

Labor, Health & Social Services

Standard Budget: \$50,000.00

Priority #: 1 Maternal Health.

The Committee will evaluate ways to improve pregnancy outcomes for mothers and babies across the state. The Committee will gather data on the number of babies born to substance-abusing mothers and other situations impacting maternal and infant health. The Committee will also investigate the benefits of extending postpartum Medicaid coverage for additional months. (Estimated time commitment: 12 hours)

Priority #: 2 Behavioral Health.

The Committee will identify gaps in and solutions to crisis care, evaluate a supplemental payment program for psychiatric residential treatment facilities, and review procedures for providing mental health services for juveniles with court-ordered placements. In addition, the Committee plans to look at three interstate compact proposals to increase the state's mental health workforce (specific to licensed professional counselors, psychologists, and social workers) and hear continued reporting on 2021 House Bill 0038, which focuses on the prioritization of community mental health funding. (Estimated time commitment: 16 hours)

Priority #: 3 Organ Donors and Decedents.

The Committee will review issues surrounding living and decedent organ donation, including issues surrounding insurance coverage and transportation of decedents for organ donation. The Committee will also review statutes related to coroners to determine whether amendments need to be made to those statutes. (Estimated time commitment: 6 hours)

Priority #: 4 Aging.

The Committee will investigate Medicaid waiver options for home and community-based services and nursing home rate rebasing. The Committee will also investigate the potential for modifying the state's health facility survey process to focus on a more educational based approach rather than relying on one that is punitive in nature. Finally, the Committee will discuss potential ways to better involve the banking system in identifying, preventing and reporting elder financial exploitation. This topic will include consideration of 2022 Senate File 0076, which was not enacted during the 2022 budget session. (Estimated time commitment: 10 hours)

Minerals, Business & Economic Development

Standard Budget: \$46,000.00

Priority #: 1 Energy Issues.

The Committee will study energy issues that are currently affecting the state, including oil-and-gas issues, nuclear energy, carbon sequestration, hydrogen energy development, and federal bonding regulations.

Priority #: 2 Apprenticeships for Public-Works Projects.

The Committee will study current law on apprenticeships for public-works projects and consider whether statutory changes are needed to make the apprenticeship program more effective.

Priority #: 3 Industrial Siting Act.

The Committee will comprehensively review the industrial siting process outlined in Wyoming statute, including local impact assistance payments.

Priority #: 4 Repurposing of Industrial Sites.

The Committee will explore options for repurposing industrial sites for other industrial and commercial purposes.

Priority #: 5 Deregulated Power Zones.

The Committee will study the necessity for deregulated power zones and what statutory changes are needed to make these zones an attractive economic-development opportunity, including for giga-scale projects.

Priority #: 6 Committee Reports.

The Committee will receive reports from various agencies as required by law and take legislative action to address the reports if necessary or required.

Judiciary

Standard Budget: \$49,500.00

Priority #: 1 Trespass.

The Committee will receive reports and recommendations from stakeholders regarding Wyoming's law on trespass.

Priority #: 2 Review of Recent Court Opinions.

The Committee will study and consider recent opinions where courts interpreted Wyoming statutes, noted the absence of legislative action, or called for legislative action.

Priority #: 3 Treatment Courts and Substance Abuse Issues.

The Committee will review treatment courts and consider transferring their functions and oversight to the Judicial Branch, the 24/7 sobriety program, and substance-abuse issues during pregnancy.

Priority #: 4 Office of Guardian ad Litem-Statutory References.

The Committee will review statutes related to the Guardian ad Litem program and update statutes to reflect the Office's duties.

Priority #: 5 Custodians of Criminal History Records-Safeguards.

The Committee will consider whether additional safeguards are needed for criminal history information that is disseminated.

Priority #: 6 Vulnerable Persons and Professions/Sentence Enhancement.

The Committee will review and consider whether changes to criminal penalties, including sentence enhancements, are needed to protect vulnerable persons and professions. The Committee will coordinate with the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Interim Committee in reviewing 2022 Senate File 76 (Financial exploitation of vulnerable adults).

Priority #: 7 Safety of Crosswalks.

The Committee will review the law relating to the safety of crosswalks and consider whether legislation is necessary to improve the safety of students and persons using crosswalks.

Priority #: 8 State Park Rangers/Retirement Participation as Law Enforcement Officers.

The Committee will review and consider whether Rangers within the Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources should be included within the Wyoming Retirement Act.

Priority #: 9 Judicial Branch Updates.

The Committee will receive reports and updates from the Judicial Branch and will consider and sponsor necessary legislation identified after reviewing the reports.

Priority #: 10 Agency Reports and Reviews.

The Committee will receive reports from various agencies and consider legislation in response to those reports.

Appropriations

Standard Budget: \$60,000.00

Priority #: 1 State Employee Compensation.

