an account; amending and repealing prior appropriations of COVID-19 relief funds; specifying conditions on the appropriation and expenditure of COVID-19 relief funds; and providing for effective dates.

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

Section 1. As used in this act:

- (a) "Agency" means any governmental unit or branch of government receiving an appropriation under this act;
- (b) "Appropriation" means the authorizations granted by the legislature under this act to make expenditures from and to incur obligations against the general and other funds as specified;
- (c) "Approved budget" means as defined by W.S. 9-2-1002(a)(xxiii);
- (d) "A4" means an agency trust account;
- (e) "EF" means the agency's account within the enterprise fund;
- (f) "FF" means federal funds;
- (g) "IS" means the agency's account within the internal service fund;
- (h) "PF" means the retirement account created by W.S. 9-3-407(a);

- (j) “PR” means private funding sources;
- (k) “P2” means the deferred compensation account referenced in W.S. 9-3-507;
- (m) “SR” means an agency’s account within the special revenue fund;
- (n) “S1” means water development account I created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(i);
- (o) “S2” means water development account II created by W.S. 41-2-124(a)(ii);
- (p) “S4” means the local government capital construction account funded by W.S. 9-4-601(a)(vi) and (b)(i)(A) and 39-14-801(e)(ix);
- (q) “S5” means the “school foundation program account” or “public school foundation program account” created by W.S. 21-13-306(a);
- (r) “S7” means the highway fund;
- (s) “S10” means the legislative stabilization reserve account;
- (t) “S13” means the strategic investments and projects account;
- (u) «S14” means the Wyoming tourism account;
- (w) “S0” means other funds identified by footnote;
- (y) “T2” means the miners’ hospital permanent land income fund;
- (z) “T3” means the state hospital account within the permanent land fund;
- (aa) “T4” means the poor farm account within the permanent land fund as established by W.S. 9-4-310(a)(v);
- (bb) “T0” means other expendable trust funds administered by an agency for specific functions within the agency’s authority;
- (cc) “TT” means the tobacco settlement trust income account;
- (dd) “This appropriation,” when used in a footnote, shall be construed as a reference to that portion of the appropriated funds identified in the footnote;
- (ee) “ARPD” means American Rescue Plan Act direct funds, which are any unexpended, unobligated funds received by the state of Wyoming through the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established under section 602 of title VI of the federal Social Security Act, as created by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2. “ARPD” shall not include expenditures authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2 and section 602(c)(1)(C) of Title VI of the federal Social Security Act for revenue replacement for the provision of government services to the extent of the state of Wyoming’s reduction in revenue.

Section 2. The following sums of money, or so much thereof as is necessary, are appropriated to be expended during the two (2) years beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, or as otherwise specified, for the purposes,

APPROPRIATION FOR GENERAL FUND FEDERAL FUNDS OTHER FUNDS TOTAL APPROPRIATION

\$ \$ \$ \$

programs and number of employees specified by this act and the approved budget of each agency. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the conditions, terms and other requirements on appropriations in this act are effective until June 30, 2026, subject to accrual accounting principles.

Section 001. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROGRAM					
Administration ^{1, 2, 3.}	9,133,078				9,133,078
Tribal Liaison	479,554				479,554
Commission on Uniform Laws	94,903				94,903
Special Contingency	1,000,000				1,000,000
Homeland Security ^{4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11.}	11,593,621	21,475,220	885,805	SR	33,954,646
Natural Resource Policy ^{6, 12.}	1,000,000		1,000,000	SR	2,000,000
Endangered Species Admin.	675,000				675,000
Baseline Scientific Assess.	307,150				307,150
WY Innov. Partnership ^{7.}	15,000,000				15,000,000
TOTALS	39,283,306	21,475,220	1,885,805		62,644,331

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	42
Part Time	2
TOTAL	44

1. Of this general fund appropriation, it is the intent of the legislature that forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000.00) for a customer relationship management software contractor be included in the governor’s office standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) is appropriated for the governor’s appointees to the legislature’s select committee on blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation technology and is effective only if the select committee remains in existence for the fiscal biennium.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, any funds expended for wild horse or burro management on the Wind River Indian Reservation are conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any funds provided by the Eastern Shoshone Tribe or the Northern Arapaho Tribe.
4. Of this general fund appropriation, up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) is appropriated for in-person meetings of the state emergency

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

response commission created under W.S. 35-9-153. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00) is appropriated to provide matching funds for the building resilient infrastructure and communities federal grant program. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

6. (a) This general fund appropriation shall be deposited into the federal natural resource policy account. All funds within the federal natural resource policy account are appropriated and available for expenditure by the governor in accordance with W.S. 9-4-218, including expenditure by the governor for litigation costs incurred by Wyoming counties involved in litigation related to any of the following:

(i) Federal land, water, air, mineral and other natural resource policies that may affect the state or counties pursuant to W.S. 9-4-218(a)(iii);

(ii) Treaties between the United States and a federally recognized Indian tribe.

7. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000.00) is appropriated for phase III of the Wyoming innovation partnership. The following shall apply to this appropriation:

(i) Up to four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) may be expended for one (1) or more at-will employee contract positions within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to administer, monitor and inform the joint appropriations committee at regular intervals on the status, metrics, outputs and outcomes of the Wyoming innovation partnership;

(ii) No funds shall be expended until the governor determines that appropriate metrics have been established to measure the intended outputs and outcomes of the Wyoming innovation partnership and that the expenditures will result in a reasonable likelihood of successfully achieving the identified metrics. The governor’s office shall include a report of the established metrics and results within any budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013 in which the office seeks additional funding for the partnership;

(iii) Expenditures shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b);

(iv) This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included within the office of the governor’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
[(b) The appropriation in subsection (a) of this footnote shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]				

8. Of this general fund appropriation, four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) is appropriated to the office of homeland security within the governor’s office for the state support fund unit for equipment needs associated with responses to hazardous materials. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the governor’s office, office of homeland security’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

9. Of this general fund appropriation, one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) is appropriated to the office of homeland security within the governor’s office for the state support fund unit for equipment needs associated with responses to weapons of mass destruction by emergency response teams. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the governor’s office, office of homeland security’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

10. Of this general fund appropriation, twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) is appropriated for ~~[a feasibility study to assess expansion of]~~ the lifesaver program under W.S. 19-13-117 and to assess requirements for dementia training for law enforcement, first responders and other search personnel. The office of homeland security shall report ~~[the results of the study]~~ to the joint judiciary interim committee not later than October 1, 2024. ~~[This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]~~

11. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) is appropriated for reimbursing Wyoming **[law enforcement]** agencies for expenses ~~[associated with lawful volunteer agreements that local law enforcement agencies may enter into]~~ to assist border state law enforcement efforts. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the office of the governor’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

12. Of this other funds appropriation, there is appropriated eight hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$850,000.00) from the federal natural resource policy

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
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account to the office of the governor for the purposes of funding the costs of two (2) full-time positions within a statewide association representing counties to enhance county interdisciplinary capability and to protect state and local federal natural resource interests from federal government action in cooperation and coordination with the governor’s office. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included within the office of the governor’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 002. SECRETARY OF STATE

PROGRAM				
Administration ¹	8,514,742	233,473		8,748,215
Securities Enforcement			719,405 SR	719,405
Bucking Horse & Rider			50,000 SR	50,000
TOTALS	8,514,742	233,473	769,405	9,517,620

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	31
Part Time	0
TOTAL	31

1. Of this general fund appropriation, ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000.00) is for costs of publication required by W.S. 22-20-104 for any joint resolution adopted by the legislature that would propose amendment to the constitution on the 2024 statewide election ballot. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the secretary of state’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on December 31, 2024.

Section 003. STATE AUDITOR

PROGRAM				
Administration ¹	16,004,316			16,004,316
TOTALS	16,004,316	0	0	16,004,316

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	23
Part Time	0
TOTAL	23

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred seventy-five thousand two hundred ten dollars (\$175,210.00) is to restore funding for two (2) vacant positions within the state auditor’s office.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 004. STATE TREASURER				
PROGRAM				
Treasurer's Operations	3,483,429		158,236 SR	3,641,665
Veterans' Tax Exemption	11,545,839			11,545,839
Invest. & Fin. Acct. ^{1, 2.}			36,936,657 SR	36,936,657
Unclaimed Property			1,917,244 SR	1,917,244
Investments ^{1, 2.}			12,150,569 SR	12,150,569
Native American Exemption	661,671			661,671
TOTALS	15,690,939	0	51,162,706	66,853,645

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	47
Part Time	0
TOTAL	47

1. Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, except for performance compensation authorized under W.S. 9-1-409(e), no funds shall be expended to increase the compensation of state treasurer's office investment employees listed in W.S. 9-1-409(e)(ii) without further legislative authorization.
2. A portion of this other funds appropriation may be expended to conduct the purposes of this footnote. In accordance with W.S. 9-1-205(a), during the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, the state treasurer's office shall annually provide a public accounting of the direct, indirect and total investment fees for all external investment managers in both absolute dollars and as a percentage of state investments under management.

Section 006. ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION

PROGRAM				
Director's Office	4,227,956		212,662 SR	4,440,618
Professional Licensing Bds.			1,709,965 SR	1,709,965
General Services ^{1, 2.}	69,997,548		28,409,449 IS	
			2,804,104 SR	101,211,101
Human Resources Division	21,782,916	71,302		21,854,218
Employees' Group Insurance			829,474,007 IS	
			8,002,768 SR	837,476,775
Economic Analysis	1,294,093			1,294,093
State Library	4,746,255	2,500,407	4,069,308 SR	11,315,970
TOTALS	102,048,768	2,571,709	874,682,263	979,302,740

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	284
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APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Part Time	1			
TOTAL	285			

1. Of this general fund appropriation, five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) is for the risk management section. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included within the department of administration and information’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) shall only be effective if the department of administration and information ensures that the Wyoming capitol building is open to the public for special events and during the summer on Saturdays and for extended weekday hours. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 007. WYOMING MILITARY DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM					
Military Dept. Operation ^{3, 4.}	26,802,715				26,802,715
Air National Guard ^{1.}	888,552	14,563,628			15,452,180
Camp Guernsey			1,060,142	SR	1,060,142
Army National Guard ^{2.}	60,582	41,203,351			41,263,933
Veterans’ Services	4,062,545	1,285,574	7,905	SR	5,356,024
Oregon Trail Cemetery	873,857		21,081	SR	894,938
Military Support	78,606				78,606
Civil Air Patrol	99,600				99,600
TOTALS	32,866,457	57,052,553	1,089,128		91,008,138

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	196
Part Time	29
TOTAL	225

1. Pursuant to W.S. 19-7-103(b)(xxii), authority is granted to the military department to hire up to nine (9) full-time positions or at-will employee contract positions within this division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of each filled position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, as determined by the United States property and fiscal officer for Wyoming, the position shall be eliminated. The military department shall notify the joint appropriations committee on all positions created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
<p>2. Pursuant to W.S. 19-7-103(b)(xxii), authority is granted to the military department to hire up to thirteen (13) full-time positions or at-will employee contract positions within this division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of each filled position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, as determined by the United States property and fiscal officer for Wyoming, the position shall be eliminated. The military department shall notify the joint appropriations committee on all positions created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).</p>				
<p>3. Of this general fund appropriation, one million seven hundred forty-nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,749,500.00) is appropriated for purposes of completing an exchange of lands managed by the military department for lands managed by the board of land commissioners. Funds from this appropriation shall only be expended upon approval of a land exchange approved by the board of land commissioners and shall be deposited in the appropriate fund in accordance with law. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.</p>				
<p>4. Of this general fund appropriation, thirteen million three hundred fifty-seven thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$13,357,775.00) is appropriated for purposes of allowing the military department to make a one (1) time payment for a lease of not less than forty (40) years to the board of land commissioners for purposes of military training activities. This appropriation shall only be expended upon approval of a lease by the board of land commissioners and shall be deposited in the appropriate fund in accordance with law. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.</p>				

Section 008. OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

PROGRAM				
Administration ¹ .	26,035,169		4,564,582 SR	30,599,751
TOTALS	26,035,169	0	4,564,582	30,599,751
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	78			
Part Time	14			
TOTAL	92			

1. Of this general fund appropriation, twenty-four million seven hundred seventy thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$24,770,550.00) and of this other funds appropriation, four million three hundred seventy-one thousand two hundred seventy-three dollars (\$4,371,273.00)SR may be expended for contract

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
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trial attorneys, contract legal support or compensation of full-time and part-time employee positions authorized for the office of the public defender to address caseload work requirements and geographic distribution in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the public defender. **[This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.]** [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

Section 010. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PROGRAM					
Administration Div.	2,344,379		5,209	SR	2,349,588
Ag. Education and Info.	16,000		20,834	SR	36,834
Consumer Prot. Div. ¹	12,363,687	1,364,439	1,706,485	SR	15,434,611
Natural Resources Div. ²	4,062,402	8,244	683,365	S1	
			258,000	S5	5,012,011
Pesticide Registration	773,671				773,671
State Fair	2,677,929		1,683,088	SR	4,361,017
Weed & Pest Control			1,035,587	SR	1,035,587
Predator Management ³ , ⁴	10,000,000		1,000,000	SR	11,000,000
Wyoming Beef Council			2,521,428	SR	2,521,428
Wyo Wheat Mktg. Comm.			186,152	SR	186,152
Dry Bean Commission			312,511	SR	312,511
Leaf Cutter Bee			11,663	SR	11,663
TOTALS	32,238,068	1,372,683	9,424,322		43,035,073

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	74
Part Time	6
TOTAL	80

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, fourteen thousand eight hundred dollars (\$14,800.00) not be included in the department of agriculture’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) is appropriated for Wyoming agriculture in the classroom. **[It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of agriculture’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.]** This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

3. (a) It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of agriculture’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(b) Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) is appropriated for expenditure in accordance with chapter 2 of the Wyoming animal damage management board rules and for gray wolf depredation compensation. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

4. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, one million six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000.00) is appropriated for:

- (i) Special projects prioritized for preventing listing of a species as endangered;
- (ii) Projects that directly involve predator control that will have the greatest benefit to wildlife or reduce the cost to the department for animal damage payments.

(b) ~~[Of this other funds appropriation, one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) SR is from the game and fish fund. This other funds appropriation to the department of agriculture shall only be effective upon a majority vote of the game and fish commission and if approved, shall be expended in concurrence with the priorities of this footnote.]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

~~[{c}]~~ The appropriations specified in this footnote shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

Section 011. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

PROGRAM				
Administration ¹ .	6,517,488			6,517,488
Revenue Division	9,919,703		943,016 SR	10,862,719
Valuation Division	27,934,359			27,934,359
Liquor Division 2.			12,245,254 EF	12,245,254
Liquor Sales & Purchases			275,000,000 EF	275,000,000
General Fund Transfers			42,000,000 EF	42,000,000
TOTALS	44,371,550	0	330,188,270	374,559,820

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	124
Part Time	0
TOTAL	124

- | APPROPRIATION
FOR | GENERAL
FUND
\$ | FEDERAL
FUNDS
\$ | OTHER
FUNDS
\$ | TOTAL
APPROPRIATION
\$ |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, eighty thousand two hundred sixteen dollars (\$80,216.00) not be included in the department of revenue’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, one hundred fifty-one thousand nine hundred dollars (\$151,900.00)EF not be included in the department of revenue’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 014. MINERS’ HOSPITAL BOARD

PROGRAM					
Miners’ Hospital Board			9,785,227	T2	9,785,227
TOTALS	0	0	9,785,227		9,785,227

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	3
Part Time	0
TOTAL	3

Section 015. ATTORNEY GENERAL

PROGRAM					
Law Office ¹ .	22,284,175	982,249	2,533,891	S5	
			5,364,793	SR	
			740,972	TT	31,906,080
Criminal Investigations ² .	29,337,000	7,688,506	1,158,288	SR	38,183,794
Law Enforcement Academy	5,878,143		1,340,893	EF	
			11,242	IS	7,230,278
Peace Off. Stds. & Trng.	400,091		155,352	SR	555,443
Victim Services Division ³ .	8,927,152	18,874,739	5,609,533	SR	33,411,424
Governor’s Council on DD	415,830	969,203	17,384	SR	1,402,417
TOTALS	67,242,391	28,514,697	16,932,348		112,689,436

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	234
Part Time	1
TOTAL	235

1. Of this general fund appropriation, forty-three thousand dollars (\$43,000.00) is appropriated for employer-funded Wyoming state bar dues for attorneys employed within any division of the office of the attorney general. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

- APPROPRIATION
FOR

GENERAL
FUND

FEDERAL
FUNDS

OTHER
FUNDS

TOTAL
APPROPRIATION
- \$
- \$
- \$
- \$
2. Of this general fund appropriation, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is effective immediately.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) is appropriated for grants for child advocacy centers. ~~[Distribution of grants from this appropriation shall be prorated based upon the number of completed interviews conducted by each center during the prior year.]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

Section 020. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PROGRAM					
Administration	7,576,160				7,576,160
Air Quality	11,185,649	1,696,777	16,494,155	SR	29,376,581
Water Quality ¹ .	14,388,334	10,524,538	1,198,071	SR	26,110,943
Land Quality	5,798,325	4,538,247			10,336,572
Industrial Siting	742,898				742,898
Solid Waste Management ² .	13,391,656	3,733,018	5,070,809	SR	22,195,483
Uranium Recovery Program			2,592,581	SR	2,592,581
Abandoned Mine Reclam.		103,540,285			103,540,285
Subsidence Loss Ins.			200,678	SR	200,678
TOTALS	53,083,022	124,032,865	25,556,294		202,672,181

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time ¹ .	273
Part Time	0
TOTAL	273

1. Of this general fund appropriation, eighty thousand seven hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$80,797.00) and of these authorized employees, two (2) full-time positions are effective immediately.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) shall be deposited into the municipal solid waste cease and transfer grant account.

