

Legislative Briefing

2017 Budget Session of the Wyoming Legislature

Bill Number and Title	Description	Sponsors	Position	Latest Action	Notes
HB 9 - Student ownership and privacy rights	Prohibits the conveyance or transfer of ownership rights of writings and other electronic communications created by a student at the University of Wyoming or any community college. It also provides for an expectation of privacy in student writings and other communications.	Education	Watch	Enrolled Act	WACCT worked with the Digital Task Force during the interim to get this bill in an acceptable format. UW does not think it is necessary.
HB 42 - Education - state board of education membership	Modifies the membership of the board to include the president of the University of Wyoming as a nonvoting ex-officio member.	Education	Watch	Enrolled Act	
HB 55 - Spending Policy Amendments	Amends the spending policy rates for the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund, the common school account within the permanent land fund and the excellence in higher education endowment fund.	Capital Finance and Investment	Watch	In conference committee now.	The Committee had lots of questions about how the EHEE works and how the colleges use the funds. WACCT provided a supplemental document supporting the data the WCCC provided to JAC earlier this year.
HB 59 - Higher education fiscal procedure amendments	Provides for submittal of an exception budget request for health insurance funding; provides that state matching funds for specified higher education endowment accounts shall only be made available to the extent contributions are actually received by the higher education institution.	Appropriations	Watch	Enrolled Act	

HB 77 - In-state tuition - AmeriCorps service	Permits in-state tuition for AmeriCorps service	Zwonitzer, Brown, Loucks and Pelkey	Watch	Passed the House but was not assigned to the committee in the Senate	Dr. Hicswa testified on the bill.
HB 79 - State funds equity investments pool	Creates the statutory trust fund investment pool; specifies the maximum percentage of the pool which may be invested in equities; specifies state funds which are to be included in the pool, including: the Wyoming tobacco settlement trust fund, the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account, the Wyoming cultural trust fund, the Wyoming public television matching fund, and the trust account within the Wyoming game and fish fund.	Appropriations	Watch	Enrolled Act.	
HB 80 - Transportation Network Companies	Allows for companies like UBER to operate in Wyoming.	Representatives Zwonitzer, Biteman, Kinner, Lindholm, Paxton, Pelkey, Schwartz, Walters and Wilson and Senator(s) Ellis, Pappas and Rothfuss	As info	Enrolled Act.	

<u>HB 93 - WICHE repayment program - veterinary medicine students</u>	Includes veterinary medicine students under WICHE repayment program requirements.	Larsen, Baldwin	Watch	This bill failed 3rd reading in the Senate on 2/23 due to political reasons.	
<u>HB 104 - Severance tax on coal</u>	reduces the severance tax on coal from 7% to 6%.	Hallinan, Biteman, Clem, Edwards and Halverson	As info	Died in House Revenue 1/20.	
<u>HB 105 - LSRA limitations on appropriations</u>	Prescribes that the LSRA account shall consist of those funds appropriated or designated by law and the balance of the account as of the end of a fiscal biennium shall not exceed the total of all general fund appropriations authorized for expenditure during the same fiscal biennium. To the extent any deposit of funds to the account would exceed this limitation, excess funds shall be credited to the general fund.	Madden	As info	Didn't make it out of House Appropriations	
<u>HB 108 - School finance - K-12 class sizes</u>	Changes the class size from 16-24.	Madden	Watch	H Did Not Consider for Introduction	

HB 133 - Civics proficiency examination	Requires passage of an examination on the principles of the constitution of the United States and the state of Wyoming to receive a high school diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate degree or high school equivalency certificate; specifying examination requirements and composition.	Clem, Brown, Edwards, Halverson, Henderson, Lone and Miller and Senator(s) Coe, Meier and Pappas	Watch	Died in House Education last week but we are now seeing a mirror bill in the Senate. SF 171 which does not appear to impact the colleges or UW, but that bill also died.	This could impact the CC's. Dr. Leach and Erin will watch and give comments.
HB 135 - Government Non Discrimination Act	Provides for the protection of the free exercise of religious beliefs and moral convictions.	Representative(s) Steinmetz, Wilson and Winters and Senator(s) Barnard and Meier	As info	The sponsors pulled the bill	
HB 136	Repeals gun free zones on any public college or university campus.	Biteman	Oppose	Failed 3rd reading with a vote of 13-17	UW and WACCT testified in opposition. Dr. Schaffer also gave comments.
HB 137	Repeals gun free zones for government meetings.	Biteman	Watch	This bill is still in conference committee.	
HB 154 - Art in public buildings	repeals separate budgeting and accounting for works of art in public buildings, including community college buildings.	Clem, Edwards, Larsen and Lindholm and Senator(s) Driskill +B19:C20	Watch	Was not heard in House Minerals	