The Committee will monitor the distribution of increased compensation provided under Section 319 of the 2022 Budget Bill (2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51); review the distribution methodologies employed by the executive branch, higher education institutions, and the judicial branch for the increased compensation; and review positions with particular recruitment and retention challenges, e.g., highway patrol officers. The Committee anticipates a consideration of the contract market comparison ("Hay study"), evaluation of additional appropriations to bring positions closer to market, and approaches to distribute future compensation increases. The Committee will also receive updates on reserve balances of the Employees and Officials Group Insurance (EGI) program and consider: (a) actuarial analysis of the reserves and approaches to stabilize premium volatility; and (b) high and low threshold reserve amounts that would need to be violated prior to increasing or decreasing premiums or modifying benefit structures. This topic may result in legislation sponsored by the Committee for the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 2 Enterprise Technology Services (ETS).

The Committee will continue its systematic and comprehensive review of the structure and services provided by ETS. The 2020 study by an independent consultant (BerryDunn) identified capability gaps and deficiencies that have yet to be fully addressed. Components of this review would include the State's cybersecurity posture and oversight, the ability and incentive for ETS to seek and distribute grant

funding, and implementation requirements to support organizational recommendations, including implementation of the ETS "computer technology" position study and the most effective location for the positions, e.g., within agencies or ETS. This topic may result in legislation sponsored by the Committee for the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 3 State Loan Programs.

The Committee will review various state loan programs targeted to political subdivisions for consistency of terms, conditions and applications. The Committee will consider the range of loan programs administered by various state agencies, including the Wyoming Business Council, Office of State Lands and Investments, and Water Development Commission to provide improved processing and more uniform loan terms and conditions. The topic may result in legislation for the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 4 Streamline School Capital Construction Account Funding, and Other Funds.

In order to streamline the funding for the School Capital Construction Account, the Committee, in conjunction with the Select Committee on School Facilities, will consider the existing, biennial transfers required to support revenues sufficient to cover biennial school capital construction expenses. In relation to 2022 HB 34, State funds-investments and distributions, the Committee will consider the deposit and need to transfer state royalties from the School Lands Mineral Royalties Account and to transfer investment income from the School Major Maintenance Subaccount within the Strategic Investments and Projects Account to the School Capital Construction Account. The Committee will use the information gathered within this topic to consider the consolidation of other investable funds, beyond school capital construction, by combining existing funds, developing subaccounts, or combining the investment of funds to facilitate accounting and improve investment performance in an increasing interest rate environment. The topic may result in legislation for the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 5 Gaming Commission.

Working with the Joint Revenue Committee, the Committee will review gaming and the operations of the Gaming Commission. This topic will include a broad overview of gaming in Wyoming and issues that need to be clarified as the result of the passage of bills authorizing skill-based amusement games and on-line sports wagering. The Committee will also consider the appropriateness and feasibility of housing the Gaming Commission within the Department of Revenue.

Priority #: 6 Statutory Responsibilities and Reports.

The Committee will receive dozens of reports required by legislation from state agencies, as provided by law. In particular,

(a) The Committee will receive and provide a recommendation on the K-12 external cost adjustment (ECA) in accordance with W.S. 21-13-309(o). For this subtopic, the Committee proposes to meet remotely for one-half day in October with the Joint Education Interim Committee to receive consultant, Department of Education, and legislative staff reports.

(b) The Committee will monitor the allocation and expenditure of authorized American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funding as well as funding opportunities and expenditures directed through the State resulting from direct and competitive allocations under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

(c) The Committee will receive a report from the University of Wyoming on general education and other

requirements for students that may be required and whether there are any inherent incentives or disincentives with the requirements, especially related to class registration.

(d) The Committee anticipates receiving an update on any legislation forwarded by the Select Committee on Capital Financing and Investments that could impact the liquidity of invested funds, cash budgeting, or revenue from investments.

Priority #: 7 Fiscal Data Book.

The Committee will continue its review of the Legislative Service Office (LSO) Data Book and updated website to further improve the presentation of state fiscal conditions and user interaction with state fiscal data through a working group.

Revenue

Standard Budget: \$50,000.00

Priority #: 1 Property Tax Issues.

The Committee will review issues related to property taxes including consideration of property tax relief programs, the State Board of Equalization, property taxes on second homes, and property tax administration in general. This topic will also include a review of governmental property tax exemptions and how those are applied.

Priority #: 2 Revenue for K-12 Education.

The Committee, in conjunction with the Joint Education Committee, intends to solicit and investigate ideas for sustainable, long-term revenue sources for K-12 education. The Committee hopes to identify one or two options to provide at least fifty million dollars in revenue for K-12 education.

Priority #: 3 Continuation of 2021 Interim Topics.