Section 021. DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT

PROGRAM					
Administration	384,479	376,377	317,637	SR	1,078,493
Banking			7,566,216	SR	7,566,216
Public Fund ¹ .	6,321,030				6,321,030
Mineral	3,048,690	5,782,580	209,449	SR	9,040,719
Excise	4,166,160		92,387	S7	4,258,547
TOTALS	13,920,359	6,158,957	8,185,689		28,265,005

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	103			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	103			

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) not be included in the department of audit's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 023. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PROGRAM					
Administration		638,686	9,400,842	SR	10,039,528
Consumer Advocate Div.			2,940,385	SR	2,940,385
Universal Service Fund			5,408,242	SR	5,408,242
TOTALS	0	638,686	17,749,469		18,388,155

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	40
Part Time	0
TOTAL	40

Section 024. STATE PARKS & CULTURAL RESOURCES

PROGRAM					
Administration & Support	2,441,387				2,441,387
Cultural Resources ^{1, 2,}					
3., 4., 5., 6.	9,946,917	3,778,744	206,277	EF	
			224,820	S14	
			4,924,210	SR	19,080,968
St. Parks & Hist. Sites ^{7.}	22,140,198	7,284,431	152,861	EF	
			800,000	S14	
			18,252,605	SR	48,630,095
TOTALS	34,528,502	11,063,175	24,560,773		70,152,450

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	149
Part Time	71
TOTAL	220

1. Of this general fund appropriation, not less than sixty-three thousand dollars (\$63,000.00) is appropriated to support manuscripts and publication of the annals of Wyoming.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000.00) is appropriated for the “We the People” educational program.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<p>No funds from this appropriation shall be expended to pay or reimburse the University of Wyoming for indirect cost recovery or overhead expenses for the administration of the “We the People” educational program. [It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.] This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]</p>				
<p>3. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) is appropriated and conditioned upon matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than two dollars (\$2.00) of matching funds from any nonstate sources for purposes of providing grants for humanities initiatives. [It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.] This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]</p>				
<p>4. Of this general fund appropriation, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) is appropriated to support the Wyoming centennial farm and ranch program. [It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.] This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]</p>				
<p>5. Of this general fund appropriation, ninety-six thousand five hundred eleven dollars (\$96,511.00) may be expended for authorized full-time and part-time employee positions within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to ensure the state’s archaeology work on human remains is completed in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the director of the department of state parks and cultural resources. [This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]</p>				
<p>6. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, one hundred seventy thousand five hundred forty-five dollars (\$170,545.00) not be included in the department of state parks and cultural resources’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
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7. Of this general fund appropriation, three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000.00) is appropriated for operations, site improvements, facility stabilization, major maintenance and up to two (2) at-will employee contract positions at the high plains research station and arboretum as determined by the director of the department of state parks and cultural resources. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

Section 027. STATE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM				
Operations	1,929,954		5,082,079 S5	7,012,033
School Facilities Div.			180,337,954 S5	180,337,954
Construction Management	1,610,806			1,610,806
TOTALS	3,540,760	0	185,420,033	188,960,793

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	29
Part Time	0
TOTAL	29

Section 029. WYO WATER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

PROGRAM				
Administration			9,194,152 S1	9,194,152
TOTALS	0	0	9,194,152	9,194,152

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	26
Part Time	0
TOTAL	26

Section 037. STATE ENGINEER

PROGRAM				
Administration	3,700,306		57,826 S1	3,758,132
Ground Water Div.	3,353,619			3,353,619
Surface Water Div.	2,251,055			2,251,055
Board of Control Div.			16,826,088 S1	16,826,088
Support Services Div. ¹ .	5,203,311			5,203,311
Board of Registration PE			1,167,161 SR	1,167,161
Interstate Streams Div.	1,793,335		118,620 S1	1,911,955
North Platte Settlement	1,534,179			1,534,179
Well Drillers' Licensing			276,706 SR	276,706
TOTALS	17,835,805	0	18,446,401	36,282,206

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	108			
Part Time	9			
TOTAL	117			

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, four hundred thirty-two thousand dollars (\$432,000.00) for maintenance agreements for a new business process application be included in the state engineer’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 039. WILDLIFE/NATURAL RESOURCE TRUST

PROGRAM				
Encana Oil & Gas			121,900 SR	121,900
Administration 1.	9,000,000		16,806,447 SR	25,806,447
WYCM			7,973,330 SR	7,973,330
Trust Corpus 2.			2,000,000 SR	2,000,000
TOTALS	9,000,000	0	26,901,677	35,901,677

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

1. Of this general fund appropriation, nine million dollars (\$9,000,000.00) is appropriated to provide grants for preventing the introduction and spread of invasive plants and grasses with a focus on private and state lands across Wyoming. This appropriation is intended for the purposes specified in this footnote and is not subject to the grant process specified in W.S. 9-15-101 through 9-15-107. This appropriation is effective immediately.

2. Of this other funds appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00)SR is appropriated from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account and shall be deposited into the corpus of the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account created by W.S. 9-15-103(a). This appropriation is effective immediately.

Section 041. FIRE PREVENTION & ELEC SAFETY

PROGRAM				
Administration	990,688			990,688
Fire Prevention Admin.	2,094,476			2,094,476
Electrical Safety Admin.	939,072		1,839,074 SR	2,778,146
Training	1,741,995			1,741,995
Fire Academy	552,313			552,313
TOTALS	6,318,544	0	1,839,074	8,157,618

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	32			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	32			

Section 042. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PROGRAM				
Geologic Program	5,169,222			5,169,222
USGS Grants		208,800		208,800
WY Min. Resource ^{1.}	2,000,000			2,000,000
TOTALS	7,169,222	208,800	0	7,378,022

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	21
Part Time	0
TOTAL	21

1. Of this general fund appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is appropriated for airborne geophysical surveys to analyze Wyoming’s mineral resources. Expenditures from this appropriation are conditioned upon the agency’s good-faith effort to secure matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source to the greatest extent possible. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the geological survey’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 044. INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM				
Administration			7,081,984 SR	7,081,984
Health Insurance Pool	3,229,878		8,831,395 EF	12,061,273
TOTALS	3,229,878	0	15,913,379	19,143,257

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	27
Part Time	0
TOTAL	27

Section 045. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PROGRAM				
Administration		4,306,758 S7		4,306,758
Administrative Services		170,308	41,556,660 S7	
			14,823,802 SR	56,550,770

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Law Enforcement ¹		6,907,728	95,662,371	S7	
			260,000	SR	102,830,099
WyoLink	8,600,000		1,407,838	IS	
			1,976,366	S7	11,984,204
Aeronautics Admin.		314,282	4,749,762	S7	5,064,044
Operational Services			2,435,870	IS	2,435,870
Aeronautics		45,805,302	162,452	IS	
			21,052,639	S7	67,020,393
TOTALS	8,600,000	53,197,620	188,394,518		250,192,138

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	553
Part Time	0
TOTAL	553

1. Of this other funds appropriation, up to five hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$523,277.00)S7 may be expended for law enforcement personnel expenses within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to meet capitol complex security needs in the most effective and efficient manner as determined by the director of the department of transportation. **[This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

Section 048. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PROGRAM					
Director's Office ¹	12,121,670	2,204,247	313,041	SR	14,638,958
Health Care Financ-					
ing ² ,					
³ , ⁴ ,	647,703,917	915,273,823	5,000,000	S5	
			88,629,378	SR	
			1,450,000	TT	1,658,057,118
Public Health ⁵ , ⁶ , ¹⁵ ,	38,308,175	66,485,370	845,735	A4	
			18,061,791	SR	
			10,563,710	TT	134,264,781
Behavioral Health ⁷ , ⁸ ,					
⁹ , ¹⁰ , ¹¹ , ¹² , ¹³ , ¹⁶ ,	267,701,562	21,317,909	792,263	A4	
			4,378,861	S5	
			56,850,387	SR	
			1,135,284	T3	

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
			12,072,512	TT 364,248,778
Aging ¹⁴ .	38,540,881	20,693,378	14,641,757	SR 73,876,016
TOTALS	1,004,376,205	1,025,974,727	214,734,719	2,245,085,651
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	1,326			
Part Time	66			
TOTAL	1,392			

1. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation three hundred fifty-six thousand three hundred fifty-six dollars (\$356,356.00) for information technology hardware replacement not be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. In accordance with W.S. 42-2-103(d), the state supplemental security income monthly payment amount for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 shall be the lowest amount required under federal law in order to remain eligible for funding under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended.
3. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), and of this federal funds appropriation two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000.00) for benefit management system integration costs not be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
4. Of this general fund appropriation, one million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$1,900,000.00) and of this federal funds appropriation, one million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$1,900,000.00) is appropriated for extended postpartum coverage to pregnant individuals enrolled in Medicaid pursuant to the Wyoming Medical Assistance and Services Act or enrolled in the Child Health Insurance Plan in accordance with 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 152.
5. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred eighty-seven thousand four hundred sixty-five dollars (\$387,465.00) is appropriated to provide grants to county public health staff whose compensation was not increased through distribution of funds pursuant to 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 319 or 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 329.
6. Of this other funds appropriation, three million eight hundred forty-six thousand two hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$3,846,288.00)TT is effective immediately.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<p>7. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred twenty-seven thousand eight hundred fifty-two dollars (\$227,852.00) is effective July 1, 2025. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation for a 988 program manager be doubled and included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				
<p>8. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, three hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$375,000.00)T3 for equipment repairs and maintenance not be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				
<p>9. It is the intent of the legislature that of this general fund appropriation, three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) for the electronic medical record upgrade not be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				
<p>10. Of this general fund appropriation, nine hundred fifty-eight thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars (\$958,695.00) is effective July 1, 2025. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation for 988 operations be doubled and included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				
<p>11. Of this other funds appropriation, seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000.00)TT is effective immediately.</p>				
<p>12. It is the intent of the legislature that, of this general fund appropriation, twelve million two hundred ninety thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$12,290,328.00) for services to preschool children with disabilities be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. Of this general fund appropriation, twelve million two hundred ninety thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$12,290,328.00) shall be reduced by one dollar (\$1.00) for every one dollar (\$1.00) up to twelve million two hundred ninety thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$12,290,328.00) appropriated from any source to the department of health in 2024 Senate File 0019, if enacted into law. It is the intent of the legislature that the total amount appropriated by any legislation enacted in the 2024 legislative session, including 2024 Senate File 0019, for the purposes specified in this footnote not exceed twelve million two hundred ninety thousand three hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$12,290,328.00).</p>				
<p>13. It is the intent of the legislature that of this other funds appropriation, seven hundred forty-six thousand six dollars (\$746,006.00)SR for equipment, repairs and maintenance not be included in the department of health’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.</p>				
<p>14. Of this general fund appropriation, ten million six hundred eighty-three</p>				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

thousand forty-eight dollars (\$10,683,048.00) is appropriated for grants to Wyoming senior centers in accordance with W.S. 9-2-1212(a)(ii).

15. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred fifty thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars (\$250,695.00) is appropriated for trauma designations and education. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of health's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

16. (a) ~~[As a condition of this general fund appropriation,]~~ the department of health shall take the following actions related to planning and demolition at the Wyoming state hospital: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(i) The department shall not demolish the boiler house, identified as building number two (2) in the feasibility study, but may remove or remodel the internal components of the building;

(ii) ~~[The department shall not fill in any underground tunnels that have not been filled in as of the effective date of this act;]~~ **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

~~[(iii)]~~ The department shall not demolish the following buildings identified in the feasibility study: **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

- (A) Staff residence, building number eight (8);
- (B) Duplex residence, building number nine (9);
- (C) Clark hall annex, staff residence apartments, building number fifteen (15);
- (D) Clark hall dormitory, building number sixteen (16).

(b) ~~[Before revising any design plans, requests for proposal or bid documents in accordance with this footnote, the department of health shall determine what costs will be incurred as a result of the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and shall enter into an agreement with the city of Evanston for the city to incur any costs as a result of changes to design plans, requests for proposal or bid documents as a result of subsection (a) of this section;]~~ **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

~~[(c) Nothing in this footnote shall be construed to impair or alter any~~

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

~~agreement or contract entered into before the effective date of this act.]~~
[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[(d)] As used in this footnote, “feasibility study” means appendix A.1 of the Wyoming assessment and feasibility study for the repurposing of the Wyoming state hospital campus from December 2021. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[(e)] This footnote is effective immediately. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

Section 049. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

PROGRAM					
Energy Assistance & WX		22,953,914			22,953,914
Institutions ¹ .	23,678,637	2,783	3,609,575	S5	
			580,276	SR	27,871,271
Assistance & Services ² .					
3., 4., 5., 6., 7., 8.	137,140,025	127,708,875	7,559,833	SR	
			5,240,510	TT	277,649,243
TOTALS	160,818,662	150,665,572	16,990,194		328,474,428

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	659
Part Time	1
TOTAL	660

1. Of this other funds appropriation, one million nine hundred sixty-two thousand seventy-nine dollars (\$1,962,079.00)S5 is appropriated for educational services at the Wyoming boys’ school, and one million six hundred forty-seven thousand four hundred ninety-six dollars (\$1,647,496.00)S5 is appropriated for educational services at the Wyoming girls’ school. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of family services’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. For the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, the department of family services shall not expend funds from this total appropriation to support the overall capacity of residential and group home beds in excess of the number of certified beds on January 1, 2022.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) is appropriated for purposes of indigent burial or cremation expenses authorized by W.S. 42-2-103(c). It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
not be included in the department of family services' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.				
4. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) is appropriated for juvenile justice data reporting in accordance with 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 15. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of family services' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
5. Of this general fund appropriation, one million three hundred twenty-nine thousand seven hundred fourteen dollars (\$1,329,714.00) is appropriated for an early childhood integrated data system. [As a condition of this appropriation, the department of family services, in cooperation with the Wyoming community college commission, shall arrange to transfer all licenses, data, functions, any property acquired relating to the early childhood integrated data system, and any unexpended, unobligated funds from this appropriation, to the Wyoming community college commission for inclusion in the statewide longitudinal educational data system by June 30, 2026.] This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in either the department of family services' or community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]				
6. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) is appropriated to furnish offices at the Wyoming life resource center campus. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of family services' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.				
7. Of this general fund appropriation, eight hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$850,000.00) and of this federal fund appropriation one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) is appropriated for rate increases for foster care providers. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.				
8. Of this general fund appropriation, two million four hundred twenty-seven thousand ninety-seven dollars (\$2,427,097.00) is appropriated to increase the room and board reimbursement rate paid by the department of family services to group homes, residential treatment centers and board of cooperative educational services facilities. [This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 051. LIVESTOCK BOARD				
PROGRAM				
Administration	1,794,942	24,102	314,122	SR 2,133,166
Animal Health ¹	2,027,380		258,388	SR 2,285,768
Brucellosis	1,182,251	486,944		1,669,195
Cooperative Agreements		25,500		25,500
Estrays	38,750			38,750
Brand Inspection	1,157,199		11,628,880	SR 12,786,079
Predator Control Fees			2,265,264	SR 2,265,264
TOTALS	6,200,522	536,546	14,466,654	21,203,722

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	17
Part Time	0
TOTAL	17

1. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) is appropriated to the livestock law enforcement account. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the livestock board’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 053. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

PROGRAM				
Administration & Support	25,869,912	28,025,508	3,342,631	EF
			5,444,093	SR 62,682,144
Vocational Rehab.	7,693,236	27,859,349	107,674	EF
			2,764,249	SR 38,424,508
Unemployment Insurance		28,415,759	1,500,071	EF
			10,636,935	SR 40,552,765
Labor Standards	2,257,440	556	3,742	EF 2,261,738
Workers’ Comp. & OSHA		3,012,350	67,008,136	EF 70,020,486
Disability Determination		7,802,573		7,802,573
TOTALS	35,820,588	95,116,095	90,807,531	221,744,214

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	563
Part Time	0
TOTAL	563

Section 055. OIL AND GAS COMMISSION ¹

PROGRAM				
Administration		278,026	10,559,212	SR 10,837,238

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Orphan Wells			7,526,087	SR 7,526,087
TOTALS	0	278,026	18,085,299	18,363,325

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	40
Part Time	0
TOTAL	40

1. A portion of this other funds appropriation may be expended to conduct the purposes of this footnote. ~~[As a condition of this appropriation,]~~ the oil and gas conservation commission shall review the state processes for planning and funding major maintenance of public facilities, including Section 308 of this act and develop a plan for funding major maintenance or creating a major maintenance reserve for oil and gas conservation commission-owned facilities. It is the intent of the legislature that an exception request for this purpose be included in the oil and gas conservation commission's next budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

Section 057. COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMISSION

PROGRAM

Administration 1.	7,585,940		736,498	SR	8,322,438
State Aid 2., 3.	244,504,156				244,504,156
Adult Education	2,025,998	1,899,341			3,925,339
WYIN Loan & Grant Prgm ⁴ , ⁵	7,521,256				7,521,256
Veterans' Tuition Waiver	481,250				481,250
Public Television	3,411,976		110,000	SR	3,521,976
TOTALS	265,530,576	1,899,341	846,498		268,276,415

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	12
Part Time	0
TOTAL	12

1. ~~[As a condition of this general fund appropriation for the statewide longitudinal education data system,]~~ the Wyoming community college commission shall work in good faith with the department of family services ~~[to incorporate the early childhood integrated data system into the statewide longitudinal educational data system]~~ by June 30, 2026. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
2. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred ninety-two million four hundred thirty-three thousand four hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$192,433,477.00) is for distribution by the commission to qualifying community colleges as provided in W.S. 21-18-205.				
3. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) is appropriated to support competitive rodeo teams at Wyoming community colleges. The appropriation shall be equally distributed to all colleges with a competitive rodeo program. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.				
4. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred eight thousand dollars (\$408,000.00) is appropriated for additional student loans within the Wyoming investment in nursing program in accordance with W.S. 9-2-123. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the Wyoming community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
5. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred nineteen thousand nine hundred sixteen dollars (\$219,916.00) shall be expended for any unfunded compensation for two (2) additional faculty positions and only after all available and permissible federal funds have been exhausted. The Wyoming community college commission shall not expend more than six million one hundred seventy-four thousand one hundred fifty-one dollars (\$6,174,151.00) for all faculty grants under this program beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the Wyoming community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				

Section 060. STATE LANDS AND INVESTMENTS

PROGRAM				
Operations	13,042,710	53,209,940	2,608,520	S1
			2,975,929	S4
			314,240	S5
			7,342,848	SR
				79,494,187
Forestry ¹ .	8,562,044	1,269,819	229,035	SR
				10,060,898
County Emergency Suppr.			12,155,517	SR
				12,155,517
Fire	4,536,763	279,700		
				4,816,463
Forestry Performance Acct.			80,000	SR
				80,000
Ranch A			16,000	SR
				16,000
Mineral Royalty Grants			27,306,873	S4
				27,306,873
Federal Forestry Grants		6,430,840		
				6,430,840

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Fire Prot. Revolving Acct.			14,433,862	SR 14,433,862
Good Neighbor Authority		14,051,609		14,051,609
Transp. Enterprise Fund			2,030,258	SR 2,030,258
Farm Loan Reserve			5,000,000	SR 5,000,000
TOTALS	26,141,517	75,241,908	74,493,082	175,876,507

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	102
Part Time	4
TOTAL	106

1. The office of state lands and investments is authorized to hire up to one (1) additional at-will employee contract position within the forestry division only when federal funds are received that reimburse the state for one hundred percent (100%) of the costs of the position. In the event federal funding becomes unavailable to maintain one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for a position filled pursuant to this footnote, the position shall be eliminated. The office of state lands and investments shall notify the joint appropriations committee of any position created or eliminated pursuant to this footnote through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

Section 063. GOVERNOR’S RESIDENCE

PROGRAM

Residence Operation ^{1.}	699,824			699,824
TOTALS	699,824	0	0	699,824

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

1. Of this general fund appropriation, thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) is appropriated for purposes of special events, food, supplies and operations of the residence. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the governor’s residence standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 066. WYOMING TOURISM BOARD

PROGRAM

Wyoming Tourism Board ^{1., 2.}		41,539,082	S14	
		2,500,000	S0	
		23,600	SR	44,062,682
TOTALS	0	0	44,062,682	44,062,682

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

1. Of this other funds appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00)S14 is for purposes of planning and providing grants for initiatives recognizing the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the declaration of independence. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming tourism board’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

2. Of this other funds appropriation, two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00)S0 is appropriated from the Wyoming tourism reserve and projects account. In the event any public Wyoming airport is selected as the site of the national championship air races, the Wyoming tourism board shall distribute this appropriation to the public entity operating the selected airport for purposes of economic development and community assistance conditioned only upon the public entity’s good-faith effort to secure matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated other funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate sources to the greatest extent possible. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming tourism board’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 067. UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

PROGRAM

State Aid ^{1., 2., 3., 4., 5.,}				
12., 13.	401,227,647			401,227,647
School of Energy Res. ^{6.,}				
7., 8., 9.	23,857,808		19,000,000 S13	42,857,808
Tier 1 Engineering	18,584,703			18,584,703
NCAR MOU	1,528,316			1,528,316
Endowments & Matching ^{10.,}				
11.,				
[#2:] 14.	39,500,000			39,500,000
TOTALS	484,698,474	0	19,000,000	503,698,474

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

1. Of this general fund appropriation, three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) is to fund graduate assistantship stipends. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) is for building artificial intelligence expertise. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any person. For purposes of this footnote, “person” includes an individual, partnership, corporation, joint stock company or any other association or entity, excluding all public entities. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is to increase the library collections’ biennial budget. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.
4. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) is appropriated for the purpose of providing a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming from athletic booster organizations or persons donating funds to be used solely for athletic programs. This appropriation shall:
- (i) Be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with the provisions of this footnote;
 - (ii) Be expended for the purposes of:
 - (A) Authorized recruitment of prospective student athletes to the University of Wyoming and expenses associated with participation in intercollegiate athletics including summer school attendance, nutrition, tutoring, team travel and costs directly related to participation in competition;
 - (B) Athletic training equipment.
 - (iii) Not be used for salaries or capital construction projects;
 - (iv) To the extent funds are available, be matched on a quarterly basis by the state treasurer for each cash or cash equivalent contribution actually received by the University of Wyoming for the purposes specified in this footnote for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 by distributing to the University of Wyoming an amount equal to the amount of qualifying contributions for the quarter.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
(b) The appropriation specified in subsection (a) of this footnote shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose not specified in this footnote and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.				
5. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) is to support the University of Wyoming rodeo team.				
6. Of this other funds appropriation, seventeen million dollars (\$17,000,000.00) S13 is for demonstrations of coal solvent extraction and a coal-derived asphalt road. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
7. Of this other funds appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00)S13 is appropriated for the purpose of providing a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming or donated funds to be used solely to support research, scholarships or endowments for the school of energy resources. Distribution of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated other funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source. This appropriation shall be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with W.S. 21-16-904. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
8. Of this general fund appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is for building and continuing nuclear energy scholarship, research and training capacity at the University of Wyoming. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
9. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) is to administer, develop and implement an incentive innovator competition related to lithium extraction, development or use. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.				
10. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000.00) is appropriated to provide a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming or donated funds in accordance with the following:				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
(i) Not less than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) is conditioned upon a match for a permanent endowment under W.S. 21-16-901 through 21-16-904. All state matching distributions from the account are appropriated solely to support endowments for priorities identified and approved by the University of Wyoming board of trustees;				
(ii) Up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) is conditioned upon a match for purposes of expenditures for priorities identified and approved by the University of Wyoming board of trustees.				
(b) Distribution of the appropriation specified in subsection (a) of this footnote is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source. This appropriation shall be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with W.S. 21-16-904 regardless of whether the match is for purposes of a permanent endowment under paragraph (a)(i) of this footnote or for expenditure by the University of Wyoming under paragraph (a)(ii) of this footnote.				
11. (a) Of this general fund appropriation, twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) is appropriated to match research grants and contracts related to flow through porous media. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. Of this general fund appropriation, twelve million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000.00) is effective July 1, 2025, and twelve million five hundred thousand dollars (\$12,500,000.00) is effective April 1, 2026. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon the University:				
(i) Securing a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any other source;				
(ii) Conducting all computational and practical research to the greatest extent reasonably possible with University of Wyoming students within Wyoming;				
(iii) Performing research on geologic formations and energy extraction opportunities that may be found within Wyoming;				
(iv) To the extent possible, developing any feasibility studies, small-scale experiments or large-scale projects associated with research funded by this appropriation within Wyoming.				
12. No funds from this appropriation shall be expended on the office of diversity, equity and inclusion at the University of Wyoming [or on any diversity, equity				

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
and inclusion program, activity or function]. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]				

13. A portion of this general fund appropriation may be expended to conduct the purposes of this footnote. The University of Wyoming shall review opportunities, feasibility and costs associated with expanding medical education and training for Wyoming students, including broader use of WICHE, expanded agreements with WWAMI and new relationships with public universities in the western regional United States. The results of the review and recommendations shall be reported to the joint education interim committee and joint appropriations committee not later than October 1, 2024.

