



Legislative Briefing
2021 General Session of the Wyoming Legislature

red=dead bill

green = passed both houses

Bill Number and Title	Description	Sponsors	Position	Latest Action	Notes
House Bills					
HB 12 - Bond elections	requires that bond elections only be held during general elections	Styvar		House Corporations Committee	
HB 21 - WY National Guard preference for education	For any academic program based on residency, this bill allows any member of the Wyoming National Guard admission regardless of current residence.	Joint Transportation		Passed both houses	
HB 51 - Meat processing programs	Authorizes emergency governmental programs related to expanding and enhancing meat processing capabilities.	Joint Agriculture		Passed House, and 2nd reading in the Senate	Now allows for usage of federal funds.
HB 52 - Wyoming school protein enhancement project.	codifies a project that provides grants for school districts to increase the availability of Wyoming meat products in school nutrition programs	Joint Agriculture		Passed both houses	

HB 53 - Invasive Plant Species	Implements Recommendations from the Governor's Invasive Species Initiative where weed and pest councils work with the Community Colleges and UW	Joint Agriculture		Enrolled Act.	
HB 54 - Wyoming meat packing initiative	Amends the duties of the Wyoming Business Council to require support for Wyoming producers in the agriculture and meat processing industry.	Joint Agriculture		Passed both houses	CWC testified in support of this bill.
HB 61 - School finance recalibration	Implements recalibration modifications to the K12 Wyoming education resource block grant model.	School finance recalibration		Referred to House Education Committee	
HB 74 - elected officials removal	Provides for a mechanism to remove elected officials from office.	Representative(s) Bear, Fortner, Gray, Jennings, Laursen and Neiman and Senator(s) McKeown and Steinmetz		Failed in House Corporations Committee	
HB 76 - Uniform statewide payment processing	Direct the department of Enterprise Technology Services to contract with a payment processor for uniform statewide payment processing services.	Representative(s) Brown, Andrew and Oakley and Senator(s) Baldwin, Driskill, Landen, Steinmetz and Wasserburger		Passed both houses	Community Colleges may participate or select their own vendor.
HB 77 - School district reorganization	Creates a planning committee to make recommendations on consolidate and reorganize K12 school districts.	Representative(s) Zwonitzer, Brown, Gray, MacGuire, Stith and Wilson and Senator(s) Furphy and Hutchings		Referred to House Education Committee	
HB 97 - Interstate compact for education withdrawal	withdrawing from the interstate compact for education	Joint Appropriations Committee		Referred to House Education Committee	

HB 99 - property tax increase limit - 2	Prohibits an annual increase in property taxes for more than 3% from the taxable value of the property determined in the prior year.	Representative(s) Gray, Baker, Bear, Blackburn, Duncan, Hallinan, Jennings, Sweeney and Washut and Senator(s) Biteman, Driskill and Salazar		Placed on House general file	Passed House Revenue Committee. Instead of 3%, 20%.
HB 102 - Wyoming Preference Act of 1971 - amendments	Requires Wyoming laborers on public works projects unless not available within state or not qualified to perform the work.	Representative(s) Barlow, Bear, Duncan and Larsen and Senator(s) Driskill and Kost		Passed both houses	
HB 117 - Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments-3	identical to SF67	Representative(s) Wharff, Andrew, Baker, Bear, Burt, Fortner, Gray, Heiner, Jennings, Laursen, Neiman, Ottman, Rodriguez-Williams, Styvar and Winter and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, French, James, McKeown and Salazar		Did not consider in COW	
HB 120 - Hathaway Scholarships- success curriculum in middle school	authorizes additional courses taken prior to grade nine to qualify for the Hathaway success curriculum	Representative(s) Flitner and Senator(s) Kost		Assigned Number HEA No. 0029	
HB 121 - Capital Construction	grants authorizations for all of the CC projects, includes the project in MM if other funds are used, and appropriates \$11.74M to WWCC for pipes.	Joint Appropriations Committee	Support	Passed both houses	The conference committee landed on \$12M for the CC's and set the stage to allow usage of the \$109M in federal funds to be used for construction.