The Committee will continue discussions on several topics that were under consideration during the 2021 interim including electricity taxation, Medicaid expansion including consideration of using a provider tax to pay for the ten percent (10%) state share, and bills that were tabled in the 2021 interim related to sales tax exemptions on services, digital streaming services and the corporate income tax.

Priority #: 4 State Lands.

The Committee will study and propose solutions to maximize returns from valuable state land parcels.

Priority #: 5 Gaming Commission.

The Committee will review gaming and the operations of the Gaming Commission. This topic will include a broad overview of gaming in Wyoming and issues that need to be clarified as the result of the passage of bills authorizing skill-based amusement games and on-line sports wagering. This topic will also include consideration of whether it would be appropriate to house the Gaming Commission within the Department of Revenue which is reportedly the structure used in several other states.

Priority #: 6 Limited Liability Companies and Private Trusts.

This topic will include a review of Wyoming's trust laws to determine if they are in the State's interest or if there is potential to generate revenue through the large private trusts that are currently operating in Wyoming.

Priority #: 7 Tobacco Taxes.

The Committee will review tobacco taxes including taxes on cigarettes, cigars, electronic cigarettes, and vapor material. This topic will include consideration of a cap on the current tax as applied to premium cigars.

Priority #: 8 Local Government Revenue Options.

The Committee will consider suggestions from interested stakeholders on revenue sources for local governments. This topic will include a review of 2022 House Bill 41, Special taxation zone-optional tax.

Priority #: 9 988 Suicide Lifeline Funding.

This Committee will review options for sustainable funding for the 988 Suicide Lifeline. The 988 Lifeline is currently funded with ARPA funds.

Priority #: 10 Legislative Stabilization Reserve Account.

The Committee will review the revenue flows related to the operation of the legislative stabilization reserve account or LSRA.

Education

Standard Budget: \$50,000.00

Priority #: 1 Education Programs in Primary Grades (K-3).

The Committee will study education programs for primary grades (K-3), including reading and literacy. This topic is an extension of the Committee's 2021 interim topic to study the K-3 reading assessment and intervention program. This effort will expand the Committee's 2021 interim work to include review of the basket of goods, the content and performance standards, and the assessment instruments for grades K-3. The Committee will explore the impact of class size, virtual education, technology, and the COVID-19 pandemic on literacy in primary grades. Senate File 32, enacted during the 2022 Budget Session, requires a series of reports from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in connection with the K-3 reading assessment and intervention program. The Committee will receive and consider those reports as part of this interim topic.

Priority #: 2 Recruiting and Retaining School District Personnel.

The Committee will explore recruitment and retention of school district personnel. The Committee will assess data related to the exit of school district personnel and review prior labor market studies. The Committee will also receive information from the University of Wyoming on the teacher preparation program, including the student teaching requirements as compared to teacher apprenticeship programs utilized in other states. The Committee will study the teacher certification process with the assistance of Professional Teaching Standards Board. As part of this interim topic, the Committee will review the school funding model and allocation of resources by school districts.

Priority #: 3 Higher Education.

The Committee will review higher education funding, with emphasis on the community college funding model and funding sources, both operational and capital construction. As part of this effort, the Committee will analyze the courses offered, service areas, and student demographics of Wyoming's community colleges. The Committee will receive information related to the Wyoming Innovative Partnership program and explore the partnerships between the workforce and post-secondary education contemplated under that program.

Priority #: 4 K-12 Education Funding.

The Committee will explore a variety of issues related to K-12 funding and school finance. The Committee will study the funding and expenditures associated with career technical education and virtual education programs administered by school districts. The Committee will also review the pupil transportation program and explore alternative programs that may result in cost-savings and efficiencies in this area. The Committee will study the funding, governance structure, and educational programs administered by boards of cooperative educational services under W.S. 21-20-101 et seq. and 21-20-201 et seq. The Committee will receive annual reports related to the education resource block grant model required under W.S. 21-13-309(o) and (u).

Priority #: 5 K-12 Education Governance.

The Committee will study the governance structure of Wyoming school districts. As part of this effort, the Committee will explore the need for a process to review school district decisions, which includes the ability to report violations of the law to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. The Committee will also study the statutes governing expulsion and suspension of students and district practices and data in this area. The Committee will also review the process school districts utilized to implement the statewide student content and performance standards through the selection of curriculum and learning materials and how public involvement is utilized in this process.

Priority #: 6 School Choice.

The Committee will study the ability to provide educational options that can be offered separate and apart from the public school system for Wyoming's K-12 population. The Committee will receive an update on the administration of the charter school statutes as amended by 2021 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Ch. 169. As part of this topic, the Committee will explore education savings accounts, scholarships, and vouchers to attend private schools and reimburse parents for the cost of home schooling students.

Agriculture, State and Public Lands & Water Resources

Standard Budget: \$45,000.00

Priority #: 1 State Lands Leasing, Disposal and Exchanges.