14. Of this general fund appropriation, two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) is appropriated for the purpose of providing a state match for funds received by the University of Wyoming or donated funds to be used solely for support for excellence in research, education and extension in ranch and rangeland management, agronomy and soil science. Distribution of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any other source. This appropriation shall be retained by the state treasurer for distribution in accordance with W.S. 21-16-904. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated monies from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2030.

Section 069. WICHE

PROGRAM				
Administration & Grants ¹	5,432,417			5,432,417
TOTALS	5,432,417	0	0	5,432,417

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. Of this general fund appropriation, nine hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$965,000.00) is for student contracts entered into beginning July 1, 2024. Scholarships awarded from this appropriation shall be allocated giving priority to students pursuing higher education in disciplines with repayment requirements in accordance with W.S. 21-16-202(b)(iv).

Section 070. ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY COMM

PROGRAM		
Commission & Support	1,000,792	1,000,792

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Tech. Outreach & Research	3,748,737			3,748,737
TOTALS	4,749,529	0	0	4,749,529

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 072. RETIREMENT SYSTEM ^{1.}

PROGRAM

Administration		21,521,379	PF	21,521,379
Highway Patrol		15,907	SR	15,907
Game & Fish-Wardens		22,635	SR	22,635
Deferred Compensation		1,996,018	P2	1,996,018
TOTALS	0	0	23,555,939	23,555,939

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	50
Part Time	0
TOTAL	50

1. Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, except for performance compensation authorized under W.S. 9-3-406(a), no funds shall be expended to increase the compensation of Wyoming retirement system investment employees listed in W.S. 9-3-406(a)(ii) without further legislative authorization.

Section 077. ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

PROGRAM

Enterprise Operations ^{1., 2.}	76,681,036			76,681,036
IT Enhanced Services	179,152	41,486,053	IS	41,665,205
Depreciation Reserve		575,500	IS	575,500
WUN Infrastructure		15,633,873	S5	15,633,873
TOTALS	76,860,188	0	57,695,426	134,555,614

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time ^{2.}	237
Part Time	1
TOTAL	238

1. Of this general fund appropriation, one million seven hundred seventy-three thousand two hundred twenty dollars (\$1,773,220.00) for unified network hardware replacement is effective immediately.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

2. Of this general fund appropriation, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for investment in information technology and cybersecurity initiatives and of these authorized employees, ten (10) full-time positions are effective immediately.

Section 080. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

PROGRAM					
Administration Services ^{1.}	11,630,003	187,543	4,631,223	EF	
			1,613,780	SR	18,062,549
Field Services ^{2., 3.}	35,131,679	163,986	4,548,498	TT	39,844,163
Support Services ^{4.}	68,860,648	100,000	1,460,095	SR	
			4,263,454	TT	74,684,197
Prison Division	155,486,090		169,135	EF	
			1,584,157	IS	
			<u>249,911</u>	SR	<u>157,489,293</u>
TOTALS	<u>271,108,420</u>	<u>451,529</u>	18,520,253		290,080,202

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	1,051
Part Time	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	1,054

1. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) is for recruitment and retention efforts within the department of corrections, including moving expenses, housing costs at the law enforcement academy, career fairs, sign-on bonuses, accelerated background checks and site specific staff retention efforts. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) is for purposes of funding one (1) time-limited at-will employee contract position for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 to implement 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 181 relating to the restoration of rights. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the department of corrections’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) is appropriated for increased daily rates for placement of felony offenders in county jails.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, two million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$2,700,000.00) is for inflationary costs to fund the required medical care of inmates housed in the department of corrections’ facilities. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of corrections’ standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 081. BOARD OF PAROLE				
PROGRAM				
Administration ^{1.}	1,717,929			1,717,929
TOTALS	1,717,929	0	0	1,717,929

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

1. Of this general fund appropriation, twenty-three thousand dollars (\$23,000.00) is to fund one (1) or more temporary full-time or part-time employee positions and for costs associated with archiving and digitizing parole board records. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the board of parole's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

Section 085. WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL ^{1.}

PROGRAM					
Wyoming Business Council ^{1.}	14,926,282		290,003	SR	15,216,285
Economic Divers. ^{2., 3., 4.}	25,729,481	1,242,905	1,665,114	SR	28,637,500
Investment Ready Comm.	<u>46,321,543</u>		<u>4,000,000</u>	S4	<u>50,321,543</u>
TOTALS	86,977,306	1,242,905	5,955,117		94,175,328

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. Of this general fund appropriation, twenty-three thousand one hundred forty dollars (\$23,140.00) is for information technology hardware. In accordance with W.S. 9-2-1002(a)(ix), it is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming business council's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
2. Of this general fund appropriation, three hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$355,000.00) is for contracting with the Wyoming women's business center.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred twenty-nine thousand dollars (\$429,000.00) is for continued funding for the Wyoming-Asia Pacific trade office. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming business council's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
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4. Of this federal funds appropriation, nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000.00) is for administrative costs related to the state small business credit initiative.

Section 090. WYOMING ENERGY AUTHORITY

PROGRAM				
Administration	5,222,178			5,222,178
TOTALS	5,222,178	0	0	5,222,178

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 091. WYOMING STABLE TOKEN COMMISSION ¹.

PROGRAM				
Administration ^{2, 3} .			5,800,000 S0	5,800,000
TOTALS	0	0	5,800,000	5,800,000

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. It is the intent of the legislature that the Wyoming stable token commission’s budget exception requests for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium be submitted in accordance with W.S. 9-2-1013.
2. Of this other funds appropriation, five million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$5,800,000.00)S0 is appropriated from the Wyoming stable token administration account. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the stable token commission’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.
3. ~~[As a condition of this appropriation,]~~ the Wyoming stable token commission shall endeavor to contract with ~~[only]~~ Wyoming domiciled entities when conducting business funded by this appropriation. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

Section 096. STATE BUDGET DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM				
Administration ^{1, 2} .	3,388,759			3,388,759
TOTALS	3,388,759	0	0	3,388,759

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	8			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	8			

1. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) may be expended for contract support or compensation of temporary full-time and part-time employee positions within the state budget department. ~~[This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

2. Of this general fund appropriation, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is for upgrades to the state's budget management system and may be matched from funds from other state entities.

Section 098. OFFICE OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

PROGRAM				
Guardian Ad Litem	4,439,027		1,111,578	SR 5,550,605
TOTALS	4,439,027	0	1,111,578	5,550,605

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	10
Part Time	0
TOTAL	10

Section 101. SUPREME COURT ¹.

PROGRAM				
Administration ² .	12,113,527	778,930	4,134,508	SR 17,026,965
Judicial Nominating Comm.	34,942			34,942
Chancery Court	1,228,228			1,228,228
Law Library	1,328,227			1,328,227
Circuit Courts ³ .	36,103,730			36,103,730
Court Automation	4,129,960		9,797,563	SR 13,927,523
Judicial Retirement	1,750,598			1,750,598
Treatment Court	3,129,667		1,400,000	SR
			2,398,072	TT 6,927,739
Branchwide Resources ^{4, 5, 6,}				
⁷ .	6,456,734		185,640	SR 6,642,374
TOTALS	66,275,613	778,930	17,915,783	84,970,326

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	220			
Part Time	21			
TOTAL	241			

1. (a) In accordance with W.S. 5-1-110(b) and subject to constitutional and statutory provisions concerning when salaries can become effective, there is appropriated one million four hundred sixty-one thousand dollars (\$1,461,000.00) from the general fund for salary adjustments of supreme court justices, district court judges and circuit court judges for the period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 as specified in this footnote. This appropriation shall be allocated as follows:

(i) Not more than one hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000.00) for distribution among five (5) supreme court justices to effectuate a seven percent (7%) salary increase to one hundred eighty-seven thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$187,250.00) annually;

(ii) Not more than seven hundred fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$758,000.00) for distribution among district court judges to effectuate a seven percent (7%) salary increase to one hundred seventy-one thousand two hundred dollars (\$171,200.00) annually;

(iii) Not more than five hundred forty-three thousand dollars (\$543,000.00) for distribution among twenty-four (24) circuit court judges to effectuate a six percent (6%) salary increase to one hundred fifty-three thousand seven hundred dollars (\$153,700.00) annually.

(b) It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be specified separately and included in the judicial branch's standard budget request for the immediately succeeding and all future fiscal biennia.

2. Of this general fund appropriation, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) is appropriated, and up to two (2) full-time employees are authorized, within the administrative office of the courts as determined by the judicial branch through the chief justice.

3. Of this general fund appropriation, seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00) is appropriated and up to four (4) full-time employees are authorized within the circuit courts division as determined by the judicial branch.

4. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000.00) is appropriated for the use of retired judges, commissioners and magistrates for court coverage.

5. Of this general fund appropriation, eighty-seven thousand eight hundred

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

sixty dollars (\$87,860.00) is for education, conferences and related travel for judges, clerks and other judicial branch employees.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred forty-six thousand two hundred fourteen dollars (\$146,214.00) is appropriated for inflationary increases to branch wide utilities, supplies and travel.

7. Of this other funds appropriation, one hundred eighty-five thousand six hundred forty dollars (\$185,640.00)SR is appropriated for compensation increases for positions whose compensation is paid from nongeneral fund sources to provide payment of comparable salary increases and employer paid benefits as that which is distributed to generally funded positions. For positions whose compensation is partially funded by other funds, this appropriation shall be expended for salary increases and employer paid benefits in the same proportion as generally funded positions.

Section 102. BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS

PROGRAM				
Administration			241,037	SR 241,037
TOTALS	0	0	241,037	241,037

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 103. COMM ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT & ETHICS

PROGRAM				
Administration	367,641			367,641
TOTALS	367,641	0	0	367,641

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	1
Part Time	0
TOTAL	1

Section 120. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,216,769			1,216,769
TOTALS	1,216,769	0	0	1,216,769

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 121. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1B				
PROGRAM				
Administration	1,301,199			1,301,199
TOTALS	1,301,199	0	0	1,301,199

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 122. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 2A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,306,648			1,306,648
TOTALS	1,306,648	0	0	1,306,648

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 123. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 2B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,193,269			1,193,269
TOTALS	1,193,269	0	0	1,193,269

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 124. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,297,797			1,297,797
TOTALS	1,297,797	0	0	1,297,797

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 125. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,255,735			1,255,735
TOTALS	1,255,735	0	0	1,255,735

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	4			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	4			

Section 126. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 4A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,258,624			1,258,624
TOTALS	1,258,624	0	0	1,258,624

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 127. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 5A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,234,747			1,234,747
TOTALS	1,234,747	0	0	1,234,747

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 128. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 5B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,228,722			1,228,722
TOTALS	1,228,722	0	0	1,228,722

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 129. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,239,756			1,239,756
TOTALS	1,239,756	0	0	1,239,756

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

Section 130. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,331,620			1,331,620
TOTALS	1,331,620	0	0	1,331,620

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	1
TOTAL	5

Section 131. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,374,467			1,374,467
TOTALS	1,374,467	0	0	1,374,467

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	1
TOTAL	5

Section 132. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,290,703			1,290,703
TOTALS	1,290,703	0	0	1,290,703

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 133. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 8A

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,278,767			1,278,767
TOTALS	1,278,767	0	0	1,278,767

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 134. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,462,015			1,462,015
TOTALS	1,462,015	0	0	1,462,015

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	4			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	4			

Section 135. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,224,490			1,224,490
TOTALS	1,224,490	0	0	1,224,490

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 136. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 8B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,240,543			1,240,543
TOTALS	1,240,543	0	0	1,240,543

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 137. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,416,984			1,416,984
TOTALS	1,416,984	0	0	1,416,984

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	5
Part Time	0
TOTAL	5

Section 138. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,274,387			1,274,387
TOTALS	1,274,387	0	0	1,274,387

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 139. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7C				
PROGRAM				
Administration	1,281,114			1,281,114
TOTALS	1,281,114	0	0	1,281,114

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 140. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 6C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,259,315			1,259,315
TOTALS	1,259,315	0	0	1,259,315

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 141. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 9C

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,196,260			1,196,260
TOTALS	1,196,260	0	0	1,196,260

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 142. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 4B

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,161,141			1,161,141
TOTALS	1,161,141	0	0	1,161,141

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 143. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 1D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,208,672			1,208,672
TOTALS	1,208,672	0	0	1,208,672

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	4			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	4			

Section 144. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 7D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,200,815			1,200,815
TOTALS	1,200,815	0	0	1,200,815
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	4			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	4			

Section 145. JUDICIAL DISTRICT 3D

PROGRAM				
Administration	1,229,299			1,229,299
TOTALS	1,229,299	0	0	1,229,299
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	4			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	4			

Section 151. DISTRICT ATTORNEY/JUD DIST #1

PROGRAM				
Administration	5,697,842		825,049 SR	6,522,891
TOTALS	5,697,842	0	825,049	6,522,891
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	24			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	24			

Section 157. DISTRICT ATTORNEY/JUD DIST #7

PROGRAM				
Administration	5,499,777		289,392 SR	5,789,169
TOTALS	5,499,777	0	289,392	5,789,169
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	21			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	21			

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 160. COUNTY & PROS ATTORNEYS				
PROGRAM				
Administration	6,296,655			6,296,655
TOTALS	6,296,655	0	0	6,296,655

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 205. EDUCATION-SCHOOL FINANCE

PROGRAM				
School Foundation Program ¹			1,857,545,635	\$5 1,857,545,635
Court Ordered Placements			17,183,639	\$5 17,183,639
Foundation-Specials			5,765,000	\$5 5,765,000
TOTALS	0	0	1,880,494,274	1,880,494,274

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

1. (a) In accordance with W.S. 21-13-309(o), this other funds appropriation includes funding for an external cost adjustment to the education resource block grant model, effective beginning with school year 2024-2025, computed as follows:

(i) Three and eight hundred seventy-one thousandths percent (3.871%) for the “professional labor” category of model components inclusive of those components defined by 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 99, Section 3 [Attachment “A”(a)(vi)];

(ii) Four and one hundred six thousandths percent (4.106%) for the “nonprofessional labor” category of model components inclusive of those components defined by 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 99, Section 3 [Attachment “A”(a)(v)];

(iii) Twenty-one and eight hundred fifty-two thousandths percent (21.852%) for the “educational materials” category of model components inclusive of those components defined by 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 99, Section 3 [Attachment “A”(a)(iii)];

(iv) Fourteen and sixty-four hundredths percent (14.64%) for the “energy” category of model components inclusive of those components defined by 2012 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 99, Section 3 [Attachment “A”(a)(iv)].

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 206. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 1., 5.				
PROGRAM				
State Board of Education	204,148		424,314	S5 628,462
Leadership, Finance & IT ^{2., 3.}	10,352,430	16,050	5,446,240	S5
			200,458	SR 16,015,178
Accountability & Commun.	903,811	45,909,620	10,306,414	S5
			220,494	SR
			1,000	T0 57,341,339
School Support ^{4., 5., 6.}	3,858,639	304,951,075	1,897,438	S5
			5,738,155	SR
			468,495	T0 316,913,802
TOTALS	15,319,028	350,876,745	24,703,008	390,898,781
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time ^{2., 6.}	113			
Part Time	2			
TOTAL	115			

1. **[As a condition of the appropriations to this agency,]** the department of education shall maintain the total amount of direct expenditures for and grants to local school districts in support of applied agriculture and farming programs during the 2025-2026 fiscal biennium as compared to the 2023-2024 fiscal biennium. It is the intent of the legislature that any expenditures by the department of education pursuant to this footnote be documented and included in the department of education’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**
2. Of this general fund appropriation, two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000.00) is appropriated, and of these authorized employees, one (1) full-time position is authorized for increased staffing in the finance unit.
3. Of this general fund appropriation, thirty-three thousand four hundred seventy-six dollars (\$33,476.00) is appropriated for increased compensation and employer paid benefits for two (2) positions within the finance unit.
4. Of this general fund appropriation, one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) is appropriated for the advancement of civics education through support of the Wyoming boys’ state and Wyoming girls’ state programs in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) annually to each program. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation be included in the department of education’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

5. Of this general fund appropriation, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is appropriated to pay for processing costs for Wyoming poultry, lamb, pork, beef or bison donated to a school district to be used in school meals. Expenditures authorized in this footnote shall be made only if an equal amount of funding has been contributed by a local school district for the processing costs of the donated Wyoming poultry, lamb, pork, beef or bison. The department shall endeavor to provide funding to as many school districts as possible under this footnote and participation in the federal school lunch program shall not be used as a limiting criterion for the distribution of these funds. To the extent all funds from this appropriation are expended, the department of education shall identify other funds appropriated in this section for continuation of the expenditures under this footnote.

6. Of this general fund appropriation, four hundred ninety-six thousand eight dollars (\$496,008.00) is appropriated, and of these authorized employees, two (2) full-time positions are authorized for outreach for the deaf and hard of hearing unit.