<u>HB 124 - Second amendment preservation act</u>	invalidating certain federal laws that limit the right to bear arms; prohibiting enforcement of invalidated federal laws; imposing employment consequences for those enforcing invalidated federal laws; waiving sovereign immunity	Representative(s) Laursen, Baker, Bear, Blackburn, Burt, Gray, Haroldson, Jennings, Neiman, Ottman, Styvar, Wharff and Winter and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, French, Hutchings, James and Salazar		Referred to House Appropriations Committee	
<u>HB 126 - public building art mandate - repeal</u>	repeals the mandate that new public buildings include artwork for public display.	Representative(s) Burt, Andrew, Baker, Bear, Fortner, Haroldson, Jennings, Ottman, Styvar and Wharff and Senator(s) Hutchings, James and Salazar		House Appropriations	currently 1% of construction costs (not in excess of \$100,000) must be used for artwork for public display in public buildings.
<u>HB 128 - county option real estate transfer tax</u>	would allow counties to impose an excise tax on the sale of property, if approved by the voters.	Representative(s) Schwartz, Roscoe and Yin and Senator(s) Gierau		Failed House Revenue Committee	
<u>HB 129 - school finance activities funding</u>	This bill modifies the education resource block grant model (funding model) by eliminating funding for student activities effective school year 2021-2022 and no longer allows for state reimbursement of associated transportation expenditures.	Rep. Western		Was not considered	
<u>HB 152 - Hathaway eligibility requirements</u>	Hathaway success curriculum shall conform with high school graduation standards. It basically gets rid of the Hathaway success curriculum and allows more students to access Hathaway.	Representative(s) Sommers and Senator(s) Kost		House General File	

<u>HB 157 - Health care professional education endowment</u>	Creates a front line health care education endowment reserve account. \$60M from the LSRA.	Representative(s) Harshman, Connolly, MacGuire, Walters, Washut and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Furphy, Landen and Wasserburger	Support	Did not make it passed the deadline. Is proposed in an amendment to SF118 on 3rd reading amendmeng	The appropriations was stripped out of the bill in the House Education Committee. But now allows for consideration of federal funds. May head to an interim topic.
<u>HB 165 - Wyoming's Tomorrow Scholarship Program</u>	establishes an endowment fund and creates scholarships for students 25 years of age and older.	Representative(s) Harshman, Connolly and Sommers and Senator(s) Rothfuss, Schuler and Wasserburger	Support	Was not allowed out of the Senate Ed Committee. Failed a majority vote on the floor to blast the bill out of committee.	WACCT strongly supports. The \$100M stood through the House side, but the Senate Ed Committee laid the bill back. The concept will be included in a 3rd reading amendment to SF 118 and should be a priority for the special session.
<u>HB 180 - Property tax deferrals</u>	Allows the deferral of property taxes for up to 4 years.	Representative(s) Yin, Harshman, Schwartz and Sweeney		House General File	
<u>HB 183 - Anti-discrimination updates</u>	Prohibits discrimination practices based on sexual orientation or gender identity in compensation and employment practices.	Representative(s) Connolly and Sweeney and Senator(s) Rothfuss		House did not consider	
<u>HB 184 - School finance - funding model revisions</u>	Proposes recalibration modifications to the resource block grant and includes requirement for reorganization and limiting school districts.	Representative(s) Connolly and Senator(s) Rothfuss		House Education Committee	
<u>HB 191 - Statewide mill levy for education</u>	4 mills for K12	Brown		Did not consider	

