

WEEK TWO LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FEBRUARY 21, 2020

Week two was focused on the budget. Both houses took part of two days to read in the budget and explain the agencies on the floor (which constitutes the “first reading” of the bill). Second reading amendments were debated on Wednesday and third reading amendments on Friday. Considering that the colleges did not have anything other than the Wyoming Community College Commission budget on the table, receiving more money for Wyoming Works and a possible direct distribution and matching opportunity is fantastic. While the full \$30M need was not met in a budget amendment, the bar has been raised for the colleges – people are talking about the need to find the colleges a committee home, making sure the process to bring forward a \$30M-type ask in the future is clear (WCCC statutes), and what might the future hold for the colleges in terms of impact on future workforce needs and diversification.

House	Senate
No Wyoming Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4M additional for Wyoming Works (\$1M to the colleges for programs and \$3M to student scholarships)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3.5M to each college (debate about whether it passed as one time because of how the amendment was divided) \$1.5M distributed according to the college formula No match 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3.5M from SIPA in equal amounts to each college (one time) \$1.5M distributed according to the college formula (one time) \$10M available for matching funds (\$1.4M to each college)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wyoming adjunct professor loan repayment program (\$6,720 to administer the program) the appropriation for the program is already in the budget 	No adjunct loan program

A conference committee will be appointed from each house (usually made up of members of the Joint Appropriations Committee) and they will get to work this week to negotiate the differences.

BILLS OF INTEREST THIS WEEK

[HB 50 – Government procurement – amendments](#) – The bill modifies provisions related to procurement and contracting by governmental entities. **The colleges and the WCCC participated in a working group over the summer to come to this language. Passed the House on 2/14.**

[HB 95 – Building and construction projects](#) - Requires legislative authorization for expenditure of funds on state building projects and University of Wyoming capital construction projects as specified; revising requirements for community college capital construction projects. **The Committee amended the bill to take care of the concerns from the colleges.**

[SF 119 – State funded capital construction](#) – this is the bill where the community college capital construction projects are appropriated. **The bill passed second reading in the Senate on Friday. All the community college projects are intact.**

[SF 93 – Wyoming Works – application period](#) – The bill simply provides a fix for students who have previously been enrolled in a Wyoming Works program so that they may receive funding from the program. The WCCC estimates that an additional 400 students could access these dollars if this bill passes. **The bill is on general file in the Senate.**

Please visit the [WACCT webpage](#) for the WACCT Bill Tracking, Legislative priorities, and talking points..

IN THE NEWS

[After Nichols dismissal, lawmakers push efforts to study UW governance](#) – February 21, 2020 Casper Star Tribune

[Four-year degree planning approved for 2 Wyoming colleges](#)– February 21, 2020 Casper Star Tribune

[Wyoming House, Senate end second week of session just millions of dollars apart on budget](#)– February 21, 2020 Casper Star Tribune

KEY EVENTS OF THE 2020 SESSION:

(24-day schedule)

- Day 1 Monday, February 10 – Session convenes with Joint Session at 10:00 a.m.
- Day 3 Wednesday, February 12 – Noon deadline for all bill drafts to be in final form at LSO.
- Day 5 Friday, February 14 – Last day for bill introductions.
- Day 11 Monday, February 24 – Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in House of Origin.
- Day 12 Tuesday, February 25 – Last day for Committee of the Whole in House of Origin.
- Day 13 Wednesday, February 26 – Last day for 2nd Reading in House of Origin.
- Day 14 Thursday, February 27 – Last day for 3rd Reading on bills in House of Origin.
- [CROSS-OVER]
- Day 19 Thursday, March 5 – Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in second house. Day 20 Friday, March 6 – Last day for Committee of Whole on bills in second house.
- Day 21 Monday, March 9 – Last day for 2nd Reading on bills in second house.
- Day 22 Tuesday, March 10 – Last day for 3rd Reading on bills in second house.
- Day 23 Wednesday, March 11 – Concurrence on Amendments/Joint Conference Committee Reports.
- Day 24 Thursday, March 12 – Joint Conference Committee Reports; All JCC Reports due to Front Desk by 2:00 p.m. Adjourn by midnight.

WEEKLY CONFERENCE CALL

The remainder of the weekly conference calls will be held on **Fridays at 10am.**

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