

Summary of 2019 Legislative Session Bills

Bills that PASSED the 2019 Legislative Session

House Bill 0001. General government appropriations. (HEA0051, CH0080)

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to supplemental appropriations for the operation of state 2 government; increasing or decreasing certain amounts; adjusting the number 3 of positions; modifying prior appropriations; making additional 4 appropriations; requiring reports; making certain appropriations subject to 5 the terms and conditions specified; providing transfers of certain funds as 6 specified; directing amendments to the Medicaid state plan; and providing 7 for effective dates.

This bill provides for the supplement to the general governmental appropriations for the 2019-20 biennium. This bill provides for an external cost adjustment to the education resource block grant model as follows: for professional labor, 1.415%; for nonprofessional labor, 1.536%; for educational materials, 3.335%; and for energy, 10.823%. Not later than September 1, 2019, all school districts are required to report to the State Construction Department on local enhancements to school buildings and facilities and capital construction and major maintenance projects. Not later than October 1, 2019, the State Construction Department shall report to JAC and the Joint Education Interim Committee (JEC) on school districts' responses related to expenditures for enhancements, capital construction and major maintenance. Various school construction projects were approved, but the Governor vetoed reappropriation of school safety and security funds. The Governor also vetoed the pilot principal education program.

House Bill 0022. Teacher accountability. (HEA0061, CH0084)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to education; modifying provisions governing teacher accountability; conforming provisions; repealing provisions regarding teacher and school leader accountability; and providing for an effective date.

This bill modifies responsibilities of the State Board of Education and school boards regarding teacher and school leader accountability. The bill amends the State Board's responsibility to establish rules governing teacher performance evaluation systems. The rules must establish general criteria for the evaluation systems that provide school districts flexibility in designing the evaluations. The bill requires school boards to have all teachers, including initial contract teachers and continuing contract teachers, evaluated using evaluations developed pursuant to State Board rule. Continuing contract teachers classified as effective under the evaluation system for two consecutive years need only be evaluated once every three years thereafter. The bill also repeals two provisions, one of which provided that any teacher could be suspended or dismissed, or a continuing contract teacher terminated, for inadequate student academic growth over two or more consecutive years, and the other of which established reporting requirements relating to ineffective teachers and school leaders.

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House Bill 0023. Education accountability. (HEA0043, CH0109)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to education accountability; generally modifying provisions of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act; conforming provisions; repealing a provision; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

This bill amends the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA) and related provisions. It authorizes the State Board of Education to grant a one-year exception to the accountability system requirements if a school cannot, for good cause, administer the statewide assessment. The bill modifies how the State Board of Education may set school performance targets and threshold scores for meeting or exceeding expectations under the WAEA. It amends the goals for the system of support and intervention for schools that are designated as partially meeting expectations or not meeting expectations. The goals include: Increasing the ability of schools and school districts to improve achievement and growth indicator performance; and Expanding the ability for schools and school districts within the state to continuously improve. The bill revises reporting and review requirements of the State Board relating to the accountability system and requires components of the accountability system to be provided for in rule.

House Bill 0024. National board teacher certification. (HEA0120, CH0192)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to educators; modifying national board teacher certification incentive programs; repealing obsolete provisions; and providing for an effective date.

The bill modifies a program to assist teachers earn national board teacher certification. It also modifies a program to reimburse school districts for annual stipends paid to teachers who have earned national board teacher certification. The bill authorizes the Department of Education to work with a nonprofit entity to create a program to assist public school teachers earn national board teacher certification. It provides that no funds may be distributed to the program unless the nonprofit provides matching funds. Requirements are imposed on teachers to be eligible to receive assistance from the program. Current law requires WDE to reimburse school districts for \$4,000.00 annual stipends paid to teachers who have earned national board teacher certification. The bill creates an exception to this requirement- providing that no reimbursement shall be given to a school district for a national board teacher certification stipend paid to a teacher who earned initial national board teacher certification on or after January 1, 2021 and has received fifteen national board teacher certification stipends. The bill provides that full-time speech-language therapists are eligible to receive the annual national board teacher certification stipend once the certification is earned.

House Bill 0025. Virtual education amendments. (HEA0005, CH0018)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to virtual education; modifying who may teach virtual education courses; modifying where a full-time virtual education student may be enrolled; and providing for an effective date.

