

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL REVIEW AND STATUS

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019

NOTE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 8th was the first day of the 2019 General Session. Bills listed below have been pre-filed and are available on the LSO website. UPDATED BILL STATUS INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED ON THE WSGA WEBSITE STARTING JANUARY 14TH.

For more information, call the WSGA office at 307-638-3942.

HOUSE BILLS

HB 01 BUDGET BILL—See SF 01 Below.

HB 02 REGULATION OF HUNTING METHODS—Authorizes the Game & Fish through rulemaking to control the methods and technologies use in hunting of wildlife.

Status: Passed House Amended

WSGA Position: Amend/Support

HB 10 CRIMES AGAINST CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE—creates crimes with enhanced penalties for intentionally or knowingly impeding critical infrastructure or trespassing on a critical infrastructure facility.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Amend/Support

HB 12 SHED ANTLERS & HORNS—Grants the Game & Fish the flexibility to set the dates, times and locations for collection of shed antler and horns on public lands west of the Continental Divide; deletes the current January 1-May 1 limitation.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 28 REGULATION OF SHED ANTLER & BIG GAME HORN COLLECTION—Similar to HB12 but would grant this authority on a state-wide basis.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Support

HB 31 RULE AGAINST PERPETUITY AMENDMENTS—Would allow for property other than real property to be held in a trust for up to 1,000 years, subject to certain conditions.

Status: Passed House Minerals Committee

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 32 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL AMENDMENTS—Provides for staffing of the Environmental Quality Council independent of the Department of Environmental Quality.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 36 MAIL BALLOT ELECTIONS—Authorizes a county clerk to conduct an election by mail ballot with only one polling location available on election day for in-person voting.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 46 AGRICULTURAL FEED PRODUCTS-CIVIL LIABILITY—Provides that a farmer or rancher shall not be subject to a strict liability standard of fault in a civil case resulting from the sale of an agricultural feed product including seed, hay, silage and similar products.

Status: Failed House

WSGA Position: Support

HB 47 SENATE CONFIRMATION OF WATER COMPACT COMMISSIONERS—Would require Senate confirmation of the Governor's appointment of commissioners representing the state on interstate compacts.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Oppose

HB 48 BRAND RERECORDING NOTICES—Provides for notice of the need to rerecord a brand to be sent by both email and regular mail; removes the requirement for certified mail on the second notice.

Status: Failed House 1st Reading

WSGA Position: Support

HB 50 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF STATE LAND TRANSFERS—Requires legislative review of any sale or exchange of state lands of more than 639 acres; provides that any exchange of lands with the federal government be based on equal value which may include both surface and mineral rights;

Status: Failed House Agriculture Committee

WSGA Position: Oppose

HB 51 LAWFUL FENCE STANDARDS-COUNTY PREEMPTION—Prohibits a county from adopting fence standards which vary from the standards contained in state statute.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

HB 54 FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCE POLICY ACCOUNT AMENDMENTS—Authorizes expenditure of up to \$50,000 per county to develop comprehensive natural resource management plans.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Support

HB 64 INDEXING FUEL TAXES—Directs that the tax on gasoline and diesel fuels be adjusted every two years based on the Consumer Price Index with the current 23 cents being the floor.

Status: Committee Bill

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 67 SALES TAX REVISIONS—Expands application of the sales tax to include the vast majority of services with only very narrow exceptions that include legal services, banking services and veterinary services when provided to livestock on the farm or ranch; reduces the overall sales tax rate by 1/2%.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Oppose

HB 68 SCHOOL FUNDING REVENUE—Increases the mill levy on all property within a school district by 3 mills for each of the tax years beginning in 2020 for a total of 9 mills.

Status: Committee Bill

WSGA Position: Strongly Oppose

HB 81 OMNIBUS WATER BILL-PLANNING—Authorizes Reconnaissance and Feasibility studies for water projects, rehabilitations and studies.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 99 WYOMING MULTIPLE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS DAY—Designates the 4th Saturday in September each year as “Public Lands Day”.

Status: Passed House 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 126 REVENUE RECALIBRATION TASK FORCE—Creates a Revenue Recalibration Task Force to undertake a comprehensive review of Wyoming’s tax system, revenue needs and forecasts and make recommendations.

Status: Passed House Revenue Committee

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 129 CIVICS PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION—Required passage of an examination similar to the U.S. citizenship examination on the principles of the U.S. and Wyoming Constitutions to receive a high school diploma or comparable certificate.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

HB 130 WYOMING COWBOY LEGACY WEEK—Designates the 3rd week of September as Wyoming Cowboy Heritage Week to recognize the history and principles exemplified by cowboys and cowgirls.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Support

HB 134 LIVESTOCK BRANDS AMENDMENTS—Extends the delinquency period for expired brands to two years; requires a notice not less than six months prior to abandonment.