Section 211. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

PROGRAM				
Equalization/Tax Appeals	1,753,198			1,753,198
TOTALS	1,753,198	0	0	1,753,198

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	5
Part Time	0
TOTAL	5

Section 220. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

PROGRAM				
Administration	746,396			746,396
TOTALS	746,396	0	0	746,396

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 270. OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

PROGRAM				
Administration ¹ .			4,679,573	SR 4,679,573
TOTALS	0	0	4,679,573	4,679,573

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	12			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	12			

1. [~~As a condition of this other funds appropriation,~~] the office of administrative hearings shall provide hearing services to community colleges in accordance with W.S. 9-2-2202(b). **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

Section 012. BOARD OF ARCHITECTS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

PROGRAM				
Administration			226,494	SR 226,494
TOTALS	0	0	226,494	226,494
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 016. BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

PROGRAM				
Administration			46,327	SR 46,327
TOTALS	0	0	46,327	46,327
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 017. BOARD OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS EXAMINERS

PROGRAM				
Administration			101,905	SR 101,905
TOTALS	0	0	101,905	101,905
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 018. REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

PROGRAM				
Administration			1,390,941	SR 1,390,941

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Real Estate Recovery			10,024	SR 10,024
Real Estate Education			81,589	SR 81,589
Real Estate Appraiser			308,140	SR 308,140
Appraiser Education			29,068	SR 29,068
Appraisal Management			387,827	SR 387,827
TOTALS	0	0	2,207,589	2,207,589

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

Section 019. PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS BOARD

PROGRAM				
Prof. Teaching Stds. Board			2,264,520	SR 2,264,520
TOTALS	0	0	2,264,520	2,264,520

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	8
Part Time	0
TOTAL	8

Section 022. BOARD FOR RESPIRATORY CARE

PROGRAM				
Administration			78,538	SR 78,538
TOTALS	0	0	78,538	78,538

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 028. BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN PODIATRY

PROGRAM				
Administration			32,006	SR 32,006
TOTALS	0	0	32,006	32,006

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES

Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 030. BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS				
PROGRAM				
Administration			119,747	SR 119,747
TOTALS	0	0	119,747	119,747

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 031. COLLECTION AGENCY BOARD

PROGRAM				
Administration			224,616	SR 224,616
TOTALS	0	0	224,616	224,616

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 033. BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

PROGRAM				
Administration			1,175,757	SR 1,175,757
TOTALS	0	0	1,175,757	1,175,757

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	4
Part Time	0
TOTAL	4

Section 034. BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

PROGRAM				
Administration			375,948	SR 375,948
TOTALS	0	0	375,948	375,948

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 035. BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE PRACTITIONERS

PROGRAM				
Administration			54,341	SR 54,341
TOTALS	0	0	54,341	54,341

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 036. BOARD OF MIDWIFERY

PROGRAM				
Administration			28,289 SR	28,289
TOTALS	0	0	28,289	28,289
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 038. WYOMING GAMING COMMISSION 1.

PROGRAM				
Administration ^{2, 3.}			71,103,024 SR	71,103,024
TOTALS	0	0	71,103,024	71,103,024
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time ^{2.}	16			
Part Time	2			
TOTAL	18			

1. Of this other funds appropriation, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00)SR is appropriated for a statewide study of gaming in Wyoming including the structure of the gaming commission as an entity within state government, all pari-mutuel wagering activities, live horse racing, historic horse race wagering, skill based amusement games and online sports wagering. The review shall be conducted in consultation with the joint appropriations committee and shall consider the number and growth of wagering locations and activity, the commission’s oversight capacity, the transparency and efficiency of commission monitoring and reporting on licensees and horse track safety. Based on industry standards, the study shall also identify gaps in Wyoming law that affect or may affect the security, integrity or fairness of gaming activities, such as statutes identifying key personnel who should be required to obtain a gaming license or permit, grounds for denying an application for a license or permit and processes and procedures to address noncompliance with gaming laws and regulations, such as the issuance of notice of violation and closure orders. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the Wyoming gaming commission’s standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

2. Of this other funds appropriation, three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00)SR is appropriated, and of these authorized employees, one (1) full-time position is authorized as a director and executive secretary. This appropriation shall be for the purposes of identifying, recruiting and hiring a director and executive secretary for the Wyoming gaming commission. The Wyoming gaming commission shall hire a director who has executive experience in the gaming industry, business, financial and personnel management skills, experience with industry trends and developments, experience establishing regulation and compliance and the ability to resolve disputes. Of these full-time positions, one (1) full-time position authorized as a director and executive secretary shall only be effective for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending July 1, 2025 to mitigate the loss of institutional knowledge and disruption to the Wyoming gaming commission and ensure the director has the opportunity to evaluate the Wyoming gaming commission and its operations.

3. Of this other funds appropriation, three hundred forty-three thousand two hundred dollars (\$343,200.00)SR is appropriated for up to five (5) at-will employee contract positions within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary for the purposes of race day staffing and operations at pari-mutuel events to include veterinarians, racing stewards, license clerks and drug testing staff to enhance the ability of the Wyoming gaming commission to respond to additional and overlapping race days. **[This appropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.]** This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. This appropriation is effective immediately. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

Section 043. DIETETICS LICENSING BOARD

PROGRAM				
Administration			48,408	SR 48,408
TOTALS	0	0	48,408	48,408
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 046. WYOMING COMBAT SPORTS COMMISSION

PROGRAM				
Administration			62,293	SR 62,293
TOTALS	0	0	62,293	62,293

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 052. BOARD OF MEDICINE

PROGRAM				
Administration			2,947,181	SR 2,947,181
TOTALS	0	0	2,947,181	2,947,181

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	7
Part Time	0
TOTAL	7

Section 054. BOARD OF NURSING

PROGRAM				
Administration			3,096,655	SR 3,096,655
TOTALS	0	0	3,096,655	3,096,655

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	10
Part Time	0
TOTAL	10

Section 056. BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

PROGRAM				
Administration			100,329	SR 100,329
TOTALS	0	0	100,329	100,329

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 058. BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY

PROGRAM				
Administration			115,074	SR 115,074
TOTALS	0	0	115,074	115,074

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 059. BOARD OF PHARMACY

PROGRAM				
Licensing Board			2,139,469 SR	2,139,469
TOTALS	0	0	2,139,469	2,139,469

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	6
Part Time	0
TOTAL	6

Section 061. BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PROGRAM				
Administration			809,710 SR	809,710
TOTALS	0	0	809,710	809,710

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 062. BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

PROGRAM				
Administration			164,768 SR	164,768
TOTALS	0	0	164,768	164,768

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 064. BOARD OF HEARING AID SPECIALISTS

PROGRAM				
Administration			27,206 SR	27,206
TOTALS	0	0	27,206	27,206

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND \$	FEDERAL FUNDS \$	OTHER FUNDS \$	TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$
Section 065. BOARD OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS				
PROGRAM				
Administration			26,941	SR 26,941
TOTALS	0	0	26,941	26,941

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 068. BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY

PROGRAM				
Administration			161,395	SR 161,395
TOTALS	0	0	161,395	161,395

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 075. BOARD OF OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES

PROGRAM				
Administration			893,138	SR 893,138
TOTALS	0	0	893,138	893,138

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	3
Part Time	0
TOTAL	3

Section 078. MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

PROGRAM				
Administration			557,647	SR 557,647
TOTALS	0	0	557,647	557,647

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 079. BOARD OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS

PROGRAM				
Administration			57,357	SR 57,357
TOTALS	0	0	57,357	57,357

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES				
Full Time	0			
Part Time	0			
TOTAL	0			

Section 083. BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

PROGRAM				
Administration			143,929	SR 143,929
TOTALS	0	0	143,929	143,929

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 084. BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

PROGRAM				
Administration			622,652	SR 622,652
TOTALS	0	0	622,652	622,652

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	2
Part Time	0
TOTAL	2

Section 251. BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

PROGRAM				
Administration			128,484	SR 128,484
TOTALS	0	0	128,484	128,484

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

Section 252. BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE

PROGRAM				
Administration			45,89	SR 45,89
TOTALS	0	0	45,89	45,89

AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES	
Full Time	0
Part Time	0
TOTAL	0

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$
[CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION]				

Section 3.

(a) Appropriations for projects in this section shall remain in effect until the project is completed, unless otherwise provided. The amounts appropriated for projects under this section shall be expended only on the projects specified and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining upon completion of a project shall revert to the accounts from which they were appropriated, unless otherwise provided. The amounts appropriated in this section are intended to provide a maximum amount for each project from any source excluding contingency funding and shall not be construed to be an entitlement or guaranteed amount.

(b) The following sums of money are appropriated for the capital construction projects specified:

(i) Appropriations and authorization for projects administered through the state construction department:

Section 027. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PROGRAM				
SBC - Contingency		17,000,000	S13	17,000,000
MIL - Guernsey Entry	4,800,000			4,800,000
MIL - FE Warren Power	51,000,000			51,000,000
SCD - Enterprise				
Lvl I & Lvl II 1.		1,750,000	S13	1,750,000
DFS - Boys School				
Maint. Storage		1,590,390	S13	1,590,390
DFS - Stolt Hall Demo. ²				
		25,000,000	S0	
		12,014,172	S13	37,014,172
CWC – Jackson Outreach Ctr.		1,000,000	S13	1,000,000
GCCD - Enzi Center		33,340,000	PR	33,340,000
OSLI - Helibase Complex		7,516,286	S13	7,516,286
TOTALS	0	55,800,000	99,210,848	155,010,848

1. (a) This appropriation is for level I and II studies for the following projects:
- (i) Department of administration and information - combined laboratories facility renovation;
 - (ii) Department of agriculture - dairy barn;
 - (iii) Department of administration and information - master plan studies for state facilities outside of Cheyenne;
 - (iv) Department of agriculture - master plan follow-up.

APPROPRIATION FOR	GENERAL FUND	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL APPROPRIATION
	\$	\$	\$	\$

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, after funds are obligated for all studies specified in subsection (a) of this footnote, any remaining unobligated funds from this appropriation are authorized for expenditure on any level I or II master plan studies approved by the state building commission.

2. (a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1012(e), this other funds appropriation in the amount of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) shall be from the first twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) of unexpended general fund appropriations that lapse as provided by W.S. 9-4-207(a) and would otherwise be transferred to the budget reserve account under W.S. 9-2-1012(e) after June 1, 2024.

(b) These other funds appropriations are for demolition and level III design and construction funding.

(ii) Appropriations and authorization for projects administered through the department of state parks and cultural resources:

Section 024. CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PROGRAM				
SPCR - Outdoor Rec.		6,600,000	SR	6,600,000
SPCR - Terr. Prison		210,000	SR	210,000
SPCR - Water Fac.		300,000	SR	300,000
SPCR - Quebec 01 Fac.		25,000	SR	25,000
TOTALS	0	7,135,000		7,135,000

[BUDGET BALANCERS - TRANSFERS]

Section 300.

(a) The state auditor is authorized to transfer to the general fund, from any funds within the budget reserve account other than funds appropriated or transferred to the legislative stabilization reserve account, amounts to maintain an unencumbered, unobligated and unappropriated general fund balance adequate for cash flow needs.

(b) Any unappropriated funds in the budget reserve account on June 30, 2026 in excess of one hundred fifty-two million five hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$152,555,000.00) shall be transferred to the legislative stabilization reserve account.

(c) The state auditor shall transfer one hundred nineteen million five hundred five thousand two hundred twenty-one dollars (\$119,505,221.00) from the general fund to the strategic investments and projects account.

(d) The state auditor shall transfer one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00) from the general fund to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund.

(e) The state auditor shall transfer forty million dollars (\$40,000,000.00) from the general fund to the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account. This subsection is effective immediately.

(f) [Reserved.]

(g) The state auditor shall transfer two hundred fifteen million one hundred seven thousand two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$215,107,275.00), or as much thereof as is available, to the common school permanent fund reserve account from the school foundation program account from revenues attributable to fiscal years 2025 and 2026 under W.S. 9-4-601(a)(ii), (d)(iii) and (o)(i), subject to W.S. 9-4-601(d)(iii), (v)(C) and (vi).

(h) The state auditor shall transfer twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship endowment fund.

(j) The state auditor shall transfer sixteen million nine hundred eleven thousand six hundred thirty-three dollars (\$16,911,633.00) from the general fund to water development account I. This subsection is effective immediately.

(k) The state auditor shall transfer five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming state museum construction account, which is hereby created. Funds within the state museum construction account shall only be expended upon legislative appropriation. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer and all investment earnings from the account shall be credited to the general fund. The Wyoming state museum construction account is specifically empowered to accept matching charitable contributions including grants, gifts, transfers, bequests and donations that are separately accounted for and expended exclusively for the limited purposes specified by the grantor. Matching contributions accepted to the Wyoming state museum construction account shall be in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of matching contributions to one dollar (\$1.00) of funds transferred under this subsection.

(m) The state auditor shall transfer two million three hundred forty thousand dollars (\$2,340,000.00) from the general fund to the capitol square preservation account for purposes of security bollards, acquisition of maquettes and acoustical remedies and improvements. This subsection is effective immediately.

(n) The state auditor shall transfer five million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$5,800,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming stable token administration account. This transfer shall be reduced in an amount equal to the amount of the unobligated, unencumbered fund balance in the Wyoming stable token administration account on June 30, 2024. The Wyoming stable token commission shall endeavor to contract with **[only]** Wyoming domiciled entities when conducting business funded by the transfer required by this subsection. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(o) The state auditor shall transfer ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) from the general fund to the 988 system trust fund account created by W.S. 35-25-506(a).

[BORROWING AUTHORITY - CASH FLOW AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS]

Section 301.

(a) The state auditor is authorized to borrow from the legislative stabilization reserve account amounts necessary to assist the state's general fund cash flow. The amounts borrowed shall be repaid when sufficient general fund revenue is available. The auditor shall borrow funds under this subsection only to assist the month-to-month cash flow of the general fund and shall not borrow funds under this subsection when total appropriations together with outstanding encumbrances and obligations for the biennium exceed projected revenues, including transfers from the budget reserve account as authorized by the legislature, for the biennium.

(b) The governor is authorized to borrow from the legislative stabilization reserve account up to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) as necessary to meet funding requirements to fight wildland fires in the event reserves in the office of state lands and investments' forestry division, homeland security disaster contingency budget and the governor's office special contingency budget have been exhausted. The governor shall report to the joint appropriations committee, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives immediately upon exercise of this authority.

[RESERVED]

Section 302. [Reserved.]

[CARRYOVER APPROPRIATIONS]

Section 303.

[INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS ADMINISTRATION]

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the governor's office under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 001, subject to footnote 1 of that section, one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,250,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the governor's office for one (1) or more at-will employee contract positions within the personal services series (100 series) or through the contractual services series (900 series) as necessary to enhance the state's opportunities to secure infrastructure grants. ~~[As a condition of this reappropriation,]~~ the governor's office shall regularly inform the legislature through the joint appropriations committee on the results of expenditures and grants secured. This reappropriation shall not be transferred

or expended for any other purpose. [~~This reappropriation shall not be subject to Section 307 of this act.~~] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[DISASTER CONTINGENCY]

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated or reappropriated from the general fund to the governor's office under 2018 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 134, Section 2, Section 001, 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 001, as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 001, and 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 001 for disaster contingency, up to one million three hundred forty-eight thousand seven hundred seventy-three dollars (\$1,348,773.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the governor's office for disaster contingency.

[CAPITAL CASES - GENERAL FUNDS]

(c) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies reappropriated from the general fund to the office of the public defender for court ordered capital case funding under 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 303(c), up to one million sixty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,062,500.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the office of the public defender for purposes of court ordered capital case funding.

[CAPITAL CASES - OTHER FUNDS]

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies reappropriated from other funds to the office of the public defender for court ordered capital case funding under 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 303(d), up to one hundred eighty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$187,500.00)SR, or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the office of the public defender for purposes of court ordered capital case funding.

[STATE CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT - ACOUSTICS]

(e) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the state construction department for an acoustics study and implementation of remedies for the capitol building and extension from the capitol building to and under the Herschler building under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 027, up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the state construction department to complete an acoustics study and implementation of remedies for the capitol building and extension from the capitol building to and under the Herschler building.

[WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMISSION – COLLEGE
HEALTH INSURANCE]

(f) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the Wyoming community college commission under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 057, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 057, for college health insurance, unit 0202, under state aid, division 0200, up to nine hundred twelve thousand two hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$912,237.00), or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the Wyoming community college commission for the following purposes and amounts:

(i) Three hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$320,000.00) for maintenance agreements for the Wyoming community college commission's course sharing platform;

(ii) One hundred thirty-four thousand three hundred fifty-two dollars (\$134,352.00) for statewide longitudinal education data system development;

(iii) Two hundred twenty-nine thousand eight hundred dollars (\$229,800.00) for software licenses and servers;

(iv) Fifty-three thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$53,560.00) for software, information technology, training and services;

(v) One hundred fifty thousand two hundred forty dollars (\$150,240.00) for information technology licensing and storage capacity;

(vi) Eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00) for a statewide longitudinal education data system development server;

(vii) Six thousand two hundred eighty-five dollars (\$6,285.00) for computer hardware and technology replacement.

[CHANCERY COURT]

(g) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the supreme court under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 101, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 101, for the chancery court, up to nine hundred forty-seven thousand forty-eight dollars (\$947,048.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the supreme court **[for the chancery court]**. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

[UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING MATCHING FUNDS FOR RESEARCH]

(h) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the University of

Wyoming under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 067 as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 067 for matching funds subject to footnote 8 for research grants and contracts related to flow through porous media, up to twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the University of Wyoming to match research grants and contracts related to flow through porous media. [**~~This reappropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and shall revert on June 30, 2025.~~**] Expenditure of this reappropriation is conditioned upon: [**BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.**]

(i) Securing a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any other source;

(ii) Conducting all computational and practical research to the extent reasonably possible with University of Wyoming students within Wyoming;

(iii) Performing research on geologic formations and energy extraction opportunities that may be found within Wyoming;

(iv) Developing any feasibility studies, small-scale experiments or large-scale projects associated with research funded by this appropriation within the state of Wyoming to the extent possible.

[SECTION EFFECTIVE DATE]

(j) This section is effective immediately.

[EMPLOYEE BENEFITS]

Section 304.

(a) The state's contribution to the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan under W.S. 9-3-210 for each qualifying executive, judicial and legislative branch employee, including employees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, shall be paid from amounts appropriated in agency budgets in the following amounts for the specified time periods:

(i) For the period beginning December 1, 2024 and ending November 30, 2025, an amount to be determined by the employees' group insurance section of the department of administration and information but not to exceed:

(A) One thousand ninety-eight dollars (\$1,098.00) per month for an employee electing single coverage;

(B) Two thousand one hundred ninety-three dollars (\$2,193.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent spouse coverage;

(C) One thousand six hundred seventy dollars (\$1,670.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent children coverage;

(D) Two thousand five hundred fourteen dollars (\$2,514.00) per month for an employee electing family coverage;

(E) One thousand two hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$1,267.00) per month for employees who elect family coverage when both spouses are employees of covered entities creating a split family coverage.

(ii) For the period beginning December 1, 2025 and ending November 30, 2026 an amount to be determined by the employees' group insurance section of the department of administration and information but not to exceed:

(A) One thousand one hundred seventy-six dollars (\$1,176.00) per month for an employee electing single coverage;

(B) Two thousand three hundred fifty-two dollars (\$2,352.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent spouse coverage;

(C) One thousand seven hundred ninety dollars (\$1,790.00) per month for an employee electing employee plus dependent children coverage;

(D) Two thousand six hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$2,697.00) per month for an employee electing family coverage;

(E) One thousand three hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$1,358.00) per month for employees who elect family coverage when both spouses are employees of covered entities creating a split family coverage.

(b) There is appropriated two million two hundred seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$2,277,000.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 to be expended only for health insurance benefits for executive, legislative and judicial branch agency retirees, including retirees of the University of Wyoming and the community colleges, who participate in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan, and whose date of retirement was prior to July 1, 2008. Payments to the plan on behalf of eligible retirees shall be made monthly at the rate of eleven dollars and fifty cents (\$11.50) per year of service up to a maximum of thirty (30) years of service for those retirees who are not Medicare eligible, and at the rate of five dollars and seventy-five cents (\$5.75) per year of service up to a maximum of thirty (30) years of service for those retirees who are Medicare eligible.

(c) Sufficient monies in the retirees prefunded health insurance trust (fund 561) are appropriated to the state auditor and shall be used for the purpose of funding the benefits in the same manner and amounts as provided in subsection (b) of this section for retirees whose effective date of retirement is July 1, 2008 or later. All investment earnings on the account shall remain in the account.

(d) Provided sufficient funds are available, employees whose benefits are paid from nongeneral fund sources shall receive the same benefits as provided in this section.