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Under existing law, only Wyoming certified teachers may teach virtual education courses in the State's public school system. The bill provides that postsecondary faculty who qualify to teach courses in-person in the State's public school system may also do so through virtual education. Additionally, under existing law, a full-time virtual education student must be enrolled in the school district providing the virtual education regardless of where the student resides. The bill provides that a full-time virtual education student's resident school district may agree with the student's virtual education school district for the student to be enrolled in the student's resident school district.

House Bill 0052. Public works and contracts.

(HEA0040, CH0129)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Sommers, Greear, Harshman, Larsen, and Loucks and Senator(s) Bebout, Coe, Driskill, and Kinskey

AN ACT relating to public works and contracts; modifying requirements for the procurement of furniture and movable equipment in capital construction projects; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

The act modifies requirements for the use of specified products in competitively bid contracts for the purchase of furniture and movable equipment in public contracts. It specifies that the procurement of furniture and movable equipment shall be done by competitive bid based upon: Specifications written for products that are available from Wyoming resident suppliers; or If specified products are not available from any Wyoming resident supplier, specifications addressing performance standards and functional requirements determined by the procuring agency. Existing law allowed a waiver for agencies and political subdivisions to these requirements. The act limits that waiver authority to political subdivisions only and requires the waivers to be approved by the governing body of the political subdivision.

House Bill 0065. Procurements.

(HEA0078, CH0117)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Walters, Harshman, and Hunt and Senator(s) Driskill, and Landen

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; modifying provisions relating to the procurement of services by public entities; subjecting school districts to the requirements of the Professional Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services Procurement Act; providing applicability; and providing for an effective date.

The bill amends a variety of provisions governing procurement by governmental entities. The bill subjects school districts to the requirements of the Professional Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services Procurement Act. Currently the Act requires notification to qualified architects, engineers and land surveyors and newspaper publication when professional services procured cost in excess of \$5,000.00. The bill increases this threshold to \$25,000.00 for notification and to \$50,000.00 for publication. The bill also reduces the number of weeks of required publication, from four to two. o Currently the Act requires different selection procedures for professional service providers, depending on the cost of the services and the total cost of the project. More expensive services and projects require an interview process. Less

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expensive services and projects require only a proposal submittal. The bill eliminates the thresholds based on the total cost of the project and increases the threshold relating to the cost of professional services from \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00. Currently, when a school district makes capital improvements it must obtain competitive bids when the cost of the project is more than \$10,000.00 and less than \$25,000.00. When a capital construction project costs more than \$25,000.00, publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the district is required. The bill amends these requirements. It provides that if a capital construction project costs \$50,000.00 or more, a school district must obtain complete bids and publish a call for bids in a newspaper of general circulation in the state for two weeks. The bill also increases project cost thresholds for bonding requirements and applies to procurement activities initiated on or after the effective date of the bill.

House Bill 0078. Education major maintenance funding. (HEA0024, CH0042)

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to community college and school district funding; providing for quarterly distribution of major maintenance funding to community colleges and school districts; increasing the amount that may be spent on a capital construction project without legislative approval; increasing the percentage of unrestricted community college operating funds which may be carried forward to subsequent biennial periods; and providing for effective dates.

Under existing law, 75% of the funds appropriated to the State Construction Department for K-12 school district major maintenance are distributed to school districts on July 1 of each fiscal year and the remainder is distributed on or before September 30 of each fiscal year. This act revises the distribution of major maintenance appropriations for K-12 school districts to provide for quarterly payments. The act has the potential to increase investment earnings by providing the state the opportunity to invest the appropriated funds for additional time prior to distribution. This act also addresses various issues related to community colleges.

House Bill 0079. School finance interfund loans. (HEA0025, CH0043)

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to interfund loans; amending provisions relating to interfund loans to the school foundation program account; clarifying provisions for interfund loans as specified; and providing for an effective date.

Existing law authorizes interfund loans from the Common School Account within the Permanent Land Fund (Common School Account) as necessary to meet cashflow needs of the School Foundation Program when revenues are dedicated but not yet received. This act revises the source of interfund loans to the School Foundation Program from the Common School Account to the Legislative Stabilization Reserve Account (LSRA). To the extent funds are not available within the LSRA, the act authorizes interfund loans to the School Foundation Program from the Common School Account. The interest rate on interfund loans from the LSRA is set equal to the average interest rate on state's pooled funds from the previous year. The act amends other interfund loan provisions to clarify the maximum amounts authorized for other interfund loans do not apply to interfund loans for the School Foundation Program.

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House Bill 0099. Wyoming public lands day.