Status: Passed House Agriculture Committee Amended

WSGA Position: Amend/Support

HB 184 PRIVATE ROADS—Strengthens the requirements to qualify for establishment of a private road across another person’s property; requires an easement; enhances criteria for payments.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Amend/Support

HB 189 WIDE LOAD RESTRICTIONS-AGRICULTURE—Creates an exception to signage requirements for movement of implements of husbandry for less than two miles on a Wyoming highway.

Status: Passed House Transportation Committee

WSGA Position: Monitor

HB 193 WYOMING CAREER TECHNICAL PATHWAY WORKFORCE STRATEGY—Creates a trust fund to accept matching contributions to support providing career internships and training.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

HB 196 LOCAL REGULATION-SUBDIVISIONS—Precludes a county from preventing residential or agricultural uses authorized for land divisions that are family exemptions from subdivision requirements.

Status: Passed House Corporations Committee

WSGA Position: Support

HB 208 SPLIT ESTATES-GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATIONS—Authorizes a surface owner to object to bonding on by an oil and gas operator based on the operator's failure to negotiate in good faith; provides for a contested case hearing and precludes entry pending final resolution.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

HB 209 SPLIT ESTATES-MEASURE OF DAMAGES—Requires an oil and gas operator to pay the surface owner either actual damages or the fair market value of loss of income, land value and improvements.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

HB 217 WYOMING CAMPING ACT—Removes the prohibition on overnight camping on state trust lands.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Oppose

HB 224 SPLIT ESTATES-APPLICABILITY OF PROCEDURES—Extends the applicability of existing surface owner protections to to split estate lands outside of drilling and spacing units.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

HB 235 CARE OF ANIMALS—Enhances penalties for cruelty to animals; modifies requirements for euthanasia technicians; authorizes court orders in domestic abuse cases to provide for removal and protection of pet animals.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor/Amend

HB 248 SAGE GROUSE GAME BIRD FARMS-EXTENSION—Extends the sunset date for certifications to raise sage grouse on bird farms from 2022 to 2032.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

HJ 01 WYOMING SUPPORT FOR DELISTING THE GRIZZLY BEAR—Requests that Congress delist the grizzly bear and fully fund the management of the grizzly by the state.

Status: Passed House

WSGA Position: Support

HJ 03 SUPREME COURT JUSTICES—SENATE CONFIRMATION—Proposes an amendment to the Wyoming Constitution to require Senate Confirmation of Wyoming Supreme Court appointments by the Governor; allows for interim appointments.

Status: Offered for Introduction

WSGA Position: Monitor

HJ 04 TERM LIMITS-STATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICIALS—Proposes to Amend the Wyoming Constitution to provide term limits on five state-wide elective offices and members of the state Senate and House.

Status: Offered for Introduction

WSGA Position: Oppose

HJ 05 STATE LANDS MINEERAL ROYALTIES-CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—Proposes to amend the Wyoming Constitution to authorize for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2027 100%, rather than the current 33 1/3%, of royalties from state school trust lands may be appropriated for support of public schools.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Oppose

HJ 09 PERMANENT BAN ON STATE INCOME TAX—Would place before voters a Wyoming constitutional amendment that would ban a state income tax.

Status: Offered for Introduction

WSGA Position: Monitor

SENATE FILES

SF 01 BUDGET—The Budget Bill as released by the Joint Appropriations Committee includes the following:

- ◆ Department of Agriculture—\$250,000 for Predator Management
- ◆ Wildlife Trust—\$1.2 million for invasive species; \$5 million into the Trust Corpus
- ◆ State Lands—\$500,000 for noxious weeds & invasive species
- ◆ UW—\$500,000 for equine facilities; \$2.5 million matching funds for excellence in agriculture education & research to focus on workforce needs for ranch managers, rangeland managers 7 restoration specialists and an endowed chair in forestry; \$250,000 for staffing the Biosecurity Lab
- ◆ Business Council—\$100,000 for agriculture product marketing in the Pacific Rim
- ◆ State Fair—\$1 million transfer into the corpus of the State Fair Endowment

SF 06 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX REPORTING—Enhances the monetary fees for failure to report personal property while removing the jail term.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 13 EMINENT DOMAIN-WIND ENERGY COLLECTION SYSTEMS—Re-imposes the moratorium on the exercise of eminent domain for wind energy collector systems until June 2023.

Status: Filed for Introduction

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 23 APPEALS BY COUNTY ASSESSOR—Allows a county assessor to appeal decisions of the State Board of Equalization to the District Court.