(e) If sufficient funds are not available for obligations under subsections

(b) through (d) of this section, payments to eligible retirees shall be reduced proportionally.

(f) The appropriations in this section shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

(g) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriation in subsection (b) of this section, adjusted by the number of eligible participants, shall be included in the state auditor's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. All state agencies, including the University of Wyoming, the community colleges and the legislative and judicial branches shall include in standard budget requests for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium sufficient amounts to be deposited into the retiree health insurance benefits account created by 2008 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 48, Section 303. Amounts to include in the standard budget requests shall be equal to up to one percent (1%) of each benefit eligible employee's salary for each pay period sufficient to continue benefits in subsections (c) and (d) of this section for fiscal years 2025 and 2026, as established by the department of administration and information.

[FLEX - EXECUTIVE]

Section 305.

(a) Excluding appropriations to the University of Wyoming and authorization of University of Wyoming positions and notwithstanding any provision of W.S. 9-2-1005(a) to the contrary, the governor is authorized to transfer:

(i) Between programs within any executive branch agency, excluding the department of environmental quality, department of health and department of corrections, ten percent (10%) of the total appropriation for the agency;

(ii) Between programs within the department of environmental quality, department of health and department of corrections one hundred percent (100%) of the total appropriation for the agency;

(iii) Between executive branch agencies, five percent (5%) of the total appropriation for the agency from which the funds are transferred;

(iv) Between programs within any executive branch agency, or between executive branch agencies, legislatively authorized full-time or part-time positions.

(b) All transfers authorized under this section shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(c) The authority granted under this section is effective for the period beginning on the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2026.

(d) Any provision of this act or any other legislation enacted that specifies that an appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose, or containing language of like effect, or specifying a position within an agency shall prevail over this section and no such funds so appropriated or positions so specified shall be subject to subsection (a) of this section.

[FLEX – JUDICIARY]

Section 306.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the supreme court may transfer up to five percent (5%) of the total general fund appropriation between programs within the supreme court. With the approval of the district court budget committee, up to five percent (5%) of the general fund appropriation to each district court may be transferred to one (1) or more other district courts. Authority pursuant to this section includes transfers of associated legislatively authorized full-time or part-time positions and shall be effective for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026. Any transfers pursuant to this section shall be reported annually by the supreme court to the joint appropriations committee. The report shall specify the appropriations and authorized positions transferred including transfers between expenditure series, programs and courts.

(b) Any provision of this act or any other legislation enacted that specifies that an appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose, or containing language of like effect, shall prevail over this section and no such funds so appropriated or positions so specified shall be subject to subsection (a) of this section.

~~[[PERSONAL SERVICES TRANSFERS]]~~

Section 307:

~~(a) — Unless otherwise specifically provided, nonfederal fund appropriations for personal services (100 series) contained in this act shall not be transferred to any other series or expended for any purpose other than personal services. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) or any other provision of this act, nonfederal fund appropriations for contractual services (900 series) contained in this act shall not be transferred to the personal services (100 series).~~

~~(b) — The following appropriations and agencies are exempt from this section:~~

~~(i) Section 2, Section 020 of this act to the department of environmental quality;~~

~~(ii) Section 2, Section 048 of this act to the department of health;~~

~~(iii) Section 2, Section 080 of this act to the department of corrections;~~

~~(iv) Any other appropriation in this act that specifies that the appropriation shall not be subject to this section.~~

~~(c) The judicial branch is exempt from this section for transfers in a total amount not to exceed four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00).]~~

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

**[MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUNDING FOR STATE FACILITIES,
STATE PARKS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES, UNIVERSITY AND
COMMUNITY COLLEGES]**

Section 308.

(a) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2024, there is appropriated from the strategic investments and projects account, for major maintenance to the entities and in the amounts specified as provided in this subsection:

(i) One hundred sixty-eight million two hundred seventy-two thousand one hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$168,272,157.00) shall be distributed as follows:

(A) Thirty-six and twenty-four hundredths percent (36.24%) to the state construction department for state facilities managed by the state building commission and state institutions;

(B) Eight and forty-three hundredths percent (8.43%) to fund projects submitted by the department of state parks and cultural resources as approved by the state building commission;

(C) Thirty-six and twenty-one hundredths percent (36.21%) to the University of Wyoming for university facilities, excluding student housing, the student union and auxiliary services areas, the latter being those areas funded by university self-sustaining revenues;

(D) Nineteen and twelve hundredths percent (19.12%) to the state construction department for community college district facilities.

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, appropriations made under subsection (a) of this section shall be separately accounted for by the recipient and shall not revert. Expenditures from these appropriations shall be restricted to expenses incurred for major building and facility repair and replacement as defined in W.S. 9-5-107(h) and as prescribed by rule of the state building commission.

(c) Not later than September 1, 2025, the state construction department shall submit to the state building commission a recommendation for funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2026, for major building and facility repair and replacement for state institutions, for University of Wyoming facilities and for community college facilities. This recommendation for all facilities shall be

based on a formula adopted by the state building commission pursuant to W.S. 9-5-107(g), except that the formula shall incorporate the gross square footage of buildings and facilities for each category of buildings for state facilities, university facilities and community college facilities, not to exceed seven (7) building categories for each entity, excluding student housing, the student union and auxiliary services areas funded exclusively through university or community college generated revenues unless otherwise specified.

(d) Not later than October 31, 2025, the state construction department, the department of state parks and cultural resources, the University of Wyoming and the community college commission shall report to the state building commission and the joint appropriations committee on the expenditures and commitments made from the appropriations under subsection (a) of this section.

(e) In addition to the appropriation in paragraph (a)(i) of this section, there is appropriated one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the state construction department for major maintenance at Ranch A and an evaluation as provided under this subsection. The state construction department shall evaluate the major maintenance requirements at Ranch A and include any associated recommendations and conclusions, including future budget requests and statutory changes needed to efficiently and effectively address on-going major maintenance at Ranch A in the state construction department's next budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013.

(f) Subsections (b) through (d) of this section shall not be effective if 2024 House Bill 0075 is enacted into law.

[DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARRYOVERS]

Section 309.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 048, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 048, or reappropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 309, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 3, Section 309, up to fifty-seven million dollars (\$57,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the department of health in the following amounts and for the following purposes:

(i) Up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000.00) to the Wyoming state hospital demolition account;

(ii) Unanticipated Medicaid expenditures, including increased enrollment;

(iii) Costs associated with the implementation of Title 25, Chapter 10 of the Wyoming statutes;

(iv) State facility staffing needs.

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 048 as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 048, that have not been reverted or reappropriated, up to thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert and are hereby reappropriated to the department of health for deposit into the Wyoming state hospital demolition account. There is appropriated thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is deposited into the Wyoming state hospital demolition account under this subsection, from the Wyoming state hospital demolition account to the department of health, to be administered by the state construction department, for demolition and abatement of unused or abandoned facilities on the campus of the Wyoming state hospital. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2028.

(c) The transfer or expenditure of funds under this section shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(d) No funds from the reappropriations in this section shall be expended by the department of health if the expenditure would result in an increase to maintenance of effort, maintenance of financial support or a similar federal requirement to expend additional state funds in future budget periods.

(e) It is the intent of the legislature that the carryover appropriations in this section not be included in the department of health's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(f) This section is effective immediately.

[[LIMITATION ON SALARY INCREASE]]

Section 310:

~~(a) The 2027-2028 biennial general fund standard budget for personal services (100 series) for each agency shall be less than or equal to the 2025-2026 biennial appropriations for personal services (100 series) for each agency in all enacted laws including any calculated amount to continue legislatively approved compensation increases throughout the 2025-2026 biennium and excluding benefit adjustments and allowable personal services transfers pursuant to Section 307 of this act and documented through the report required by W.S. 9-2-1011(c).~~

~~(b) Any salary increase for an executive branch state position including those of the game and fish department, department of transportation~~

~~and boards and commissions and excluding positions of the University of Wyoming or community colleges during the 2025-2026 biennium for which the compensation increase has not been approved by the legislature shall be reviewed and approved by the governor or his designee.~~

~~(c) Any salary increase for a judicial branch position during the 2025-2026 biennium for which the compensation increase has not been approved by the legislature shall be reviewed and approved by either the district court judge, chief justice or the board of judicial policy and administration.]~~

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[CONCURRENCE WITH GOVERNOR'S BIENNIAL BUDGET
DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS]

Section 311. Unless otherwise provided in this act, it is the intent of the legislature to concur with the recommendations contained in the governor's 2025-2026 biennial budget for one-time funding, sustained funding or budget reductions and be included in the standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. Furthermore, it is the intent of the legislature that continuation of at-will employee contract positions not explicitly denied by this act shall continue as requested throughout the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026 and be included in the standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

[COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPROPRIATION AND MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 312.

(a) There is appropriated nine million three hundred thirty-five thousand four hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$9,335,478.00) from the strategic investments and projects account to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall deposit one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in eight (8) separate accounts to provide matching funds to each Wyoming community college district, including the Gillette community college district. Subject to subsection (b) of this section, these funds shall be used to match gifts designated by each community college district for purposes designated by each community college district board of trustees. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

(b) From the effective date of this section and ending March 31, 2026, to the extent funds are available in the separate community college accounts, the state treasurer shall match gifts of cash or cash equivalent amounts received by a community college district and certified to the state treasurer in accordance with the following:

(i) A match shall be paid to the community college district any time the sum of any accumulated gifts total ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or more;

(ii) Each community college district may request that the state treasurer encumber amounts available in the district's account in anticipation of gifts or donations that meet the requirements of paragraph (i) of this subsection and that are the subject of a binding commitment to make the gift or donation;

(iii) The state treasurer shall make all transfers required in this subsection not later than the end of the calendar quarter following the quarter in which a qualifying gift is actually received by the district;

(iv) Any match paid to a community college district by the state treasurer shall be equal to and shall not exceed the amount of the gift received by the district.

(c) The state treasurer shall deposit one million three hundred thirty-five thousand four hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$1,335,478.00) into a ninth, separate account. If a community college district fully matches all of its allocation provided in subsection (a) of this section, the community college district may submit and the state treasurer shall pay matching requests in accordance with subsection (b) of this section from the funds allocated in this subsection.

(d) Beginning April 1, 2026, any amounts remaining in any of the eight (8) community college district matching accounts created by subsection (a) of this section or funds remaining in the separate account created in subsection (c) of this section that have not been paid to or obligated to any community college district may be paid to any community college district that meets the matching requirements under subsection (b) of this section.

(e) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated under this section shall revert on June 30, 2027.

(f) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriations in this section not be included in the Wyoming community college commission's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(g) Subject to subsection (h) of this section, this section is effective immediately.

(h) This section shall only be effective if Section 337 of this act is enacted into law.

[SCHOOL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION]

Section 313.

(a) This section shall consist of funds appropriated for K-12 school building and facility needs.

(b) As used in subsection (j) of this section, a "priority" identified by an Arabic numeral means the project ranking as submitted by the school facilities

commission within its budget recommendations provided under W.S. 21-15-119. ~~[A “priority” identified by “Governor” means the project is recommended by the governor’s office and is not included in the budget recommendations of the school facilities commission.]~~ A “priority” identified by “Legislature” means the project is recommended by the legislature and is not included in the budget recommendations of the school facilities commission. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(c) The amounts appropriated from the school foundation program account under paragraphs (j)(i), (ii), (ix) and (x) of this section are for the period commencing on the effective date of the appropriation and ending June 30, 2026, and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from any of these appropriations shall revert to the school foundation program account on June 30, 2026.

(d) Each amount appropriated from the school foundation program account for a school facility project under paragraphs (j)(iii) through (viii), (xi) and (xii) of this section shall remain in effect from the effective date of the appropriation until that project is completed, unless otherwise provided by law. Upon completion of a project under this subsection, any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriation for the project shall revert to the school foundation program account.

(e) As authorized under W.S. 21-15-119(a)(iii), the school facilities commission may submit a supplemental budget request for the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, for any emergency or unanticipated need, or for any refinement or modification of a project funded under this section, subject to any constraints or other requirements imposed by the governor under W.S. 9-2-1013.

(f) An estimated schedule for deploying projects funded by amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this section, as adopted by the school facilities commission and as contained within the 2025-2026 biennial budget submitted by the commission under W.S. 21-15-119, and further refined by the budget submitted by the governor’s office, shall be used by the state construction department to the extent practicable to guide expenditure of appropriated funds, subject to restrictions contained in W.S. 21-15-119(c). The estimated schedule shall be based upon information, processes, events and expenditures and shall not be binding upon the state construction department or the school facilities commission.

(g) Amounts appropriated under subsection (j) of this section or included in the budget requests submitted by the school facilities commission or the governor’s office shall not be construed to be an entitlement or guaranteed amount and shall be expended by the school facilities commission to ensure adequate, efficient and the most cost effective school buildings and facilities in

accordance with W.S. 21-15-114(a)(vii) and 21-15-117(b) that are contained in school district facility plans as required by W.S. 21-15-116.

(h) In addition to accounting and reporting requirements imposed under W.S. 28-11-301(c)(iv), the state construction department shall report monthly on the deployment of amounts to fund projects under this section in accordance with the deployment schedule, information on project progression and, if applicable, the rationale for any deviation from the estimated schedule. The reports~~[-as approved by the commission,]~~ shall be submitted by the department to the select committee on school facilities, the joint appropriations committee and the governor. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(j) The following amounts are appropriated from the school foundation program account to the school facilities commission for the following purposes:

(i) For charter school leases, four million one hundred sixty-six thousand two hundred ninety-two dollars (\$4,166,292.00), for an elementary charter school in Natrona county school district #1, two (2) elementary charter schools and a secondary charter school in Laramie county school district #1 and an elementary charter school in Albany county school district #1. The funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be distributed for charter school lease expenses, subject to requirements of W.S. 21-3-110(a)(x), for school years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026;

(ii) For modular buildings and leases, fifty-two thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$52,125.00), for three (3) modular buildings in Laramie county school district #1;

(iii) For design of the following school building and facility projects, twenty million five hundred fifty thousand one hundred seventy-six dollars (\$20,550,176.00):

Priority	School District	Project
07-01	Campbell #1	High School
07-02	Laramie #1	Elementary School #2
[Governor]	Sweetwater #1	High School

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

(iv) For construction of the following school building and facility projects, two hundred forty-one million three hundred seventy-four thousand thirteen dollars (\$241,374,013.00):

Priority	School District	Project
09-01	Laramie #1	Elementary School #2

09-02	Niobrara #1	High School Voc. Ag./ Transportation Facility
09-03	Goshen #1	Elementary/Middle/High School Renovation
09-04	Campbell #1	Elementary School
Legislature	Teton #1	High School
Legislature	Sweetwater #1	High School

(A) For the Sweetwater county school district #1 high school project, the legislature authorizes expenditures from the appropriation in this paragraph for the construction and demolition or disposition of a Sweetwater county school district #1 high school.

(v) For the following component level major maintenance projects, twenty-five million one hundred fifty-six thousand five hundred one dollars (\$25,156,501.00):

Priority	School District	Project
10-01	Uinta #1	Middle School
10-02	Teton #1	High School Voc. Building
10-03	Converse #2	Junior High/High School
10-04	Carbon #2	Middle/High School
10-05	Hot Springs #1	High School
10-06	Fremont #38	Elementary/High School/ Transportation Buildings
10-07	Sublette #1	Administrative Building/High School
10-08	Converse #1	Middle School
10-09	Platte #1	Elementary School
10-10	Sublette #1	Administrative Building/High School

(vi) For design of the following ancillary building projects, two million one hundred thirty-eight thousand twenty-six dollars (\$2,138,026.00):

Priority	School District	Project
11-01.01	Lincoln #2	Transportation Facility
11-02.01	Crook #1	Transportation Facility
11-03.01	Platte #1	Transportation Facility

(vii) For construction of the following ancillary building projects, twenty-seven million two hundred ninety-four thousand six hundred eighty-four dollars (\$27,294,684.00):

Priority	School District	Project
11-01.02	Lincoln #2	Transportation Facility
11-02.02	Crook #1	Transportation Facility
11-03.02	Platte #1	Transportation Facility

(viii) For demolition of a middle school in Platte county school district #1 and an elementary school in Albany county school district #1, two million six hundred thirty-four thousand six hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$2,634,698.00). Any disposition or demolition of buildings or facilities shall be subject to commission approval and included in the district’s facility plan to ensure the disposition or demolition protects the financial interest of the state and is in the public interest as required under W.S. 21-15-123(f)(vi);

(ix) For the acquisition of a portion of an elementary school located in Natrona county school district #1, three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000.00). Any proceeds received by the state for the sale of a portion of an elementary school to Natrona county school district #1 under this paragraph, shall be deposited in the school foundation program account;

(x) For professional consulting expertise and other administrative costs to conduct studies as approved by the commission to determine the most cost effective and efficient approach to deliver quality educational services and address building and facility needs, one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00);

(xi) For site work and to provide a rural school facility located in Albany county school district #1, as a priority identified by the legislature and not included in the budget recommendations of the school facilities commission, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00);

(xii) For unanticipated costs associated with the projects funded under paragraphs (j)(iii) through (xi) of this subsection, ten million four hundred thirty-six thousand eight hundred eighty-six dollars (\$10,436,886.00).

[MINERAL SEVERANCE TAX DIVERSION]

Section 314. W.S. 39-14-801(d)(intro) and by creating a new subsection (m) is amended to read:

39-14-801. Severance tax distributions; distribution account created; formula.

(d) After making distributions pursuant to subsections (b), (c), (f) and (j) of this section, distributions under subsection (e) of this section shall be made from the severance tax distribution account. The amount of distributions under subsection (e) of this section shall not exceed one hundred fifty-five million dollars (\$155,000,000.00) in any fiscal year. To the extent that distributions under subsection (e) of this section would exceed that amount in any fiscal year, except as provided in subsections (g), (h), ~~and (k)~~ and (m) of this section, the excess shall be credited:

(m) For fiscal year 2025, when distributions under paragraph (d)(ii) of this section equal one hundred sixty-four million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$164,800,000.00) and for fiscal year 2026, when distributions under paragraph (d)(ii) of this section equal one hundred fifty-four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$154,500,000.00), additional funds that would otherwise be distributed under paragraphs (d)(i) and (ii) of this section shall be credited as follows:

(i) One-third (1/3) to the general fund;

(ii) One-third (1/3) to the budget reserve account; and

(iii) One-third (1/3) to the school foundation program reserve account.

[FEDERAL MINERAL ROYALTY DIVERSION]

Section 315. W.S. 9-4-601(d)(intro), (vi) and (vii) and by creating a new subsection (o) is amended to read:

9-4-601. Distribution and use; funds, accounts, cities and towns benefited; exception for bonus payments.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (k), (m), ~~and (n)~~ and (o) of this section, any revenue received under subsection (a) of this section in excess of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000.00) shall be distributed as follows:

(vi) From the amounts which would otherwise be distributed to the school foundation program account under paragraph (iii) of this subsection and paragraphs (k)(i), (m)(i), ~~and (n)(i)~~ and (o)(i) of this section, there is annually appropriated to the common school permanent fund reserve account the amount determined under W.S. 9-4-719(g). The appropriation shall be credited to the account as provided in W.S. 9-4-719(g);

(vii) From the amounts that would otherwise be distributed to the budget reserve account under paragraph (iv) of this subsection and paragraphs (k)(ii), (m)(ii), ~~and (n)(ii)~~ and (o)(ii) of this section, amounts necessary to make the required revenue bond payments as provided by W.S. 9-4-1003(d), but in no event more than eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000.00) annually;

(o) For fiscal year 2025, any revenue received under subsection (a) of this section in excess of five hundred forty-nine million four hundred thousand dollars (\$549,400,000.00) and for fiscal year 2026, any revenue received under subsection (a) of this section in excess of five hundred thirty million two hundred thousand dollars (\$530,200,000.00) shall be distributed as follows:

(i) Forty percent (40%) to the school foundation program account; and

(ii) Sixty percent (60%) to the budget reserve account.

[UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING RESEARCH MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 316.