The Committee will review the procedures for leasing of state lands and update the processes if necessary. In addition to this broad review, the committee will also look at specific subjects. The first is maintaining the balance of the approximately 10,000 acres of state trust lands while possibly disposing of small, isolated parcels of state trust lands and considering existing policy or necessary policy changes

to allow for possible additional opportunities and uses. The second is to examine progress and processes for land exchanges between the state of Wyoming and the federal government.

Priority #: 2 Fencing.

The Committee will review and update Wyoming fencing laws and to better define what constitutes a legal fence and where different types of fencing are authorized.

Priority #: 3 Wyoming Livestock Board.

The Committee will review statutes concerning the Wyoming Livestock Board for clarification and updates involving veterinarian and animal health and wellbeing. Additionally, the Committee will work with the Select Committee on Tribal Relations, as needed, on legislation concerning livestock diseases on Tribal land with the assistance of the Wyoming Livestock Board and Wyoming State Veterinarian.

Priority #: 4 Veterinary Technicians.

The Committee will research the role Veterinary Technicians play in the arena of veterinary medicine in the state of Wyoming, the scope of their allowed practice, and the parameters of their licensing.

Priority #: 5 Slow Moving Vehicles.

The Committee will review statutes regarding slow-moving vehicles, which may in some cases be outdated and which may include amending lighting, signage, and marking requirements for agricultural equipment.

Priority #: 6 Wild Horse and Burro Management.

The Committee will follow up on enacted 2022 legislation and continue their efforts coordinating wild horse and burro management among interested government entities, tribes, other states, and organizations.

Priority #: 7 Livestock Definitions.

The Committee will review statutory definitions of livestock. These statutes affect anything from ownership of poultry within special districts to bee farming. The focus will be to review statutes that potentially place an undue burden on livestock ownership outside of traditional agriculture.

Priority #: 8 Agency Reports.

The Committee will receive and consider reports and updates from agencies related to agriculture and state lands, including but not limited to:

- Wyoming Department of Agriculture
- Wyoming State Fair
- Office of State Lands and Investments
- Wyoming Livestock Board
- Wyoming Business Council
- University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Travel, Recreation, Wildlife & Cultural Resources

Standard Budget: \$46,000.00

Priority #: 1 Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources.

The Committee will explore avenues for expanding public trails and pathways to improve active transportation and recreation. The Committee will also receive updates on the work of the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund and its mission of serving the citizens of Wyoming by supporting Wyoming's culture and heritage. The Committee will also receive updates on the potential establishment of the Sunrise State Archaeological site and on recent developments at Hot Springs State Park in making the park a top tier recreation destination.

Priority #: 2 Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

The Committee will receive updates on the work of the Wyoming Wildlife Taskforce and consider any legislative recommendations the taskforce may have, to include potential modifications to the preference point system for bighorn sheep, moose, mountain goat, grizzly bear and wild bison (the "Big 5"). The Committee will also consider avenues for improving resident draw odds in hard to draw hunt areas for elk, deer and pronghorn, in addition to exploring management and control strategies for elk populations. The Committee will also receive updates on the disposal of wild animal carcasses within townships and cities and discuss related chronic wasting disease concerns. The Committee will also receive information regarding Wyoming's fish hatcheries and rearing stations and their role in supporting quality fishing, native species restoration and fisheries management.

Priority #: 3 Wyoming Office of Tourism.

The Committee will receive updates on the Office of Tourism's efforts to promote Wyoming's unique destinations both in-state, out-of-state and abroad, the office's collaborative work with other agencies in this regard, and how the office's expenditures support the goal of promoting Wyoming as a preeminent tourism destination.

Priority #: 4 Wyoming Geological Information Science Center.

The Committee will receive information on the State plane coordinate system and evaluate whether recent updates by the National Geodetic Survey require statutory changes to ensure the system functions appropriately and accurately reflects surface ownership data and other critical boundaries in the state.

Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions

Standard Budget: \$45,000.00

Priority #: 1 Electricity, Telecommunications and Utility Regulation.

The committee will study many aspects of electricity production, including different renewable energy resources and types of generating plants, as well as public utility service in other territories. The committee will look at incentives for innovation in electricity production and the reduction of cross subsidies, in addition to ways to protect ratepayers. The committee will consider whether and to what extent exemptions from the Wyoming Public Records Act should be allowed for industrial-scale infrastructure project permitting.

The committee will also consider whether the Telecommunications Act, as amended in 2019 Senate File 0019, should be allowed to sunset in 2023, and if not, whether any amendments to the statute are required.

Priority #: 2 Workforce Housing.

The committee will study issues related to the lack of workforce housing in Wyoming, including the sources of the problem and the social and economic impacts created by it. The committee will evaluate potential solutions for providing attainable workforce housing throughout the state.

Priority #: 3 Pharmacy Benefit Managers.

