

SENATE FILE NO. SF0124

Economic development-rodeo museum.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Driskill, Anderson, Barlow, Biteman, Boner, Brennan, Cooper, Crago, Crum, Dockstader, Gierau, Hicks, Hutchings, Jones, Kolb, Landen, Laursen, D, Love, Nethercott, Olsen, Pappas, Rothfuss, Schuler and Scott and Representative(s) Banks, Brown, L, Byron, Campbell, K, Clouston, Davis, Filer, Geringer, Haroldson, Harshman, Jarvis, Larsen, L, Larson, JT, Locke, Nicholas, Sherwood, Tarver, Thayer, Washut, Williams, Winter and Wylie

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to tourism; providing an appropriation;  
 2 specifying distribution and requirements for the  
 3 appropriation; requiring reporting; and providing for an  
 4 effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) There is appropriated fifteen million dollars  
 11 (\$15,000,000.00) from the Wyoming tourism reserve and

1 projects account created in W.S. 39-15-111(p)(i)(B) to the  
2 Wyoming office of tourism for purposes of providing funds  
3 for and attracting a rodeo and cowboy museum and hall of  
4 fame to Wyoming. This appropriation shall be distributed to  
5 the office of tourism in accordance with subsection (b) of  
6 this section. This appropriation shall be for the period  
7 beginning with the effective date of this act and ending  
8 June 30, 2036. This appropriation shall not be transferred  
9 or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S.  
10 9-2-1008 and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds  
11 from this appropriation shall not revert until June 30,  
12 2036.

13

14 (b) The appropriation in subsection (a) of this  
15 section shall be distributed to the office of tourism as  
16 follows:

17

18 (i) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) shall  
19 be distributed on July 1, 2026;

20

21 (ii) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) shall  
22 be distributed on July 1, 2027;

23

1           (iii) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) shall  
2 be distributed on July 1, 2028.

3

4           (c) The appropriation provided in this section shall  
5 be subject to all of the following:

6

7           (i) For the period beginning July 1, 2026 and  
8 ending June 30, 2028, the appropriation in this section  
9 shall take priority and be fully executed in each fiscal  
10 year prior to any required transfers from the Wyoming  
11 tourism reserve and projects account to the Wyoming outdoor  
12 recreation and tourism trust fund account pursuant to 2023  
13 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 153, Section 2;

14

15           (ii) The Wyoming tourism board shall solicit  
16 applications for a grant under subsection (b) of this  
17 section and reject or recommend approval of applications  
18 for final action by the governor;

19

20           (iii) The Wyoming tourism board shall determine  
21 and certify the relocation efforts have a reasonable  
22 expectation of increasing tourism to Wyoming and generating

1 additional jobs, gross state product, state revenue, and  
2 economic diversification;

3

4 (iv) The expenditure of funds granted under this  
5 section shall be conditioned upon expenditure of matching  
6 funds in the ratio of one dollar (\$1.00) of grant funds to  
7 not less than one dollar (\$1.00) of matching funds from any  
8 nonstate source;

9

10 (v) Approval and allocation of any grant under  
11 this section shall include a repayment provision if the  
12 applicant accepts funds and does not relocate to Wyoming  
13 not later than June 30, 2028;

14

15 (vi) Prior to final approval by the governor,  
16 any proposed grant shall first be reviewed by the attorney  
17 general, who shall certify the legality of the transaction  
18 and all documents connected therewith;

19

20 (vii) The governor shall approve an applicant's  
21 proposed grant only upon a determination that the  
22 applicant's proposed relocation to Wyoming will result in  
23 substantial benefit to the public.

1

2 (d) Not later than November 1 of each year until  
3 November 1, 2036, the office of tourism shall report to the  
4 joint appropriations committee on the expenditures made  
5 each fiscal year from the appropriation in subsection (a)  
6 of this section.

7

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

12

13

14

(END)