(a) There is appropriated up to forty million dollars (\$40,000,000.00) from the general fund to the University of Wyoming for purposes of providing matching funds for private or federal funding for all of the following:

(i) Research, services, software and acquisition, development, fabrication, integration, adoption, modification and expansion of technological capabilities, capacities and methods;

(ii) Demonstration or commercial deployment projects related to experimental, computational and digitalization research in the field of porous media technologies at the center of innovation for flow through porous media.

(b) Allocation of the appropriation under subsection (a) of this section shall follow the outlay schedule specified in this subsection. Prior to each allocation, the University of Wyoming board of trustees shall certify that the project is progressing and all parties are successfully meeting the conditions of the partnership agreement specified in paragraph (c)(i) of this section. From funds appropriated in subsection (a) of this section:

(i) Up to thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000.00) may be allocated on or before July 1, 2024;

(ii) Up to an additional twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) may be allocated on or before June 30, 2025;

(iii) The remainder may be allocated on or before June 30, 2026.

(c) Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon all of the following:

(i) A thoroughly developed agreement between the University of Wyoming, as approved by the board of trustees, and any identified partner that clearly outlines the contributions, expectations, timelines and intended outcomes of the partnership;

(ii) The University of Wyoming securing a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds or in-kind match from any other source. For the purpose of calculating the matching amount only, the university shall obtain and document evidence of the value of any in-kind match from an independent third-party competent in evaluating the fair value of any proposed match;

(iii) Approval of all matching amounts, contracts and expenditure of matching funds by the director of the center of innovation for flow through porous media, which shall follow the university's signature authority regulation;

(iv) Conducting all computational and practical research to the extent reasonably possible with students and employees of the University of Wyoming within the state of Wyoming;

(v) Developing any feasibility studies, small-scale experiments or large-scale projects associated with research funded by this appropriation within the state of Wyoming to the extent possible;

(vi) Services of major imaging instruments including electron microscopes and x-ray scanners to be made available to students and employees throughout the University of Wyoming using the center of innovation for flow through porous media's data acquisition project procedures;

(vii) University approval of all terms and conditions of the proposed partnership agreement shall be contingent upon approval of same by the governor;

(viii) The board of trustees of the University of Wyoming establishing a research and facility use policy for the high bay research facility to allow and encourage equipment and facility use by university faculty and graduate students. The resulting equipment and facility use shall be summarized within any budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013 during the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026.

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30, 2028. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the University of Wyoming's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(e) This section is effective immediately.

[REVISIONS TO PRIOR UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
APPROPRIATIONS]

Section 317.

(a) There is appropriated up to nine million four hundred thousand dollars (\$9,400,000.00) from the general fund to the University of Wyoming to match research grants and contracts related to flameless pressurized oxy-combustion technology. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than four dollars (\$4.00) of matching funds from the federal government. Upon determination by the University of Wyoming that the funds from this appropriation will not be matched or expended for the purposes of this section, any remaining funds, upon approval of the energy resources council and the governor, may be expended on any project to be constructed in Wyoming under United States department of energy grant identification DE-FOA-0001788. If funds remain after any grant expenditures, remaining funds shall be deposited into an account and available for expenditure by only the Wyoming energy authority subject to approval by the University of Wyoming energy resources council and the governor for purposes of a rare earth pilot processing facility or rare earth element research and demonstrations conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from a nonstate entity.

(b) Except as provided in this section, this appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

(c) The appropriation in subsection (a) of this section shall be reduced by one dollar (\$1.00) for each one dollar (\$1.00) that is not reverted by the Wyoming energy authority from amounts appropriated to the University of Wyoming under 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 067 footnote 7, as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 067 footnote 7 and transferred to the Wyoming energy authority under B-11 21454 as reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, this appropriation shall remain in effect and not lapse or revert except upon further legislative authorization.

(e) This section is effective immediately.

[REVISIONS TO PRIOR APPROPRIATIONS]

Section 318.

(a) 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 321(a), (d), (e) and by creating a new subsection (f), Section 325(a), (b) and by creating new subsections (e) and (f), Section 333(b) and by creating a new subsection (d) and Section 334 are amended to read:

[ENERGY MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 321.

(a) There is appropriated to the office of the governor one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00) from the legislative stabilization reserve account from funds transferred to the account under Section 300(j) of this act and ~~fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00)~~ fifty-five million dollars (\$55,000,000.00) from the general fund. Except as provided in subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section, this appropriation is for purposes of providing matching funds for private or federal funding for research, demonstration, pilot projects or commercial deployment projects related to Wyoming energy needs, including, but not limited to, carbon capture utilization and storage, carbon dioxide transportation, industrial carbon capture, coal refinery, and hydrogen production, transportation, storage, hydrogen hub development, critical minerals, biomass, biochar, hydropower, lithium, processing and separation, battery storage or wind and solar energy. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

~~(d) Of the appropriations in subsection (a) of this section, up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) is appropriated for lithium, processing and separation and lithium development projects. Expenditure of funds under this subsection shall be conditioned upon receipt of matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated funds under this subsection to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of nonstate matching funds.~~

(e) **[As a condition of expending this the appropriation in subsection (a) of this section,]** all proposed expenditures from this appropriation and the purposes and goals of each expenditure shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee prior to the expenditure being made. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE REINSERTED AND SHOWN AS STRICKEN AS A RESULT OF THE GOVERNOR'S MARCH 22, 2024 VETO.]**

(f) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from the appropriation in subsection (a) of this section shall not revert until June 30, 2027.

[APPROPRIATION TO MATCH FEDERAL
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS]

Section 325.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, there is appropriated seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000.00) from the general fund to the office of the governor for the purpose of providing state matching funds to qualify for or match federal infrastructure funds awarded to Wyoming or its political subdivisions under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, P.L. 117-58. This appropriation shall not be expended for any other purpose. Expenditure of this appropriation is conditioned upon a match of funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated general funds to not less than four dollars (\$4.00) of federal funds.

~~(b) All proposed expenditures under this section shall be reported to the joint appropriations committee with a description of the desired actions and outcomes ten (10) days before use of the funds are approved by the governor through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii).~~

(e) Of the appropriation in subsection (a) of this section, seventeen million three hundred fifty-nine thousand thirty dollars (\$17,359,030.00) is appropriated to the state

drinking water revolving loan account and seven million two hundred one thousand nine hundred seventy-three dollars (\$7,201,973.00) is appropriated to the state water pollution control revolving loan account for purposes of providing state matching funds.

(f) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from the appropriation under this section shall not revert until June 30, 2026.

[COMMUNITY FACILITY PROGRAM AND REHABILITATION]

Section 333.

(b) There is appropriated two million six hundred ninety-five thousand three hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$2,695,339.00) from the general fund, and one hundred four thousand six hundred sixty-one dollars (\$104,661.00) from the strategic investments and projects account to the Wyoming business council for purposes of grants for community facility rehabilitation. The appropriation in this subsection shall be expended only on a grant or grants for cities and towns to complete the preservation of former school facilities as community centers, provided that the expenditure is for facilities that are included on the national park service's national register of historic places or as a national historic landmark in a city or town with a population of less than fifteen hundred (1,500) that has received funding or technical assistance from the Wyoming business council for the preservation of a former school facility as a community center before the effective date of this section.

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from the appropriation under this section shall not revert until June 30, 2026.

[UNMET HOUSING NEEDS]

Section 334.

(a) There is appropriated five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments for purposes of providing grants to cities, towns, counties and tribal governments in Wyoming for land acquisition and infrastructure, including water, sewer and utilities, to support unmet housing and workforce housing needs as determined by the office of state lands and investments.

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from the appropriation under this section shall not revert until June 30, 2026.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify or impair any existing contract or obligation of the state that is executed or incurred on or before the effective date of this section.

(c) This section is effective immediately.

[EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION - VACANT POSITIONS]

Section 319.

(a) There is appropriated five million nine hundred five thousand three hundred twenty-three dollars (\$5,905,323.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for salary adjustments of generally funded vacant positions whose salary is not prescribed by law for the fiscal period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026 as specified in this section.

(b) Funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section shall be distributed to executive branch agencies, not including the University of Wyoming and community colleges, to fund salary and benefits of vacant positions to ninety percent (90%) of comparable market pay in accordance with occupational market analysis conducted by the department of administration and information for all generally funded executive branch positions.

(c) For state executive vacant positions whose compensation is paid from nongeneral fund sources, to the extent funds are available, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds amounts necessary to provide payment of comparable salary increases and employer paid benefits as that which is distributed to those vacant positions subject to the same conditions specified in subsection (b) of this section. For state executive branch vacant positions whose compensation is partially funded by general funds, general funds shall be expended for funding salary and employer paid benefit increases in the same proportion as the vacant position's budgeted salary is paid by state general funds.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the appropriations under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose other than as specified in this section. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriations under this section shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2026.

[BENCHMARKS AND PERFORMANCE COMPENSATION REVIEW]

Section 320. There is appropriated one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for an external consultant, approved by management council in consultation with the governor's office, to review and audit the methodology, selection and application of benchmarks and all prior calculations and allocations of

performance compensation for qualifying investment staff within the state treasurer's office under W.S. 9-1-409(e) and for qualifying investment staff of the Wyoming retirement system under W.S. 9-3-406(a). The results of the review and audit shall be reported to the joint appropriations committee and the select committee on capital financing and investments not later than October 1, 2024.

[STATE BUDGET SYSTEM - REVIEW]

Section 321.

(a) There is appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) from the general fund to the state auditor's office for a review to upgrade or replace the state's budget management and reporting system. The state auditor's office shall complete its review in collaboration with the office of the governor, state budget department, department of administration and information human resources division, legislative service office, executive branch and judicial branch agencies. The evaluation of the existing system and processes, an enhanced system and modified processes, or a replacement system or systems should consider, at minimum, the following criteria:

- (i) The financial and nonfinancial costs;
 - (ii) Opportunities for enhanced efficiency, including reduced data entry and automation;
 - (iii) Interoperability across executive, legislative and judicial branch systems and processes;
 - (iv) Availability of accessible, transparent information by all users.
- (b) The state auditor may contract for external expertise, issue requests for information and issue requests for proposals to supplement its review.
- (c) The state auditor, office of the governor, state budget department and legislative service office shall jointly submit options, conclusions, recommendations and estimated costs derived from this review to the joint appropriations committee not later than September 1, 2024.
- (d) This section is effective immediately.

[ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER PROJECT ACCOUNT]

Section 322. In accordance with W.S. 9-4-214(a) and 9-4-217(d), the state auditor shall continue the rocky mountain power project account created under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 322. All funds within the account shall be invested by the state treasurer and all investment earnings from the account shall be credited to the account. Any funds deposited to this account shall be continuously appropriated to the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board to provide oversight and distribute funds in accordance with the United States bureau of land management stipulations for this funding.

[LARGE PROJECT ENERGY MATCHING FUNDS]

Section 323.

(a) There is appropriated to the office of the governor one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00) from the legislative stabilization reserve account. Subject to subsections (b) through (f) of this section, this appropriation is to provide matching funds for private or federal funding for large projects for research, demonstration, pilot projects or commercial deployment projects related to Wyoming energy needs, including, but not limited to, carbon capture utilization and storage, carbon dioxide transportation, industrial carbon capture, coal refinery, hydrogen production, transportation, storage, hydrogen hub development, critical minerals, biomass, biochar, hydropower, lithium, processing and separation, battery storage or wind and solar energy. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

(b) Expenditure of funds under this section shall be conditioned upon receipt of matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of appropriated funds under this subsection to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any nonstate source.

(c) The Wyoming energy authority shall administer the application process, review grant submissions and opportunities and recommend qualified funding applications under this section. The governor shall approve all final awards of funds appropriated under this section.

(d) No award shall be granted that would obligate the state to any future financial commitment beyond the amount of the initial award.

(e) For purposes of this section, "large project" means any qualifying energy project **[for]** which **[the state's participation]** is at least fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00). **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(f) **[As a condition of expending this appropriation,]** all proposed expenditures from this appropriation and the purposes and goals of each expenditure shall be reported to the management council of the legislature and the joint appropriations committee prior to the expenditure being made. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

[BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS - SALE AUTHORIZATION
AND DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS]**Section 324.**

(a) There is appropriated to the common school account within the permanent land fund any proceeds resulting from the sale of the Kelly parcel for purposes of the public schools. Proceeds of the sale may be used to acquire private or federal lands in the area commonly called the checkerboard area in southwest Wyoming.

(b) To effectuate the appropriation under subsection (a) of this section, the board of land commissioners shall sell the Kelly parcel to the United States in accordance with the following:

(i) Any conveyance of the Kelly parcel shall be by direct sale for cash for not less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00);

(ii) The board shall, pursuant to a sale under this subsection, deliver to the department of the interior, in a form reasonably acceptable to the department, a document or form of deed conveying title to the Kelly parcel upon receipt of required funds provided by the federal government as consideration for the parcel being sold to the federal government;

(iii) The sale of the Kelly parcel may be divided into multiple transactions, provided that the sale is completed entirely before transfer of title to the Kelly parcel is made;

(iv) The board is authorized to accept funds from another entity on behalf of the United States, provided that the sale and conveyance of the Kelly parcel is only to the United States;

(v) The conditions of the sale [~~shall~~] require that the Kelly parcel [~~shall~~] be leased for livestock grazing and [~~shall~~] be available for public hunting in perpetuity. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

(c) For purposes of this section, “Kelly parcel” means the Kelly parcel on Gros Ventre Road containing six hundred forty (640) acres, more or less, and being more particularly described as: Section 36, Township 43 North, Range 115 West, 6th P.M., Teton County, Wyoming.

(d) As a condition of the sale authorized in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the governor shall first make a determination that the United States Bureau of Land Management’s record of decision for the Rock Springs planning area does not select Alternative B with respect to rights of way proposed Bureau of Land Management actions 6201, 6206, 6209 or 6210 as depicted on Map 2-22 and does not select Alternative B with respect to fluid mineral leasing Bureau of Land Management action 2207, as depicted on Map 2-6.

[RESERVED]

Section 325. [Reserved.]

[ENTERPRISE INFLATION]

Section 326.

(a) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, there is appropriated thirty-three million two hundred ninety-three thousand one hundred fifteen dollars (\$33,293,115.00) to the state auditor to be distributed as directed by the governor as specified in this section to executive branch agencies and the University of Wyoming for enterprise inflation from the funds

specified in this section. The total appropriation in this section is comprised of:

(i) Twenty-eight million six hundred fifty-four thousand seven hundred fifty-one dollars (\$28,654,751.00) from the general fund;

(ii) Two million five hundred sixty-two thousand sixty-eight dollars (\$2,562,068.00) from federal funds;

(iii) Twelve thousand nine hundred fifty-six dollars (\$12,956.00)A4 from the department of health account within the agency fund;

(iv) Four hundred fifteen thousand two hundred forty-nine dollars (\$415,249.00)EF from agency accounts within the enterprise fund;

(v) Eighty thousand seven hundred nineteen dollars (\$80,719.00)IS from agency accounts within the internal services fund;

(vi) Two hundred eighty-two thousand nine hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$282,988.00)PF from the retirement account;

(vii) Four hundred seventy-three thousand twenty-nine dollars (\$473,029.00)S1 from the from water development account I;

(viii) Twenty-four thousand nine hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$24,958.00)S5 from the school foundation program account;

(ix) Two thousand four hundred ninety-two dollars (\$2,492.00)S7 from the highway fund;

(x) Seven hundred eighty-three thousand eight hundred seventy dollars (\$783,870.00)SR from the agency accounts within the special revenue fund;

(xi) Thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)TT from the tobacco settlement trust income account.

(b) Appropriations in subsection (a) of this section are exempt from the limitations on transfer of funds under Section 305 of this act in a total amount not to exceed thirty-three million two hundred ninety-three thousand one hundred fifteen dollars (\$33,293,115.00).

(c) From the appropriations in subsection (a) of this section, four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) from the general fund shall be distributed to the University of Wyoming. All other appropriations in this section are subject to distribution to executive branch agencies as determined by the governor, except that no funds shall be distributed to community colleges.

(d) Except for appropriations in subsection (a) of this section expended in object codes 0240 through 0249, it is the intent of the legislature that these appropriations be included in the standard budgets of all agencies for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(e) The state budget department shall notify the joint appropriations committee of all transfers under this section through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

[HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS]

Section 327.

(a) There is appropriated two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming community college commission for purposes of higher education scholarships. This appropriation shall be distributed by the commission pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1901 through 21-16-1904, 21-16-1905(a)(i) through (iii) and (b) through (d), 21-16-1906 and 21-16-1907. Any scholarships awarded under this section shall be in addition to any scholarships awarded from the Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship expenditure account in accordance with W.S. 21-16-1905(a)(iv).

(b) The commission shall review the lists provided under W.S. 21-16-1905(a)(ii) and determine whether there is any duplication of students qualifying for scholarships under this section and from the Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship expenditure account. For any duplication, the commission shall determine whether the student is attending more than one (1) eligible institution. If the student is attending multiple eligible institutions, payment of a scholarship under this section shall be made only to the institution designated as the home institution by the commission. Payments of scholarships to the University of Wyoming shall be made directly to the university. Payments of scholarships to the community colleges shall be made directly to each college. Should a prepayment under this subsection exceed the amount actually due to the institution for any one (1) semester, the excess amount shall be calculated by the university and the commission and deducted from the next payment made under this section.

(c) No student shall receive a scholarship under this section and under the Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship program.

(d) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds from this appropriation shall not revert except upon further legislative authorization.

[ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AND SECURITY]

Section 328. There is appropriated one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the state treasurer's office to be distributed to each county clerk in accordance with this section for purposes of obtaining an election consultant or attending training, including professional development training on election administration and security. Distributions shall be made on the effective date of this act in equal amounts with each county clerk receiving three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00). From the remainder of the appropriation available for distribution under this section, each county clerk shall receive an amount in the proportion which the population of the county bears to the total state population. For purposes of this distribution, population shall be determined using the last federal census as defined in W.S.

8-1-102(a)(xv). This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose.

[EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION]

Section 329.

(a) There is appropriated nine million one hundred fifty-nine thousand three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$9,159,375.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for salary adjustments of generally funded employees whose salary is not prescribed by law ~~[for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 as specified in this section]. [From this appropriation, the state auditor shall distribute the following amounts:]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

~~[(i) Five million three hundred twenty-six thousand five hundred fifty-five dollars (\$5,326,555.00) for distribution among the executive branch agencies, including statewide elected officials, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the executive branch, including the Wyoming business council, Wyoming energy authority, Wyoming community college commission, and commission on judicial conduct and ethics but not including any agency or entity specified in paragraphs (ii) through (iv) of this subsection;]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

~~[(ii) Two million three hundred thousand five hundred two dollars (\$2,300,502.00) to the University of Wyoming pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the University of Wyoming, the University of Wyoming medical education program, enhanced oil recovery commission and school of energy resources;]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

~~[(iii) One million two hundred eighteen thousand two hundred seventy-one dollars (\$1,218,271.00) to the community college commission to be allocated among the community colleges in proportion to the state funded payroll of each college relative to the total state funded payroll as submitted by the colleges to the state budget department and further distributed within each college pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the community colleges for employees of the community colleges and Wyoming public television;]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

~~[(iv) Three hundred fourteen thousand forty-seven dollars (\$314,047.00) to the supreme court to be further distributed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the employees of the supreme court;~~

~~district courts and circuit courts and related subdivisions.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]~~

~~(b) [Funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section shall be distributed to employees of entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (iv) of this section with the highest priority to alleviate wage compression for employees with more than five (5) years of employment service with the state by increasing the salary of these employees to one hundred percent (100%) of comparable market pay in accordance with occupational market analysis conducted by the department of administration and information. Any remaining funds may be distributed as determined by the specified recipient entities.] [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]~~

(c) For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is paid from nongeneral fund sources, to the extent funds are available, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds amounts necessary to provide payment of comparable salary increases and employer paid benefits as that which is distributed to employees ~~[of entities]~~ specified in paragraph[s] (a) ~~[(i) through (iv)]~~ of this section and subject to the same distribution methodology that is applied ~~[by the entities specified]~~ in ~~[paragraphs (a)(i) through (iv) of]~~ this section~~[, respectively]~~. For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is partially funded by general funds, general funds shall be expended for compensation increases in the same proportion as the employee's budgeted salary is paid by state general funds. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

~~[(d) In accordance with Section 310 of this act,]~~ it is the intent of the legislature that the total appropriation in subsection (a) of this section to each recipient agency be doubled and included as a cumulative total of the sum of the amounts within each of the recipient agencies' standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

~~[EXECUTIVE BRANCH POSITION SAVINGS AND FUNDS DEPOSIT]~~

Section 330:

~~(a) Of the unfilled full-time positions for the executive branch authorized in this act and of executive branch vacant positions as of June 30, 2024, the governor shall identify twenty-four (24) full-time positions that, if eliminated or unfilled, would generate not less than two million one hundred eight thousand one hundred twelve dollars (\$2,108,112.00) of annual savings, using the ratio of one (1) full-time position to eighty-seven~~

~~thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$87,838.00) of annual savings.~~

~~(b) Not later than October 1, 2024, the governor shall report to the joint appropriations committee on the positions identified in subsection (a) of this section as positions for which associated general funds and other funds will be deposited in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.~~

~~(c) Not later than November 1, 2024, all general fund savings identified under this section shall be deposited by the state auditor in the general fund; and all other fund savings generated from this section shall be deposited by the state auditor into the account from which the funds would have been expended for the position.~~

~~(d) This section is effective immediately.]~~

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[K-12 SCHOOL [~~DISTRICT~~] MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE GRANTS]

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

Section 331.