HB 211 - property taxes	incrementally increases the assessment percentage for property taxes between 2022-2025.	Representative(s) Henderson, Clifford, Connolly, Sweeney and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Pappas		House Revenue	
HB 214 - Firearms in private vehicles	Prevents employers from prohibiting employees from keeping firearms in their motor vehicle at work.	Representative(s) Wharff and Laursen and Senator(s) Bouchard and Driskill		Did not consider	
HB 215 - Cosmetology and barbering practice amendments	Removes the practices of blow dry styling, eyelash extension, makeup application, natural hair braiding and threading from the Wyoming Cosmetology Act and barber licensing requirements.	Representative(s) Andrew, Burt, Clifford, Duncan, Oakley, Provenza, Rodriguez-Williams and Wilson and Senator(s) Hutchings and Steinmetz		House Corporations Committee	CWC and EWC are concerned.
HB 231 - College credit retention	Creates provisions governing how previously completed coursework at UW or a CC may be used.	Representative(s) MacGuire, Burkhart, Harshman, Newsome, Paxton and Sweeney and Senator(s) Kinskey and Pappas	Oppose	Passed the House and COW in the Senate. Trying to amend.	This bill should be concerning to UW as well. Separation of powers issues.
HB 239 - Worker's compensation - student learner agreements	Provides for student learner agreements between eligible students, school districts, or community colleges and employers.	Representative(s) Greear and Senator(s) Kinskey		Passed the House and COW in the senate	This is Greear's bill from last year. More work accomplished on the worker's comp piece this year.
HB 253 - Higher Education Ban of Funding Abortions	Bans both UW and the CC's from using any general funds, other funds (including fees) and federal funds to fund election abortions.	Representative(s) Gray, Andrew, Haroldson, Laursen, Neiman, Ottman, Rodriguez-Williams, Styvar and Winter and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, Hutchings, McKeown, Salazar and Steinmetz	Oppose	Passed the House COW in the Senate.	The Community College were added into this bill in the House. The issue concerns the ban on federal funds and other funds (no matter the issue). The legislature does not have pervue over how the institutions utilize those funds.

HB 263 - State coronavirus recovery funding	Authorizes reappropriation of any remaining federal funding. Includes the CC's.	Nicholas		Did not make it passed the deadline.	Passed the House and headed to Senate Approps. Sets up procedures for a special session and usage of federal dollars. Trying to keep the flexibility to use the ARP funds.
HJR4	Allows any elected official including trustees to be removed from office	Representative(s) Bear, Fortner, Gray, Hunt and Jennings and Senator(s) Biteman and McKeown		Did not consider	
HJR 9 - local government investment in equities	Amends the Wyoming constitution to allow local government entities, including counties, towns, school districts, and other political subdivisions, to invest in stocks and equities.	Representative(s) Sweeney, Clausen, Duncan, Harshman, Henderson and Walters and Senator(s) Anderson, Furphy, Gierau and Kolb		Passed both houses	
HJR 14 - prohibition on income tax-business and personal	Amends the Wyoming constitution to prohibit the imposition of an income tax on persons or businesses.	Representative(s) Sweeney, Clausen, Duncan, Harshman, Henderson and Walters and Senator(s) Anderson, Furphy, Gierau and Kolb		Did not consider	
HJR 15 - Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and taxpayers standing	Amends the constitution to include the "taxpayer's bill of rights" - requiring voter advance approval for any new tax or mill levy above the prior year's mill levy, and capping state spending to prior year's inflation rate plus 3/4 positive population change.	Representative(s) Gray, Bear and Jennings and Senator(s) Biteman		Did not consider	

Senate Bills

SJ0001 Taxes to voters	Amends the Wyoming constitution to require any tax increases to go before a vote of the electorate.	Senator(s) James, Biteman, Bouchard, French and McKeown and Representative(s) Fortner, Gray, Laursen, Rodriguez-Williams and Wharff	Oppose	Failed a vote in Senate Revenue	This bill would fundamentally change how Wyoming operates as a representative government and will impact the colleges. WACCT testified in opposition to this bill.
SF 6 - public works contracting requirements - amendments	Builds from last session's bills regarding bidding contracts	Joint Judiciary		Passed the Senate Died in House Approps	
SF 19 - Public health emergencies - immunity amendments	Amends provisions related to immunity from civil liability for actions and omissions during public health emergencies.	Joint Judiciary		Passed both houses	
SF 20 - public records - personnel files	Limits media access to President and executive staff personnel files.	Joint Judiciary		Failed in Senate Judiciary	
SF 23 - public meetings - executive sessions for security plans	Allows governing bodies to hold executive sessions that are not open to the public to conduct safety & Security planning	Joint Judiciary		Passed both houses	
SF 58 - Wyoming investment in nursing funding	Provides funding for the Wyoming investment in nursing program faculty side from CARES Act funds.	Joint Education	Support	Passed both houses	WACCT testified in support of this bill. The Senate Committee mentioned perhaps adding more \$ to the bill if funds are available. Has been amended to allow for federal funds.