HB 176 - Veterans tuition waiver requirements	Requires high school completion or HSEC attainment in Wyoming to be eligible, and limits to associates or baccalaureate degree (no certificates in implied).	Walters and Nicholas, B. and Senator(s) Landen and Perkins	Watch	Passed the House and is on general file in the Senate	
HB 207 - Restrictions on public benefits	Conditions eligibility for public benefits on lawful presence in the United States; requires verification of lawful presence in the United States upon application for public benefits	Representative(s) Jennings, Biteman, Blackburn, Clem, Court, Edwards, Gray, Halverson, Lone, Madden, McKim, Miller, Pownall, Salazar, Steinmetz and Winters and Senator(s) Dockstader and Meier	Watch	Did not make it out of House Labor	The CC's may have issues with this bill. We are running it through the student services and financial aids folks. UW takes issue with it on several levels.
HB 233 - State or school employment contract- compensation reduction	University of Wyoming, community college and school district employees; requiring salaries and benefits to be subject to any general compensation reduction approved by the legislature;	Representative(s) Miller, Allen, Clem, Larsen and Salazar and Senator(s) Driskill	Watch	Was laid back in House Minerals Committee	Concerns include removing local control from the boards of trustees.
HB 237 - Community College Cap Con	The bill grants authority for the schools to start using their private funds on the mentioned projects	Passed the House and will be heard in Senate Appropriations	Watch	Enrolled Act. Was amended to include the CWC Jackson building.	

HB 243 - School finance - capital construction funding	The bill imposes the state rate of 4% sales tax to a variety of services that are not already taxed. Should generate \$61 million a year.	Joint Revenue	Watch	Died in House Revenue	
HJR 6 - Budget shortfall reserve accounts	The adoption of this amendment would limit the maximum amount of funds to be held in legislatively created reserve accounts created to provide funds for potential budget shortfalls.	Madden	As info	Did not make it out of House Appropriations	
SF 18 - Special district public records - BOCES	Removes boards of cooperative educational services from the Special District Public Records and Meetings Act.	Corporations	Watch	Enrolled Act.	
SF 20 - Student data information privacy	Prohibits an officer or employee of a school district from requiring access to a digital information account of a student or prospective student; prohibiting waiver of rights.	Education	Watch	Died in the Senate	
SF 35 - Virtual education	Pertains to public K-12 schools; modifies requirements for the delivery of virtual education; establishes an advisory committee; and provides for rulemaking authority. Learning Mgt System	Education	Watch	Enrolled Act.	
SF 34 - Student Personal Digital Information Protection Act	Prohibits internet or online service providers from using, disclosing or compiling student data.	Education	Watch	Died in the House last week with a vote of 30-30.	
SF 37 - Education - Hathaway scholarship program	Changes the definition of GPA for determining initial scholarship, among other things.	Education	Watch	Enrolled Act.	
SF 53 - Veterans hiring preference	Specifies the hiring preference in public employment for veterans and surviving spouses of deceased veterans. The bill includes community colleges.	Transportation	Watch	Enrolled Act.	

SF 132 - ENDOW initiative	provides for an economic diversification council to oversee and promote economic diversification activities in the state. \$1.5M would be available for grants to business and the community colleges and \$1M would be needed to administer the program.	Senator(s) Bebout, Hastert and Von Flatern and Representative(s) Greear, Harshman and Miller	Support	Enrolled Act.	
SF 145 - UW and Community College boards of trustees - Chairman	Modifies the board president's title; allowing an increase in University of Wyoming board of trustees executive committee members	Senator(s) Nethercott and Bebout	Watch	Failed House 3rd Reading: 23-35-2-0-0	
SF146 - Community College District Board Voting	Specifies that action of a district board shall be decided by a majority vote	Nethercott	Watch	Was not considered in House COW	
SF 152 - Hathaway Student Scholarships	Repeals Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship; provides for continuation of existing provisional opportunity scholarships as opportunity scholarships; requires students to file federal student aid forms for Hathaway scholarship eligibility; modifies continuing eligibility requirements and removes limitations based upon semesters of eligibility for scholarships;	Senator(s) Rothfuss, Coe, Pappas, Von Flatern and Wasserburger and Representative(s) Freeman, Furphy, Northrup and Paxton	Watch	Senate no report prior to CoW Cutoff	