(a) There is appropriated ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) from the school foundation program account to the department of education to establish a grant program, based upon a school [~~district~~]'s average daily membership (ADM) for school year 2024-2025 and school year 2025-2026, to augment amounts within the education resource block grant model available [~~to districts~~] to address the mental health needs of the K-12 student population as provided in this section. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

(b) Each [~~district~~] receiving a grant under this section shall report to the department of education the expenditure of amounts awarded under this section, the number of students that received services as a result of the grant and the impact of the services offered as provided by the department. [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

(c) The department of education shall promulgate rules necessary to carry out this section.

(d) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriation in this section not be included in the department of education's standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.

(e) This section is effective immediately.

[CHARTER SCHOOL IN WESTERN WYOMING]

Section 332. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on or after the

effective date of this act, one (1) charter school may be authorized in the western half of Wyoming by the Wyoming charter school authorizing board. This charter school shall be in ~~[addition to]~~ the four (4) charter schools authorized pursuant to 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 179, Section 4. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

[BUDGET BALANCERS – TRANSFERS II]

Section 333.

(a) 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 300(b) is amended to read:

(b) Any unappropriated funds in the budget reserve account on June 30, 2024 in excess of ~~one hundred fifteen million two hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$115,270,000.00)~~ three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000.00) shall be transferred to the legislative stabilization reserve account.

(b) This section is effective immediately.

[BUDGET BALANCERS – TRANSFERS III]

Section 334. The state auditor shall transfer one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00), or as much thereof as is necessary, from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the budget reserve account to ensure the unobligated, unencumbered fund balance of the budget reserve account on June 30, 2026 is not less than one hundred fifty-two million five hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$152,555,000.00).

[WYOMING STATE HOSPITAL DEMOLITION ACCOUNT –
AUTHORIZATION]

Section 335. From any unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the Wyoming state hospital demolition account for purposes of the demolition and abatement of unused or abandoned facilities on the campus of the Wyoming state hospital under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 5(a)(i), Section 027, footnote 3, up to three million four hundred twenty-nine thousand five hundred seventy-four dollars (\$3,429,574.00), or as much thereof as is available, is hereby reappropriated to the department of health for purposes of demolition of two (2) storage buildings and replacement of a storage building.

[RIVERTON STATE OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION -
AUTHORIZATION]

Section 336. Any unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the state construction department for purposes of the Riverton State Office under 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 187, Section 5(a)(i), Section 027 is hereby reappropriated to the state construction department for

purposes of the Riverton state office building renovation project.

[REVERSION - JACKSON OUTREACH CENTER CAPITAL
CONSTRUCTION]

Section 337. From any unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the strategic investments and projects account for the central Wyoming college Jackson outreach center under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 49, Section 4(a)(i), Section 027, ten million three hundred thirty-five thousand four hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$10,335,478.00)\$13, or as much thereof as is available, is hereby reverted to the strategic investments and projects account. This section is effective immediately.

[GILLETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT PROPERTY
TRANSFER I]

Section 338. The Gillette community college district is authorized to acquire or accept from the city of Gillette the transfer of ownership of five (5) facilities totaling approximately seventy-eight thousand six hundred fifty-three (78,653) square feet consisting of the carter health science center, tanner village 1, tanner village 2, tanner village 3 and inspiration hall. To the extent these facilities qualify, are owned by the Gillette community college district and the community college qualifies for funding in accordance with W.S. 21-18-205, the square footage of the acquired or transferred facilities shall be included within the computation of major maintenance budget requests submitted in accordance with W.S. 21-18-225.

[GILLETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT PROPERTY
TRANSFER II]

Section 339. The Gillette community college district is authorized to acquire or accept from the northern Wyoming community college district the transfer of ownership of six (6) facilities totaling approximately two hundred twelve thousand seven hundred ninety-eight (212,798) square feet consisting of technical education center A, technical education center B, pronghorn center, tanner village 4, high plains grill and Gillette college agricultural complex. To the extent these facilities qualify, are owned by the Gillette community college district and the community college qualifies for funding in accordance with W.S. 21-18-205, the square footage of the acquired or transferred facilities shall be included within the computation of major maintenance budget requests submitted in accordance with W.S. 21-18-225.

~~[[RECREATION CENTER CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANT]~~

Section 340:

~~(a) There is appropriated two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) from the strategic investments and projects account to the office of state lands and investments for purposes of providing a grant to the~~

~~city of Riverton for a recreation center for sports activities that shall serve all of Fremont county, subject to the following conditions:~~

~~(i) The city of Riverton shall secure matching funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of grant funds to not less than one dollar (\$1.00) from any other source;~~

~~(ii) No grant funds shall be awarded unless the city of Riverton has secured matching funds for the entire cost of the project;~~

~~(iii) This appropriation shall lapse and revert if matching funds are not secured within twenty-four (24) months after the effective date of this section;~~

~~(iv) The city of Riverton shall provide oversight and management of the expenditure of grant funds and shall hold ownership of the recreation center.]~~

[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

[AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – REAPPROPRIATION AND
APPROPRIATION]

Section 341.

(a) On and after April 1, 2024, the governor may identify and revert any unexpended, unobligated funds appropriated in 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 50, Section 2, Section 400, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 188, Section 2, and 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 188, Section 3, Section 401 and any other ARPD funds that are not fully committed or obligated in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, and any applicable rules, regulations or guidance. Funds identified by the governor under this subsection shall revert to the office of the governor and are appropriated to the governor for purposes of this section.

(b) On and after April 1, 2024, funds reverted under this section and any unappropriated ARPD funds are hereby reappropriated and appropriated to the office of the governor and shall be expended for purposes of programs and projects eligible for expenditure with ARPD funds, subject to subsection (c) of this section.

~~[(c) Of the funds reappropriated under this section, two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) ARPD shall first be allocated to the town of Wheatland for the Wheatland tank replacement project under W.S. 99-3-2904(o), as created by 2024 Senate File 0075 if enacted into law, to the extent that this project is eligible for ARPD funds. Funding under this subsection shall be given priority over other eligible projects and programs, to the extent the project provided under this subsection is eligible for ARPD funds.]~~ [BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]

(d) There is appropriated such amounts as may be necessary from section 602(c)(1)(C) of Title VI of the federal Social Security Act, as created by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, specifically expended for the provision of generally funded government services in this act to the extent of the reduction in revenue under section 602(c)(1)(C). Expenditures authorized under this subsection shall be approved by the governor and reported to the joint appropriations committee through the B-11 process as authorized by W.S. 9-2-1005(b)(ii) and reported pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1013(b).

(e) It is the intent of the legislature that the appropriations and reappropriations in this section not be included in any standard budget for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(f) No expenditure of funds shall be made under this section except in accordance with state and federal law, regulations and orders.

(g) The governor shall implement reporting requirements on the recipient of any grant, distribution or aid authorized under this section sufficient to comply with all federal reporting requirements.

(h) The governor is authorized to establish by order or rule emergency programs for which funds are appropriated in this section that are consistent with the terms of the American Rescue Plan Act and that do not obligate the state to make any expenditures of state funds not appropriated by the legislature. Any emergency program created under the authority granted in this subsection shall expire on December 31, 2026 unless expressly continued by action of the legislature.

(j) Funds reappropriated and appropriated under this section shall be obligated not later than December 31, 2024 in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act and any applicable rules or guidance, unless a later date is specified by federal law, rule or guidance.

(k) The governor shall report to the joint appropriations committee on a monthly basis on all of the following:

(i) The aggregate allocation of funds appropriated in this section, by program;

(ii) Program expenditures;

(iii) Grant awards;

(iv) Grant expenditures.

(m) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify or impair any existing contract or obligation of the state that is executed or incurred on or before the effective date of this section.

(n) It is the intent of the legislature that this section be given precedence and prevail over 2024 Senate File 0132, if enacted into law.

[WYOMING SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR MONUMENT]

Section 342. There is appropriated seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) from the general fund to the department of state parks and cultural resources for repair and installation of the Wyoming Spanish-American War monument. ~~[This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation not be included in the standard budget of the department of state parks and cultural resources for the immediately succeeding fiscal biennium.]~~ Of this appropriation, thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$37,500.00) is effective immediately. **[BRACKETED LANGUAGE SHOWN IN BOLD AND AS STRICKEN WAS VETOED BY GOVERNOR MARCH 22, 2024.]**

[STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT LANDS – FIRE SUPPRESSION]

Section 343.

(a) The governor is hereby authorized to reimburse the costs of suppressing fires burning on or that burned on, or originating on or that originated on, any state lands managed by the military department in accordance with this section.

(b) No reimbursement shall be made under this section except upon the written approval of the state forester. The governor and the state forester may consult with the adjutant general as necessary to implement this section.

(c) The governor shall, for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026, reimburse fire suppression costs under this section in accordance with all of the following:

(i) The governor shall reimburse costs from the fire protection revolving account created by W.S. 36-2-109;

(ii) If insufficient funds are available in the fire protection revolving account for reimbursement, the governor may reimburse costs from the amount appropriated to the governor for public welfare emergencies under W.S. 9-2-1014.3;

(iii) If insufficient funds are available in the fire protection revolving account and from the appropriation for public welfare emergencies under W.S. 9-2-1014.3 for reimbursement, the governor may borrow funds from the legislative stabilization reserve account in an amount not to exceed twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00);

(iv) No entity receiving a reimbursement for fire costs under another provision of law or from another source of funds shall receive a reimbursement under this section.

(d) Reimbursements under this section shall be made only for the purposes specified in this section and shall not exceed the actual costs of suppressing fires as specified in this section.

[STATE SHOOTING COMPLEX OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE
CONSULTANTS]

Section 344. Notwithstanding 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(b), and subject to the approval of the management council, of the funds appropriated in 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 146, Section 3(a), up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) may be expended by the state shooting complex oversight task force to hire consultants to assist with the complex site selection, layout and design to meet the objectives of the Wyoming state shooting complex to be a world class facility that helps drive enhanced economic development for the local community and the state.

[REPEALED SECTIONS]

Section 399.

(a) 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 067, as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 067, and 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 048 footnote 13 and Section 327 are repealed.

(b) Funds deappropriated as a result of the appropriations repealed in subsection (a) of this section shall be credited to the account from which they were appropriated and shall not be transferred into the budget reserve account under W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207.

(c) This section is effective immediately.

[EFFECTIVE DATE]

Section 400.

(a) As used in this act, “effective immediately” means effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution. Any appropriation contained in this act that is effective immediately shall not lapse until June 30, 2026, unless otherwise specified.

(b) Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective July 1, 2024.

Approved March 22, 2024.

INDEX

(Catch Title)

(Chapter No.)

Administration of the Government

Broadband development subaccount-amendments.	5
Cold case database and investigations.	86
Financial reporting amendments-2.	48
General government appropriations.	118
Health insurance for volunteer emergency responders.	62
Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.	72
Investment of state unemployment insurance trust fund.	45
Judicial retirement program-contributions.	46
Law enforcement retirement-contributions.	96
Natural Resource Protection Act.	69
Patrol, warden and investigator retirement-contributions.	47
Peace officers-records and reporting.	41
Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act.	116
Public officer training-amendments.	33
Public retirement-actuarially determined contributions.	60
Revisor's bill.	82
Sage grouse implementation-notice to landowners.	61
State employee leave for volunteer emergency services.	18
State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.	87
State-managed local government equity investment pool.	83
Wyoming Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.	115

Agriculture/Livestock/Other Animals

Animal reimbursement program account amendments-2.	65
Bighorn and domestic sheep relocation-federal action.	105
Hemp-limitations on psychoactive substances.	56
Meat processing plants-hides and carcasses.	55
Pari-mutuel wagering activities-amendments.	104
Public retirement-actuarially determined contributions.	60
State fair board-powers and responsibilities.	77
Wyoming dairy marketing act-repeal.	26

Alcoholic Beverages

Malt beverage franchise agreements.	54
--	----

Appropriations

2024 large project funding.	51
Banking division-classification and salary exemptions.	100
Bighorn and domestic sheep relocation-federal action.	105
Cold case database and investigations.	86
Developmental preschool funding.	95

Education savings accounts-1.....	108
Forensic genetic genealogy pilot program.	85
General government appropriations.....	118
Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.	72
Hospice care reimbursements.....	103
Judicial retirement program-contributions.	46
Law enforcement retirement-contributions.	96
Legislative budget.	59
Local government distributions.	38
Mining operations-blasting requirements.	23
Omnibus water bill-construction.....	99
Omnibus water bill-planning.	98
Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration-2.....	42
Patrol, warden and investigator retirement-contributions.	47
Property tax refund program.....	109
Public service commission-integrated resource plans.	97
Public utilities-energy resource procurement.	76
School safety and security-funding.....	117
Sixth judicial district-number of judges.....	79
Solid waste municipal cease and transfer funding.....	32
State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.	87
Veterans ad valorem exemption-amount.	101
Wyoming adult hearing aid program.	94

Banks/Banking/Finance

Banking division-classification and salary exemptions.....	100
Open banking-amendments.	63
Trusts and bank assets in bankruptcy-clarification.	80

Children

Indian child welfare act-delinquency amendments.....	52
Indian child welfare act-safe haven amendments.	57
Newborn child safe havens-age of child.....	112
Protection of parental rights.	110

Cities and Towns

Firefighter-cancer screening benefits.....	17
Rehiring retired firefighters-continued retirement benefits.	1

City/County/State/Local Powers

Contractor licenses-reciprocal recognition requirements.	71
Peace officers-records and reporting.	41
Public records-DOC investigations.	88

Civil Procedure

Hospital or healthcare district created entities-immunity.43

Minor name changes.....91

Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act.116

Wyoming Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.....115

Corporations/Partnerships/Associations

Unincorporated nonprofit DAO's.....50

Counties

Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.72

Special districts bond elections exception.....93

Courts

Chancery court-timeline for resolution of disputes.8

Sixth judicial district-number of judges.....79

Crimes and Offenses

Concealed firearms-permit eligibility.114

Influencing jurors and witnesses-judges amendment.15

Criminal Procedure

Revisor's bill.....82

Sex offender registration-registerable offenses.102

Wyoming Stable Token Act-amendments.92

Defense Forces and Affairs

Acceptance of retrocession-federal military installations.....2

Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.72

Revisor's bill.....82

Domestic Relations

Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.90

Education

Charter school leasing.11

Developmental preschool funding.....95

Education savings accounts-1.....108

General government appropriations.....118

Parental rights in education-1.34

Protection of parental rights.110

Public retirement-actuarially determined contributions.60

School district trustee oath of office.7

School finance-regional cost adjustment study.66

School safety and security-funding.....	117
---	-----

Elections

Special district vacancies.	81
Special districts-reversal of dissolution for noncompliance.	89

General Provisions

Wyoming Reads Day.....	28
------------------------	----

Highways

Light and high profile vehicle closures-2.	78
---	----

Insurance Code

Health insurance-reimbursement of overpayments.	30
Organ transplant recipient protection.	27
Prior authorization regulations.	19
Prompt payment of insurance claims.	73

Labor and Employment

Federal unemployment compensation trust fund-adjustment.	44
Firefighter-cancer screening benefits.....	17
Investment of state unemployment insurance trust fund.	45
Worker's compensation-provision for adverse deviation.....	6

Legislature

Legislative budget.	59
Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration-2.....	42
Revisor's bill.....	82

Liens

Vehicle lien-amendments.....	37
------------------------------	----

Motor Vehicles

Commercial driver license-hazardous materials endorsement.....	21
Revisor's bill.....	82
Vehicle registration e-certificate and grace period.	20

Noncodified Statutes Water

Omnibus water bill-construction.....	99
--------------------------------------	----

Professions and Occupations

Children gender change prohibition.	113
Nursing home administrators-temporary licenses.	111

Property/Conveyances and Security Transactions

Child care is a residential use of property.84

Plane coordinates system-amendments.3

Revisor’s bill.....82

State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.87

Trusts and bank assets in bankruptcy-clarification.80

Public Health and Safety

Abandoned mine reclamation accounts.....4

Behavioral health redesign amendments-2.....35

Behavioral health redesign-vulnerable adults.36

Children gender change prohibition.113

DFS and law enforcement-cross reporting.9

Emergency protective services-effective period.....10

Fire prevention and electrical safety-amendments.....39

Firefighter-cancer screening benefits.....17

Flow-through pools-exemption.25

Geologic sequestration-unitization amendments.....31

Hemp-limitations on psychoactive substances.56

Limitation on environmental rulemaking.22

Mining operations-blasting requirements.23

Public health nursing-budget requests.....29

Revisor’s bill.....82

Solid waste management-definition amendments.....74

Vulnerable adults-civil cause of action-2.53

Wyoming adult hearing aid program.94

Public Lands

Grace period-state land lease renewals.13

Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration-2.....42

Revisor’s bill.....82

State forestry good neighbor-positions.68

State land lease amendments.14

State land oil and gas leases-operator requirement.....64

Sutton state archaeological site-legal description.....12

Public Utilities

Electricity rates for costs that do not benefit Wyoming.....70

Low-carbon reliable energy standards-amendments.75

Public service commission-electricity reliability.....58

Public service commission-integrated resource plans.97

Public utilities-energy resource procurement.76

Public utilities-net power cost sharing ratio.16

Taxation and Revenue

Fuel tax-licensee information deadline.40

General government appropriations.....118

Property tax exemption for long-term homeowners.....106

Property tax exemption-residential structures and land.107

Property tax refund program.....109

Sales tax administration revisions.67

Veterans ad valorem exemption-amount.101

Trade and Commerce

Wyoming Stable Token Act-amendments.92

Water

Omnibus water bill-planning.98

Special districts bond elections exception.....93

State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.87

Water exchange amendments.49

Welfare

Medicaid-third party payor conditions.24

CROSS REFERENCE

HB/SF	CHAPTER	
HB0001	118	General government appropriations.
HB0003	106	Property tax exemption for long-term homeowners.
HB0004	109	Property tax refund program.
HB0008	21	Commercial driver license-hazardous materials endorsement.
HB0009	40	Fuel tax-licensee information deadline.
HB0010	13	Grace period-state land lease renewals.
HB0011	14	State land lease amendments.
HB0012	26	Wyoming dairy marketing act-repeal.
HB0013	25	Flow-through pools-exemption.
HB0014	19	Prior authorization regulations.
HB0015	30	Health insurance-reimbursement of overpayments.
HB0016	12	Sutton state archaeological site-legal description.
HB0020	66	School finance-regional cost adjustment study.
HB0021	11	Charter school leasing.
HB0023	20	Vehicle registration e-certificate and grace period.
HB0025	24	Medicaid-third party payor conditions.
HB0026	10	Emergency protective services-effective period.
HB0027	9	DFS and law enforcement-cross reporting.
HB0029	86	Cold case database and investigations.
HB0031	41	Peace officers-records and reporting.
HB0032	31	Geologic sequestration-unitization amendments.
HB0033	23	Mining operations-blasting requirements.
HB0034	32	Solid waste municipal cease and transfer funding.
HB0035	22	Limitation on environmental rulemaking.
HB0036	69	Natural Resource Protection Act.
HB0040	7	School district trustee oath of office.
HB0043	68	State forestry good neighbor-positions.
HB0045	107	Property tax exemption-residential structures and land.
HB0046	8	Chancery court-timeline for resolution of disputes.
HB0054	28	Wyoming Reads Day.
HB0058	85	Forensic genetic genealogy pilot program.
HB0064	39	Fire prevention and electrical safety-amendments.
HB0066	17	Firefighter-cancer screening benefits.
HB0067	42	Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration-2.
HB0070	38	Local government distributions.
HB0071	5	Broadband development subaccount-amendments.
HB0072	6	Worker's compensation-provision for adverse deviation.
HB0073	4	Abandoned mine reclamation accounts.
HB0074	29	Public health nursing-budget requests.
HB0081	33	Public officer training-amendments.
HB0083	60	Public retirement-actuarially determined contributions.