The committee will reevaluate 2022 Senate File 0036, which was not enacted during the 2022 Budget Session. The committee will review the costs associated with the bill, and will ask that various agencies provide empirical evidence as to where the claims for costs originate from and what happens to the money not being paid to local pharmacists.

Priority #: 4 Liquor Laws.

The committee will evaluate whether it is necessary to establish a process to set fees at a fair market value for retail liquor licenses within municipalities, as well as other liquor license issues.

Priority #: 5 Elections Update/Discussion.

The committee will study various election topics during the interim. Possible topics include open primaries, ranked-choice voting, the possible creation of an independent redistricting commission, election code revisions, redistricting policies going forward, ballot order randomization, nonpartisan local elections and multi-member legislative districts. Additionally, the Committee will include a review of recent judicial decisions on electioneering and the impacts on existing statutes.

Priority #: 6 Unclaimed Property Act.

The committee will evaluate the federal Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act to determine whether any recent revisions to the federal act would be applicable and useful to incorporate into the Wyoming Uniform Unclaimed Property Act.

Priority #: 7 Insurance.

The committee will evaluate Wyoming's insurance code in general as well as the anti-rebating statutes, which prohibit insurance agencies from giving clients anything of value, in an effort to update Wyoming's insurance statutes. The committee will study workers' compensation benefits and consider whether to expand workers' compensation coverage to retail employees, whether to provide coverage for mental injury and whether to increase payouts. The committee will also consider updating medical malpractice claims reporting requirements in order to avoid duplicative reporting by the medical malpractice insurance industry.

Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs

Standard Budget: \$50,000.00

Priority #: 1 Transportation and Highways

Several transportation and highway-related topics have been brought to the Committee's attention that it would like to study and discuss, including:

- Legislation required to facilitate technological advances, including:
 - o Electric vehicle charging stations and charging corridors;
 - o Regulation of autonomous vehicles and vehicle platooning, which uses radar and vehicle-to-vehicle communications to form and maintain a tight formation.
- Towing issues with fees and the statutory rotation call list.
- Right of way rules and policies for uses of rights of way.
- Organizational improvements to improve readiness, cost efficiency, public safety, information technology, and communication.
- Enabling and implementing high occupancy vehicle lanes in areas of high traffic congestion, such as near Jackson.
- Possible alternate routes to Interstate 80 between Rock Springs and Green River to reduce traffic congestion and increase safety.
- Road rubbish remediation, particularly involving the Interstate 80 corridor.
- Research the creation and implementation of a county gravel road management system.
- Airport governance and funding, consideration of operations and financing of airports to ensure an efficient transportation system and foster regional and state economic growth.

Priority #: 2 Military Affairs.

Several military related topics have been brought to the Committee's attention that it would like to study and discuss, including:

- Assessing options for providing state support for recruitment and retention programs for Wyoming National Guard members to improve National Guard end strength.
- Examining active-duty reform, benefits provided to services members on State Active Duty orders, professional malpractice limitations, and cyber responses, working with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security.

Priority #: 3 Statute Review and Updates.

The Committee intends to review and update statutes relevant to several transportation, highway, and military related topics that have been brought to the Committee's attention. The Committee expects transportation and highways statute update topics will include:

- Off-road recreational vehicles and trails, vehicle safety equipment and insurance.
- Highway Patrol and other employees compensation and moving expenses.
- Licensing matters, such as permanent registration for trailers, out-of-state commercial vehicle registrations, and how registration and licensing information is passed from county clerks and treasurers to the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT).
- Emergency medical dispatch certification follow-up on implementing 2021 legislation.
- Agricultural/slow moving vehicles, updating requirements for allowable speeds, safety equipment, signage, and lighting and including examination of weights, heights, widths, and the permitting process. The Committee may coordinate with the Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands and Water Resources Interim Committee on this topic.

The Committee anticipates that statute update topics for military and veterans will include:

- Including the Space Force where appropriate in Wyoming Statutes.
- Suicide prevention and mental health reporting.

Priority #: 4 Reports from Agencies, State and Local Entities.

The Committee receives reports from agencies, including the WYDOT, which includes the Wyoming Highway Patrol and the Public Safety Communications Commission, and the Wyoming Military Department, which includes the Wyoming Veterans Commission. The Committee expects WYDOT and county reporting topics will include highway safety and crashes, passenger safety, pedestrian safety, the replacement of the statewide computer information system (Transportation Information System: TIS), and, with the Wyoming County Commissioner's Association and other stakeholders, updates on WyoLink operations and funding. The Committee anticipates that Military Department reporting topics will include troop deployments and readiness, range management at military training areas, the annual report and the external investigation on sexual harassment, and the status of veterans' care facilities planning and construction.