SF 59 - Hazing	Requires the University of Wyoming and the community colleges to adopt policies on hazing.	Joint Education		Failed in Senate Education.	
SF 65 - government waste, fraud and abuse	Establishes a reporting system for governmental waste, fraud and abuse	Senator(s) James, Biteman, Bouchard, French, McKeown and Salazar and Representative(s) Fortner, Gray, Laursen, Neiman and Wharff		Failed in Senate Appropriations Committee	
SF 67 - Repealing gun free zones	Repeals gun free zones; providing for the carrying of concealed weapons as specified; clarifying that only the state legislature may regulate firearms, weapons and ammunition.	Senator(s) Driskill, Hicks, Kinskey, Kolb and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Newsome and Oakley	Oppose	Passed the Senate and is in the drawer for House Ed.	WACCT testified in opposition to this bill asking for local control. There is an amendment for the community colleges and their local boards to draft rules on campus carry (the amendment failed) .
SF 74 - athletic training	broadening definitions under the Wyoming Athletic Trainers Licensing Act to expand athletic trainers' scope of practice	Senator(s) Landen, Baldwin, Kost, Nethercott, Pappas, Schuler and Wasserburger and Representative(s) Barlow, Brown, Flitner, Harshman, Sommers, Walters and Washut		Passed both houses	
SF 83 - Gillette College community college district	legislatively approves Gillette College district	Senator(s) Wasserburger and Driskill and Representative(s) Barlow and Harshman		Passed both houses	
SF 108 - Career and technical education terminology	Changes "vocational education" to "career and technical education" for K12 statutes.	Senator(s) Cooper and Kost and Representative(s) Winter		Passed both houses	

SF 118 - Federal emergency COVID-19 relief funding	authorizing expenditure of COVID-19 relief for expenditure of funds on previously approved projects, grants or procurements; providing a sunset date for expenditure of the specified COVID-19 relief funds	Joint Appropriations Committee		Passed the Senate and is on 3rd reading in the House	There is a 3rd reading amendment to insert funds for programs like Wyoming's Tomorrow and healthcare related programs.
SF 120 - Investment of state non-permanent funds	Adopts a risk profile standard for the investment of state funds.	Joint Appropriations Committee		Passed both houses	
SF 121 - State funds - investments and distributions	Modifies spending policies and changes how investment returns are to be credited. Impacts the WPTV matching program, excellence in higher education endowment fund, and Hathaway.	Senator(s) Perkins and Furphy and Representative(s) Harshman and Walters		Passed the Senate and COW in the House.	
SF 127 - Learn while you earn program	Creates and fund the Wyoming Learn While You Earn Program allowing high school and CC students to earn wages while participating in an approved post-secondary CTE program. Sunsets 6/30/2026. \$1M from the GF	Senator(s) Kinskey, Dockstader, Nethercott and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Greear, Harshman, Kinner and Sommers	Support	Passed Senate and COW in the House.	
SF 137 - Firearms preemption - amendments and applicability	Specifically adds UW and the CC's to a list of entities precluded from prohibiting storage, use, carrying or possession of firearms, weapons, ammunition, etc.	Senator(s) Kinskey and Biteman and Representative(s) Jennings	Oppose	Passed Senate Judiciary	WACCT testified against this bill.
SF 144 - Public funds lobbying	Prohibits the use of tax revenue for lobbying. Would impact how the CC's pay for a lobbyist.	Biteman		Senate Corporations	