HB0086	37	Vehicle lien-amendments.
HB0090	112	Newborn child safe havens-age of child.
HB0092	110	Protection of parental rights.
HB0093	65	Animal reimbursement program account amendments-2.
HB0104	98	Omnibus water bill-planning.
HB0116	61	Sage grouse implementation-notice to landowners.
HB0126	84	Child care is a residential use of property.
HB0138	87	State funds-pool A participation and fund limits.
HB0141	64	State land oil and gas leases-operator requirement.
HB0145	63	Open banking-amendments.
HB0166	108	Education savings accounts-1.
HB0197	67	Sales tax administration revisions.
SF0002	59	Legislative budget.
SF0003	18	State employee leave for volunteer emergency services.
SF0004	1	Rehiring retired firefighters-continued retirement benefits.
SF0005	27	Organ transplant recipient protection.
SF0006	111	Nursing home administrators-temporary licenses.
SF0007	36	Behavioral health redesign-vulnerable adults.
SF0008	62	Health insurance for volunteer emergency responders.
SF0009	34	Parental rights in education-1.
SF0012	55	Meat processing plants-hides and carcasses.
SF0014	77	State fair board-powers and responsibilities.
SF0015	2	Acceptance of retrocession-federal military installations.
SF0017	3	Plane coordinates system-amendments.
SF0018	57	Indian child welfare act-safe haven amendments.
SF0019	95	Developmental preschool funding.
SF0020	70	Electricity rates for costs that do not benefit Wyoming.
SF0021	16	Public utilities-net power cost sharing ratio.
SF0022	58	Public service commission-electricity reliability.
SF0023	76	Public utilities-energy resource procurement.
SF0024	97	Public service commission-integrated resource plans.
SF0026	81	Special district vacancies.
SF0027	93	Special districts bond elections exception.
SF0030	15	Influencing jurors and witnesses-judges amendment.
SF0032	56	Hemp-limitations on psychoactive substances.
SF0034	102	Sex offender registration-registerable offenses.
SF0035	88	Public records-DOC investigations.
SF0036	90	Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.
SF0037	52	Indian child welfare act-delinquency amendments.
SF0038	48	Financial reporting amendments-2.

SF0041	100	Banking division-classification and salary exemptions.
SF0042	75	Low-carbon reliable energy standards-amendments.
SF0045	53	Vulnerable adults-civil cause of action-2.
SF0047	96	Law enforcement retirement-contributions.
SF0048	47	Patrol, warden and investigator retirement-contributions.
SF0049	46	Judicial retirement program-contributions.
SF0050	50	Unincorporated nonprofit DAO's.
SF0052	92	Wyoming Stable Token Act-amendments.
SF0053	79	Sixth judicial district-number of judges.
SF0057	94	Wyoming adult hearing aid program.
SF0058	45	Investment of state unemployment insurance trust fund.
SF0059	44	Federal unemployment compensation trust fund-adjustment.
SF0060	51	2024 large project funding.
SF0066	49	Water exchange amendments.
SF0069	103	Hospice care reimbursements.
SF0073	114	Concealed firearms-permit eligibility.
SF0074	89	Special districts-reversal of dissolution for non compliance.
SF0075	99	Omnibus water bill-construction.
SF0077	72	Homeland defense-infrastructure reporting and investigating.
SF0079	54	Malt beverage franchise agreements.
SF0080	74	Solid waste management-definition amendments.
SF0081	43	Hospital or healthcare district created entities-immunity.
SF0083	82	Revisor's bill.
SF0086	117	School safety and security-funding.
SF0089	101	Veterans ad valorem exemption-amount.
SF0090	83	State-managed local government equity investment pool.
SF0096	80	Trusts and bank assets in bankruptcy-clarification.
SF0099	113	Children gender change prohibition.
SF0100	73	Prompt payment of insurance claims.
SF0105	115	Wyoming Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act.
SF0109	116	Prohibit Red Flag Gun Seizure Act.
SF0113	78	Light and high profile vehicle closures-2.
SF0114	71	Contractor licenses-reciprocal recognition requirements.
SF0115	35	Behavioral health redesign amendments-2.
SF0118	105	Bighorn and domestic sheep relocation-federal action.
SF0123	91	Minor name changes.
SF0125	104	Pari-mutuel wagering activities-amendments.

TABLE OF LAWS CREATED

WYOMING STATUTES	HB/SF	Chapter No.
1-39-122	SF0105	115
1-39-122	SF0109	116
7-19-106(a)(xli)	SF0052	92
7-19-201(a)(xxxv)	SF0052	92
8-4-117	HB0054	28
9-1-419	SF0090	83
9-1-507(j)(ii) and (iv)	SF0038	48
9-1-618(b)(vi) and (vii)	SF0077	72
9-1-624(a)(vii)	HB0029	86
9-1-704(m)	HB0031	41
9-1-708(h)	HB0031	41
9-1-710(o)	HB0031	41
9-3-107	SF0003	18
9-3-220	SF0008	62
9-3-413.1	HB0083	60
9-3-432(j)(iv)	SF0047	96
9-4-601(o)	HB0001	118
9-4-715(p)(xvi)	SF0058	45
9-4-831(a)(xxviii)	SF0090	83
9-14-301 through 9-14-303	HB0036	69
9-14-301 through 9-14-304	SF0105	115
9-14-301 through 9-14-303	SF0109	116
9-19-101(h)	HB0116	61
11-10-102(c)(viii) and (ix)	SF0014	77
11-19-602(b)(vii)	SF0118	105
11-19-605	SF0118	105
11-23-102(c)	SF0012	55
11-51-101(a)(viii)	SF0032	56
11-51-103(f)	SF0032	56
11-51-104(e)	SF0032	56
12-9-120	SF0079	54
13-1-206	SF0096	80
13-1-603(g)	SF0041	100
13-1-801(a)(iv)	HB0145	63

14-2-206(c)	HB0092	110
14-11-105(d)	SF0018	57
15-5-204(j)	SF0004	1
15-5-423	SF0004	1
16-6-1101	SF0114	71
17-32-101 through 17-32-129	SF0050	50
18-3-402(a)(xxvi)	SF0077	72
19-7-301(g)	SF0015	2
19-13-104(d)(vi)	SF0077	72
19-13-501 and 19-13-502	SF0077	72
20-8-101 through 20-8-112	SF0036	90
21-2-706(g)	SF0019	95
21-2-901 through 21-2-909	HB0166	108
21-3-110(a)(xlii)	SF0009	34
21-3-110(a)(xlii)	HB0092	110
21-3-135	SF0009	34
21-3-135	SF0086	117
21-4-102(d)	HB0166	108
22-29-401(c)	SF0074	89
24-1-109(d)	SF0113	78
26-15-137	HB0015	30
26-20-801(a)(iv)	SF0005	27
26-20-803(a)(v) and (vi)	SF0005	27
26-52-201 through 26-52-203	SF0100	73
26-55-101 through 26-55-113	HB0014	19
27-3-209(d)	SF0058	45
27-14-201(e)(viii)	HB0072	6
27-14-901 and 27-14-902	HB0066	17
28-11-401(b)(iv), (v) and (d)(iii)	HB0067	42
29-7-102(e)(iv)	HB0086	37
33-21-146(a)(xiii)	SF0099	113
33-22-111	SF0006	111
33-24-122(a)(xi)	SF0099	113
33-26-402(a)(xxxvi)	SF0099	113
34-1-501	HB0126	84
34-25-109	SF0017	3
34-29-104(p) through (r)	SF0096	80
35-1-243(f)	HB0074	29

35-4-1001	SF0099	113
35-11-103(d)(i)(D), (ii)(H), (xii) and (xiii)	SF0080	74
35-11-112(h)	HB0035	22
35-11-314(b)(ii) and (iii)	HB0032	31
35-11-315(a)(x)	HB0032	31
35-11-316(m)	HB0032	31
35-11-401(e)(vi)(G) and (k)(vii)	HB0033	23
35-11-402(d)	HB0033	23
35-11-406(b)(xxi)	HB0033	23
35-11-415(b)(xiii)	HB0033	23
35-11-1211	HB0073	4
35-20-117	SF0045	53
35-25-601 through 35-25-603	SF0057	94
35-28-101(a)(xv)	HB0013	25
35-28-111	HB0013	25
36-4-202(a)(i) through (vi)	HB0067	42
36-4-204 through 36-4-206	HB0067	42
36-5-104(c)	HB0010	13
36-5-118	HB0011	14
36-6-101(p)	HB0141	64
37-2-135	SF0023	76
37-2-135	SF0024	97
37-3-119	SF0020	70
37-18-102(a)(v)(D), (vi) and (f)	SF0022	58
39-11-105(a)(xliii)	HB0003	106
39-11-105(a)(xliii) and (xliv)	HB0045	107
39-13-109(c)(v)(G)	HB0004	109
39-14-801(m)	HB0001	118
40-31-110	SF0052	92
99-3-1903(k)(viii)(H)	SF0075	99
99-3-2901 through 99-3-2904	SF0075	99

TABLE OF LAWS AMENDED

WYOMING STATUTE	HB/SF	Chapter No.
1-25-103	SF0123	91
1-39-103(a)(ii)	SF0081	43
1-39-104(a)	SF0105	115
1-39-104(a)	SF0109	116
5-3-102(a)	SF0053	79
5-13-104(h)	HB0046	8
6-5-305(a)	SF0030	15
6-8-104(b)(v)(B)	SF0073	114
7-4-204	SF0083	82
7-19-302(g) through (j)	SF0034	102
9-1-510(a)(intro)	HB0081	33
9-1-510(b)	SF0038	48
9-1-624(b)	HB0029	86
9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV)	HB0083	60
9-3-203(a)(iv) and (xvii)	SF0008	62
9-3-207(b)	SF0008	62
9-3-210(a)	SF0008	62
9-3-211(a)	SF0008	62
9-3-402(a)(i)(A) and (xvi)	HB0083	60
9-3-412(a), (b), (c)(intro), (ii) and (iv)	HB0083	60
9-3-412(a)	SF0083	82
9-3-413	HB0083	60
9-3-413	SF0083	82
9-3-414	HB0083	60
9-3-432(a) and (b)	SF0047	96
9-3-604(a) and (c)(ii)	SF0048	47
9-3-704(a) and (c)	SF0049	46
9-3-704(c)	HB0083	60
9-4-601(d)(intro), (vi) and (vii)	HB0001	118
9-4-715(p)(intro) and (ix)	HB0138	87
9-4-719(b)(i)	SF0083	82
9-12-1404(a)(ii)	HB0071	5
11-10-102(b) and (c)(vii)	SF0014	77
11-10-115(a)(x)	SF0014	77
11-19-118(d)	HB0093	65
11-19-603	SF0118	105

11-20-201(b)	HB0083	60
11-23-105	SF0012	55
11-23-203	SF0012	55
11-25-104(e) and (f)	SF0125	104
11-51-101(a)(iii), (vi) and (vii)	SF0032	56
11-51-102(b)	SF0032	56
11-51-104(a)(intro), (iii), (b) and (d)	SF0032	56
12-9-104(a)(iv)	SF0079	54
12-9-105(a)(intro)	SF0079	54
12-9-118(a) and (e)	SF0079	54
13-1-802(b)	HB0145	63
13-5-417(f)	SF0096	80
14-11-102(a)(vi)	HB0090	112
14-11-103(d)	SF0018	57
15-1-119(a)	SF0083	82
15-5-201(a)(iii)	HB0066	17
16-4-203(b)(i)	SF0035	88
16-4-203(d)(iii)	HB0031	41
18-12-120	SF0027	93
19-7-301(a)	SF0015	2
19-7-301(a)	SF0083	82
21-2-705(c)(i) and (iii)	SF0019	95
21-2-706(b), (d)(intro) and (e)	SF0019	95
21-3-106	HB0040	7
21-3-314(c)(v)	HB0083	60
21-4-301	HB0166	108
21-13-310(a)(ix)	HB0166	108
21-13-320(f)	HB0083	60
21-13-321(d)	HB0083	60
22-29-103(b)	SF0026	81
22-29-103(b)	SF0074	89
22-29-202(c)	SF0026	81
22-29-401(b)	SF0074	89
24-1-109(a)	SF0113	78
26-15-124(a)	SF0100	73
26-20-803(a)(i) through (iii)	SF0005	27
27-3-209(b) and (c)	SF0058	45
27-3-505(a)	SF0059	44
27-14-102(a)(xxvii)	HB0066	17

27-14-201(e)(i)(F) and (vii)(A)	HB0072	6
27-15-102(b)(ii)	HB0066	17
28-11-401(c)(intro) and (i)	HB0067	42
28-11-701(b)(ii)	SF0083	82
31-2-204(a)	HB0023	20
31-2-231(b)(intro)	SF0083	82
31-4-101(a)(ii)	HB0023	20
31-7-304(a)(ii)(A)	HB0008	21
33-21-146(a)(xi) and (xii)	SF0099	113
33-22-108(a)(i)	SF0006	111
33-22-110	SF0006	111
33-24-122(a)(intro) and (ix)	SF0099	113
34-24-102(a)(xii)	SF0083	82
34-24-124(c)	HB0138	87
34-25-101(a)	SF0017	3
34-25-102	SF0017	3
34-52-103	SF0017	3
34-52-105 through 34-52-108	SF0017	3
34-29-104(a) and (d)(intro)	SF0096	80
35-1-613(a)(xix)	SF0115	35
35-1-613(a)(xv)	SF0007	36
35-7-1014(d)(xxi)	SF0032	56
35-7-1063(b)	SF0032	56
35-9-120(f)	HB0064	39
35-9-121(a)(iv) and (b)(iii)	HB0064	39
35-9-129(b)	HB0064	39
35-11-103(d)(i)(intro), (B), (ii)(intro) and (F)	SF0080	74
35-11-112(a)(i) and (g)	HB0035	22
35-11-313(f)(ii)(F)	HB0032	31
35-11-314(a)	HB0032	31
35-11-315(a)(i) through (iii) and (v) through (ix)	HB0032	31
35-11-316(b)(iii) through (vii), (g) and (k)	HB0032	31
35-11-316(c)	SF0083	82
35-11-401(j)	HB0033	23
35-17-106(a)(viii)	HB0066	17
35-20-103(d)	HB0027	9
35-20-107(c)	HB0026	10
36-1-503(b)	HB0043	68
36-4-203	HB0067	42

36-5-103	HB0011	14
36-6-301(a)(i)	SF0083	82
36-8-1501(c)(iii)	HB0016	12
37-2-121	SF0021	16
37-18-101(a)(iii)	SF0042	75
37-18-102(a)(i) through (iv), (v)(A), (c)(iii) and (e)	SF0042	75
37-18-102(a)(v)(A)	SF0022	58
39-13-103(b)(viii)	HB0045	107
39-13-105(b)	SF0089	101
39-13-107(b)(i)(C)	HB0045	107
39-13-109(c)(v)(B)(intro), (C), (vi)(A), (C) and (E)	HB0004	109
39-14-801(d)(intro)	HB0001	118
39-15-101(a)(xv)	HB0197	67
39-15-103(a)(i)(H)	HB0197	67
39-15-105(a)(iii)(E), (iv)(E) and (viii)(O)(intro)	HB0197	67
39-15-106(a)	HB0197	67
39-15-107(b)(i) and (xi)	HB0197	67
39-15-109(c)(i)	HB0197	67
39-15-204(a)(v)	HB0197	67
39-15-501(a)(intro) and (i)	HB0197	67
39-17-107(c)(ii)	HB0009	40
39-17-207(c)(ii)	HB0009	40
39-17-307(c)(ii)	HB0009	40
40-31-102(a)(x)	SF0052	92
40-31-105(c)(i), (iii) and (e)	SF0052	92
40-31-106(a)	SF0052	92
41-2-124(f)	HB0138	87
41-3-106(a), (d) and (e)	SF0066	49
41-10-128	SF0027	93
42-4-103(a)(xxv)	SF0069	103
42-4-204(e)(iii) and (iv)(intro)	HB0025	24
99-3-1903(g)(vii) and (k)(iii) through (vi)	SF0075	99
99-3-2103(b)(vi)	SF0075	99
99-3-2205(c)(v) and (e)(iv) through (vii)	SF0075	99
99-3-2404(b)(vi), (c)(vi) and (f)(vi)	SF0075	99
99-3-2406(b)(vii), (h)(vi), (j)(vii) and (q)(vi)	SF0075	99
99-3-2505(a)(iv) and (vii)	SF0075	99
99-3-2704(k)(vii)	SF0075	99
99-3-2803(d)(iii) through (vii) and (e)(iii) through (vii)	SF0075	99

TABLE OF LAWS REPEALED

WYOMING STATUTES	HB/SF	Chapter No.
7-19-301(a)(iv)	SF0034	102
9-1-507(j)(i) and (iii)	SF0038	48
9-3-412(c)(iii)	HB0083	60
9-4-715(p)(viii), (xii) and (xv)	HB0138	87
11-23-101	SF0012	55
11-23-104	SF0012	55
11-36-101 through 11-36-110	HB0012	26
14-6-201(d)	SF0037	52
21-3-110(a)(x)(A)(III)	HB0021	11
31-5-102(a)(lix)	SF0083	82
34-25-101(b)	SF0017	3
34-25-104	SF0017	3
35-11-1210(e)	HB0073	4
39-15-105(a)(viii)(O)(I)(II) and (b)	HB0197	67
39-15-501(a)(ii)	HB0197	67
99-3-1903(k)(ix)	SF0075	99
99-3-1904(m)(ix)	SF0075	99

**TABLE OF LAWS
RENUMBERED**

WYOMING STATUTES	HB/SF	Chapter No.
34-29-104(p) as (r)	SF0096	80
35-1-243(f) and (g) as (g) and (h)	HB0074	29
36-4-202(a)(i) as (vii)	HB0067	42

**TABLE OF LAWS
AMENDED AND RENUMBERED**

WYOMING STATUTES	HB/SF	Chapter No.
9-1-507(j)(ii) as (iv)	SF0038	48
36-4-202(a)(ii) as (viii)	HB0067	42

TABLE OF LAWS
SESSION LAWS AMENDED OR REPEALED

WYOMING STATUTES	HB/SF	Chapter No.
Amended:		
2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 79, Section 1, as amended by 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 1	SF0115.....	35
2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 79, Section 1, as amended by 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 31, Section 2	SF0007.....	36
2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 300(b)	HB0001.....	118
2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 321(a), (d), (e) and by creating a new subsection (f), Section 325(a), (b) and by creating new subsections (e) and (f), Section 333(b) and by creating a new subsection (d) and Section 334	HB0001.....	118
2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 74, Section 1(a)(i) through (iii), as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 180, Section 6	SF0075.....	99
2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 84, Section 2	HB0104.....	98
2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 153, Section 2	HB0067.....	42
2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 154, Section 3	SF0037.....	52
Repealed:		
2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 80, Section 2, Section 067, as amended by 2021 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 69, Section 2, Section 067	HB0001.....	118

2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 12.....	HB0034.....	32
2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Sec- tion 2, Section 048 footnote 13 and Section 327.....	HB0001.....	118