Air Transportation Liaison Committee

Standard Budget: \$7,500.00

Capitol Interpretive Exhibits and Wayfinding Subcommittee

Standard Budget: \$25,000.00

Select Committee on Blockchain, Financial Technology and Digital Innovation Technology

Standard Budget: \$44,000.00

Priority #: 1 Workforce Development.

The Select Committee, in coordination with the Minerals, Business and Economic Development Interim Committee, will receive testimony and review ways to encourage and promote the continued development of a workforce well versed in new and upcoming technologies that can better meet the needs of Wyoming businesses as Wyoming continues to lead the way in blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation.

Priority #: 2 State engagement with Blockchain, Virtual Currencies, and Digital Assets.

The Select Committee will review how the State of Wyoming currently engages with blockchain, virtual currencies and digital assets, and seek ways to benefit Wyoming and its citizens by incorporating and encouraging the use of these technologies throughout the state.

Priority #: 3 Wyoming Stable Token

Governor Gordon vetoed 2022 Senate File 106, the Wyoming stable token act, but vigorously encouraged the Legislature to include it as an interim study to bring a better bill forward. The Select Committee intends to consult stakeholders, review costs of implementation, and otherwise work to address concerns about this legislation in order to bring forward stronger legislation at the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 4 Digital Identity.

The Select Committee will continue hearing testimony and considering draft legislation related to digital identity, including working on legislation concerning data privacy.

Priority #: 5 Digital Assets.

The Select Committee will continue working to identify areas to improve in existing digital asset laws including in the areas of tokenization of property, non-fungible tokens, and intellectual property.

Priority #: 6 Decentralized Autonomous Organizations.

The Select Committee will receive testimony from industry regarding the decentralized autonomous organization supplement and introduce any necessary legislation to improve this law during the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 7 Other Updates

The Select Committee will hear updates on previous work relating to financial technology, a commercial filing system, blockchain legislation nationally and in other states, and continue working to promote and protect the interests of Wyoming citizens in the areas under the Select Committee's purview.

Select Committee on Capital Financing & Investments

Standard Budget: \$35,000.00

Priority #: 1 2021 House Bill 0244 Study.

The Select Committee will continue its work comprehensively studying Wyoming's investment management structure. This topic is a continuation of the study required by 2021 House Bill 244. During the 2021 interim, the Select Committee received a required report from the Investment Funds Committee (IFC) outlining recommendations for improving investment operations in Wyoming. The IFC made significant recommendations to restructure the existing investment office into a separate entity. The IFC further recommended to restructure the IFC into an Investment Funds Board who oversees the independent investment office. The Select Committee will continue to evaluate the IFC's recommendations, including a review of the administrative costs incurred under similar organizational structures.

Priority #: 2 2021 Senate File 0121 Study.

The Select Committee will continue its study of modernizing Wyoming's investment earnings and distributions under 2021 Senate File 121. The Select Committee will continue the two-year study concerning Wyoming's investment earnings as required by 2021 Senate File 121. During the 2022 interim, the Select Committee will consider potential options related to endowment model/total-return investing and modernization of the methods for meeting spending needs through balancing reserves, liquidity, and investment returns for major funds. The Select Committee will continue to consider the impact of income-only spending restrictions. In considering this topic, the Committee will work with the State Treasurer's Office, the Investment Funds Committee, and other stakeholders to identify improved tools and practices. This topic may result in legislation by the Select Committee for the 2023 General Session.

Priority #: 3 Statutory Responsibilities.

The Select Committee will receive reports from state agencies as required and will monitor the state's investment and capital-financing policies. The Select Committee will receive reports and updates, primarily regarding its statutory duties to monitor spending policies and make an annual spending policy report to the Legislature. In addition, 2022 House Bill 0146 and Senate File 0001 require the State Treasurer's Office to report to the Select Committee each quarter to provide a reconciliation of cash and investment earnings. On October 1, 2022, the State Treasurer must report to the Select Committee regarding the steps taken to respond to the operational audit conducted in 2021. The State Treasurer's Office must also report monthly on its accounting system upgrade and work order system implementation.

Priority #: 4 Impediments to Investment Performance.

The Select Committee will study factors that may contribute to decreased investment performance. Factors that could be a "drag" on investment performance are a concern. The Select Committee will review and study: (a) the statutory provisions for public purpose investments and all other obligations or potential obligations that limit the use or investment of funds in Wyoming's permanent funds; (b) existing and different reserve account levels that provide sufficient liquidity while allowing the highest return possible for expenditure accounts; and (c) the impact of an income focused portfolio compared to a total return portfolio.

Priority #: 5 Selection Panel for Investment Funds Committee.

The Select Committee will consider changes and updates to the selection panel for the Investment Funds Committee. W.S. 9-4-721 establishes a selection panel that must appoint the voting members to the Investment Funds Committee. The Select Committee will consider revising the statute to include more specificity, including appointment of a chairman of the selection panel, creating a timeline for vacancy appointments, specifying terms of office for selection-panel members, and addressing potential conflicts of interest for selection-panel members.