Status: Failed House

WSGA Position: Oppose

SF 26 FIRE SUPPRESSION ACCOUNT APPROPRIATIONS—Appropriates \$20 million to the Fire Suppression Account and provides for a continual appropriation of \$1 million annually.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Support

SF 32 CHANGE IN POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION—Prohibits a change in declared political party affiliation from the first day of nomination filings through primary election day.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 33 CRUELTY TO ANIMALS-PENALTIES—Increases the penalties for cruelty to animals from \$500 to \$2,500 for a first misdemeanor offence and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a subsequent misdemeanor offense or a felony.

Status: Failed Senate 1st Reading

WSGA Position: Oppose

SF 39 LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OF WATER COMPACT AMENDMENTS—Requires legislative ratification of any negotiated interstate compact amendments.

Status: Withdrawn

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 41 COUNTY FAIR ENDOWMENT—Authorizes a county to establish an endowment to accept gifts and grants in support of their county fair.

Status: Passed Senate 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Support

SF 42 WATER DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS—Requires Senate confirmation for Water District Superintendents; establishes terms of six years; sets expiration of existing terms for 2020 and 2022.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Oppose

SF 43 HATHAWAY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY—Authorizes the use of a career-technical aptitude test score as an eligibility requirement and allows career-technical elective courses to qualify s electives for the scholarship.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 58 VEHICLE REGISTRATION-DEPRECIATION—Extends the depreciation schedule for vehicle registrations from eight years to ten years.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support

SF 59 OMNIBUS WATER BILL—CONSTRUCTION—Authorizes and funds numerous new and rehabilitation rural and domestic water projects including weather modification; provides both grants & loans.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 66 LIVESTOCK ENFORCEMENT-REIMBURSEMENT—Creates a Livestock Enforcement Fund to be used by the WY Livestock Board to reimburse county sheriffs for activities related to enforcement of livestock laws and to provide training; appropriates \$250,000 for year two of the current biennium.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 68 MEAT FROM HARVESTED LIVESTOCK OR POULTRY—Prohibits misrepresenting a product as meat that is not harvested from livestock or poultry.

Status: Passed Senate Amended

WSGA Position: Amend/Support

SF 69 WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS—Defines those entities eligible to participate in water development programs to include any public corporations organized for the purposes of the conservation, distribution or utilization of water or soil and any public entity having taxing or fee collection authority on lands served.

Status: Passed Senate 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 70 LANDOWNER & LESSEE LIABILITY LIMITATIONS—Extends the landowner protection from liability for damage or injury to include third parties; makes the recreational user liable for injury to a third party; extends protection from liability to authorized improvements to state land lessees.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 77 2019 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING—Authorizes the expenditure of Wildlife & Natural Resource Trust funds for specific projects including three conservation easements to be held by the Stock Growers Land Trust.

Status: Passed Senate 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 78 ARCHEOLOGICAL HUMAN BURIAL SITES—Establishes protocols for the handling of human remains unearthed on state and private lands.

Status: Passed Senate 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Support

SF 87 TEMPORARY INSTREAM WATER USE—Would authorize private temporary instream flow use of an existing water right to as a beneficial use of water.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Oppose

SF 93 GRIZZLY BEAR HUNTS—Authorizes the Wyoming Game & Fish to conduct grizzly bear hunts when deemed necessary without regard for federal status or federal court orders.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Support

SF 107 PARI-MUTUAL FEES DRISTRIBUTION-STATE FAIR ACCOUNT—Provides that a county , city or town may designate a 1% distribution of the historic pari-mutual monies wagered in the county to the state fair account.

Status: Passed Senate 2nd Reading

WSGA Position: Support

SF 122 WYOMING WORKS PROGRAM—Provides funding for student grants and community college technical programs to meet workforce needs; appropriates \$10 million.

Status: Passed Senate

WSGA Position: Support

SF 142 COUNTY REGULATION OF LIVESTOCK GRAZING—Prohibits a county from eliminating livestock grazing on any lands without full compliance with county zoning regulations.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Strongly Support

SF 143 CIVICS PROFICIENCY—Requires passage of an examination on principles of the U.S. and Wyoming constitutions to graduate from high school.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

SF 145 STATE TRUST LAND REVENUES—Imposes a recreational user fee of \$6.00 on state trust lands to be collected my Game & Fish for hunters and anglers, with \$2 to be kept by G&F; and to be collected by State Lands for all other users.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

SJ 01 STATE-FEDERAL SCHOOL TRUST LANDS EXCHANGE—Urges Congress to pass legislation requiring the exchange of landlocked state trust lands for other federal lands on an equal value basis.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

SJ 05 HOMEOWNERS BILL OF RIGHTS—Proposes a Wyoming constitutional Amendment that would require a vote of affected citizens to approve any imposition or increase in mill levy or tax percentage .

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Monitor

SJ 10 MULTIPLE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS—Calls upon Congress to pass legislation that promotes greater state and local involvement in the multiple use of federal lands and calls upon state agencies to assume a more active role in the federal land planning process.

Status: Introduced

WSGA Position: Support