2017 WYOMING LEGISLATURE GENERAL SESSION WEEK THREE SUMMARY ~ JANUARY 28, 2017



Week three ended with 463 bills posted on the Legislative Service Office website. Luckily, the deadline for submission on the Senate side passed this week. Members of the House still have until Monday, January 30th to submit bills to LSO, which means we will see more bills post after that deadline. Rumor has it, we may see up to 600 bills this session. Many are tax bills – some are study bills – remember our looming education funding issues and crumbling prison? Where we will end up is anyone's guess.

This week also brings two more significant deadlines:

- Thursday, February 2 Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in house of origin.
- Friday, February 3 Last day for Committee of the Whole in house of origin.

Although we may have several bills that post in the next two days, if they do not get a hearing and receive a favorable vote in committee by the deadline listed above, they will be dead.

The Joint Appropriations Committee will hold another "round-robin" and mark up the budget bill on Monday, and I will attend. We should have a draft of the budget by the end of the week. Next week will be budget week. The first reading of the budget will take place on Monday, then legislators must wait 24 hours before they can submit amendments to the LSO, which means second reading amendments will likely be heard on Wednesday, February 8th, and third reading amendments on that Friday. If that changes, I will keep you all posted.

BILLS OF INTEREST THIS WEEK

WACCT testified on two bills this week:

- <u>SF 132 ENDOW initiative</u> Dr. Shaffer testified in support of the bill in the Appropriations Committee.
- HB 136 Campus Carry WACCT testified in opposition to the bill, along with the University of Wyoming.

Please see the WACCT 2017 Bill Tracking for more bills. We have several bills of concern, namely, HB 136 – Campus Carry and HB 137 – Wyoming repeal gun free zones act, both of which will be heard on first reading on Monday in the House. Please contact your legislator and voice your concerns. WACCT, in concert with UW, worked to provide several amendments to HB136 to our supporters. The odds are favorable for the bill to pass the House – if that is the case, WACCT will work to support an amended version that preserves the local option for boards of trustees to make the policy decision to allow guns on campus.

IN THE NEWS

Senate President Bebout opposes new taxes – 1/24/17 – Wyofile

Superintendents express concern about major education legislation - 1/28/17 - Casper Star Tribune

State lawmakers could cut school employees' salaries under new bill - 1/25/17 - Casper Star Tribune

Bill would amend Wyoming civil rights law to regulate bathroom use - 1/27/17 - Casper Star Tribune

American Indian education bill clears first vote by Wyo. House – 1/27/17 – Wyoming Tribune Eagle

KEY EVENTS OF THE 2017 SESSION:

(37-day schedule – Recess Friday & Monday for President's Day)

- Day 1 Tuesday, January 10 Session convenes.
- Day 12 Wednesday, January 25 Last day for Senate Files to be submitted to LSO for introduction. (noon)
- Day 15 Monday, January 30 Last day for House Bills to be submitted to LSO for introduction. (noon)
- Day 18 Thursday, February 2 Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in house of origin.
- Day 19 Friday, February 3 Last day for Committee of the Whole in house of origin.
- Day 20 Monday, February 6 Last day for Second Reading in house of origin.
- Day 21 Tuesday, February 7 Last day for Third Reading on Bills in house of origin.
- Friday, February 17 & Monday, February 20 President's Day Recess
- Day 32 Friday, February 24 Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in second house.
- Day 33 Monday, February 27 Last day for Committee of the Whole in the second house.
- Day 34 Tuesday, February 28 Last day for Second Reading in the second house.
- Day 35 Wednesday, March 1 Last day for Third Reading in the second house.
- Day 36 Thursday, March 2 Concurrence on Amendments/Joint Conference Committee Reports.
- Day 37 Friday, March 3 Joint Conference Committee Reports; All JCC Reports due to Front Desk by 2:00 p.m.;
- ADJOURN by Midnight.
- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday March 6, 7 and 8 are available if necessary.