Priority #: 6 Performance Compensation.

The Select Committee on Capital Financing and Investments will review the benchmarks, custom benchmarks, measures of risk and methodology for determining performance compensation within the State Treasurer's Office and the Wyoming Retirement System. The Select Committee will consider the appropriate persons to whom performance compensation should be offered and examine how performance compensation is handled by other, comparable organizations.

Priority #: 7 Cash Based Budgeting.

The Select Committee will study the feasibility of transitioning Wyoming to a cash-based budgeting system. The Select Committee will review cash balances and statutory revenue deposits compared to traditional spending and savings accounts and consider the pros and cons of cash-based budgeting in light of revenue volatility, investment outcomes, and the budgeting process. The Select Committee will identify statutory revisions for budget development, revenue sources, movement of funds, and other changes necessary to implement a biennial or annual cash-based budgeting framework.

Select Committee on Legislative Facilities, Technology and Process

Standard Budget: \$10,000.00

Priority #: 1 General Responsibilities Relating to Legislative Technology.

The Select Committee will review the Wyoming Legislature's use of technology, including but not limited to reviewing and updating, as necessary, the Legislature's current information strategy to guide technology development for the legislative branch.

Priority #: 2 General Responsibilities Relating to Legislative Process.

Review and recommend rule and process changes and other innovations to enhance the efficient, open and transparent operations of the Legislature.

Priority #: 3 Website Enhancements.

The Select Committee wishes to continue development of the Legislature's Website, including additional features and enhancements to improve the public's access to the legislative process.

Select Committee on School Facilities

Standard Budget: \$17,000.00

Priority #: 1 Statutory Responsibilities.

The Select Committee is charged by W.S. 28-11-301 with the following obligations: (1) monitor the assessment of statewide school facility needs, the prioritization of those needs and remediation of identified needs as undertaken by the School Facilities Commission (Commission) and State Construction Department (Department); (2) develop knowledge and expertise among its members regarding issues pertaining to school facilities and Commission and Department programs and procedures to maintain statewide facility adequacy; (3) prepare budget recommendations addressing statewide building and facility needs; and (4) review and provide recommendations on proposed commission rules. This work will result in a supplemental budget request made to the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Governor not later than November 1, 2022, pursuant to W.S. 28-11-301(b).

Priority #: 2 Major Maintenance Calculation.

The Select Committee will review the statutory major maintenance calculation, including the ability of a school district to utilize up to 10 percent of the allocation on square footage determined to be an enhancement and the replacement value percentage utilized to determine major maintenance payments. The Select Committee will also consider resources generated by the Education Resource Block Grant Model for routine maintenance and the implications this amount may have on school districts' major maintenance requirements.

Priority #: 3 Facility Planning and Budget Process.

The Select Committee will study the facility planning and budgeting processes outlined in statute and Commission rule and regulation. The Select Committee will explore any cost-savings that may be realized as a result of renovating in comparison to new construction and analyze the potential benefits in appropriating funds for design and construction in a single line item as opposed to the historical practice of appropriating separately for planning, design, and construction.

Priority #: 4 Project Management and Construction Delivery Methods.

The Select Committee will review the statutory authority governing project management and the allowable construction delivery methods authorized. The Select Committee will explore construction delivery methods and identify any statutory amendments that may be necessary to improve the process.

Select Committee on Tribal Relations

Standard Budget: \$15,000.00

Priority #: 1 Promotion of Intergovernmental Relationships.

The Committee will work to facilitate and foster communication and robust working relationships among State, Tribal, Federal, and local entities. This includes encouraging cooperation among agencies, pursuing opportunities for economic growth, and facilitating discussions regarding nondiscrimination and wellbeing for citizens on the Reservation and in neighboring communities. Specific topics to be discussed include:

- o Missing and murdered indigenous persons – updates on efforts to improve the tracking and recovery of missing and murdered indigenous persons, including a software system that alerts local law enforcement when a person goes missing, developments from the Governor's task force and cooperation among law enforcement agencies;
- o Cross-deputization fish and game – consider working cooperatively to stop illegal taking of animals in Wyoming; consider Michigan's (and other states') cross deputization for state game wardens to enforce Tribal fish and game code and Tribal game wardens to enforce state game and fish laws;
- o Review internet sales tax collection by the state and how online tax is identified for sales generated on the Reservation, distribution of internet sales tax collected from sales generated on the Reservation back to the Tribes, sales tax exemptions for Tribal members making internet purchases from locations on the Reservation and from other locations in the state. Research other states, including South Dakota's online taxation exemption.

Priority #: 2 Infrastructure, Land and Resources.

- o Feral horse management – understand population maintenance issues, over foraging and protection of critical habitat; consider cooperation in management efforts such as solutions unique to the Reservation, 2022 HB0005, and 2022 SF0009;
- o Livestock infectious disease control – communication among the Wyoming Livestock Board, State Game and Fish, Tribal Fish and Game, the Governor's office, and Tribes regarding interjurisdictional infectious disease management in livestock, elk, and bison and revisit 2022 HB0011;
- o Consider and discuss developments and updates including:
 - Solid waste disposal and clean-up matters and Tribal Environmental Quality Commission;
 - Off-reservation hunting lawsuits.

Priority #: 3 Health and Education.

- o Tour and discuss programs, facilities, and recruitment and retention for Native American students at the University of Wyoming and Central Wyoming Community College;
- o Education about other states' mirror Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) legislation;
- o Updates on efforts for obtaining federal reimbursements through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

Select Federal Natural Resource Management Committee

Standard Budget: \$10,000.00

Priority #: 1 Statutory Responsibilities.

The Select Federal Natural Resource Management Committee is required by statute to review federal policies or actions that may impact the management, development, or use of the state's natural resources. The Committee is also authorized to develop and introduce legislative responses to federal policies and actions that are necessary to protect the state's interests, including issues related to the structure of ownership of federal lands within the state.

Select Natural Resource Funding Committee

Standard Budget: \$10,000.00

Priority #: 1 Large Project Funding Legislation.

The Committee will review grant applications for large projects recommended by the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Account Board and sponsor legislation to fund projects based on available funds. This topic represents the Committee's responsibilities under W.S. 28-11-401(b) to review and sponsor legislation for Board-recommended large projects.

Priority #: 2 Review of Ongoing Projects.

The Committee will tour ongoing large projects funded in previous years to ensure funds are being expended properly and to monitor project progress. The Committee will also likely receive updates from stakeholders and the public on the impact of these projects.

Priority #: 3 Codification of the Rocky Mountain Power Project Account.

The Committee will consider codifying the rocky mountain power project account as created in section 322 of 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51. This topic relates to the Committee's responsibilities as this newly created account appropriates funds to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Account Board which may impact the Committee's legislative action.

Select Water Committee

Standard Budget: \$41,000.00

Priority #: 1 Statutory Responsibilities.

The Select Water Committee is required by statute to monitor the water development program, review project contracts and prepare annual legislation. The Committee is also required by statute to review and make recommendations regarding the project funding list under the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund program. The Committee also intends to review the statutory interest rate for loans made under the Wyoming Water Development Program for necessary changes.

Priority #: 2 Pilot Water Conservation Program.

The Select Water Committee will review potential statutory changes needed to support the authorization of a pilot water conservation program in the Green River basin as part of a demand management program or curtailment under the Colorado River Compact.

Priority #: 3 Construction Permitting for Off-Channel Ponds.

The Committee will analyze the permitting processes from various agencies as it pertains to pond construction on development projects. There seems to be a lack of scrutinizing potential pond construction. The U.S. Corps of Engineers looks at them, as does the State Engineer's office. However, they are only allowed to evaluate certain criteria. No one has the authority to restrict or say no to pond construction, even though it may have serious effects on the environment and fishery populations. The Soil Conservation Districts are very concerned over this issue.

Priority #: 4 Water Right Issue Associated with Development of Lands Within an Irrigation District.

The Committee will analyze a water right issue associated with lands within an irrigation district when the owner elects to abandon the water right in association with his development of the land. This situation could create a hardship on the district to meet financial obligations.

Priority #: 5 Groundwater interference with surface water and prior appropriation doctrine.

Select Water Committee will review W.S. 41-3-911 and W.S. 41-3-916 for potential statutory changes.

Priority #: 6 Review of Wyoming Supreme Court Cases Related to the Conveyance of Water Across Property.

The Select Water Committee will review the current law related to the conveyance of water across property and associated easements and the need for any legislative changes.

Priority #: 7 Reservoir One-Fill Requirement.

The Committee will review the current one-fill requirement for reservoirs to determine if statutory changes are necessary.

Management Council

Standard Budget: \$30,000.00

Management Audit Committee

Standard Budget: \$22,000.00

Priority #: 1 Statutory Responsibilities.

The Management Audit Committee will scope topics and conduct legislative audits in accordance with W.S. 28-8-107.

Priority #: 2 Humans Resources Consolidation.

The Management Audit Committee, serving in its role as the home committee to the Department of Administration and Information, will review the ongoing HR centralization to ensure the

recommendations in the efficiency study are effectuated by the consolidation – including reductions in expenditures and positions.

Priority #: 3 Citizen Actions to Compel Financial Reporting Compliance.

The Committee will continue the study of authorizing citizen actions to compel financial reporting of public entities. This is a continuation of 2022 HB0057 sponsored by the Management Audit Committee during the 2022 legislative session.