(HEA0109, CH0177)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Schwartz, Brown, Roscoe, Sommers and Stith and Senator(s) Coe, Dockstader, Gierau and Nethercott

AN ACT relating to state holidays and observances; providing for a public lands day; and providing for an effective date.

This act is in tribute to the importance of public lands in the State, to acknowledge the multiple use of public lands, and in recognition to the value of public lands to the State's economy, open spaces, diversity of mineral, grazing and forestry resources, wildlife and recreational opportunities. The act designates the fourth Saturday in September of each year as Public Lands Day and requires the Governor to issue a proclamation requesting the proper observance of Public Lands Day. The act also defines "public lands" to mean all federal and state public lands excluding state trust lands managed for the benefit of Wyoming's public schools and institutions.

House Bill 0101. Joint powers board- natural gas service.

(HEA0072, CH0118)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Western

AN ACT relating to local powers; authorizing joint powers boards to create and operate natural gas systems; and providing for an effective date.

This act authorizes joint powers boards to plan, own, lease, assign, sell, create, expand, finance or operate municipal natural gas facilities and systems. This act also removes the requirement that in order for the joint powers entity public utility to be exempt from specified statutory utility regulations the individual members of the entity needed to be authorized by law to provide utility service.

House Bill 0118. Family college savings program- repeal.

(HEA0076, CH0135)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Walters, Brown, Kinner and Schwartz and Senator(s) Agar and Dockstader

AN ACT relating to the family college savings program; repealing permissive statutes authorizing the state treasurer to administer a family college savings program; and providing for an effective date.

Under existing law, the State Treasurer is authorized, but not required to have a Wyoming Family College Savings Program under Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code. In 2006, Wyoming terminated its state sponsored 529 plan. This act repeals the authority for the Wyoming Family College Savings Program. The act does not affect a Wyoming taxpayer's participation in other 529 plans.

House Bill 0130. Wyoming cowboy and cowgirl legacy week.

(HEA0095, CH0154)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Paxton, Hunt, Sommers and Walters and Senator(s) Boner, Driskill, Landen and Moniz

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AN ACT relating to holidays; making legislative findings; designating the third week of September as Wyoming Cowboy and Cowgirl Legacy Week; and providing for an effective date.

Designates the third calendar week of each September as “Wyoming Cowboy and Cowgirl Legacy Week”. Encourages appropriate celebrations and commemorations of Wyoming Cowboy and Cowgirl Legacy Week by schools, the University of Wyoming and Wyoming communities. Makes legislative findings relating to Wyoming Cowboy and Cowgirl Legacy Week.

House Bill 0133. Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarships. (HEA0039, CH0081)

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman, Brown and Paxton and Senator(s) Anderson, Anselmi-Dalton, Boner, Pappas and Rothfuss

AN ACT relating to education; providing for scholarships to out-of-state students to attend Wyoming institutions of higher education; specifying scholarship amounts, eligibility requirements and other elements of the scholarships; providing for resident tuition for scholarship recipients; creating a selection committee; creating accounts; making the award of scholarships contingent on funding as specified; and providing for an effective date.

This bill creates a new Hathaway Expand Wyoming Scholarship program. The scholarship is to be awarded to students that are from states that neighbor Wyoming (Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Utah). It is limited to two per state per year, and 24 active scholarships at any time. It is limited to eight full semesters and will be for the cost of attendance but cannot exceed the amount for the Trustee Scholarship at the University of Wyoming. The scholarship will be administered by the department of education and requires a commitment from the recipient to work, attend graduate school in Wyoming for specified times based on the term of the award, or repay the scholarship award. The bill provides that scholarships may only be issued once the balance of the newly created Hathaway Expand Wyoming Scholarships Account reaches \$10,000,000. The State Treasurer is authorized to accept private monetary donations to the Account, and no state funds shall be appropriated to it.

House Bill 0199. Remote education agreements. (HEA0118, CH0191)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Barlow, Clausen, Paxton and Sommers and Senator(s) Coe and Kost

AN ACT relating to virtual education; creating an exception to virtual education requirements; authorizing remote education agreements between school districts; providing requirements for the remote education; and providing for an effective date.

Current law provides that virtual education courses taught to Wyoming public school students are subject to rules promulgated by the State Superintendent. The rules, among other things, provide a process for the State Superintendent to establish, approve, facilitate and monitor a state network of virtual education courses. The State Superintendent must annually publish a course catalog identifying the courses available and the tuition to be assessed for each virtual education course. The bill creates an exception to State Superintendent rules for virtual education courses.

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One Wyoming school district may agree to provide “remote education” to students in another school district. These courses will not be considered virtual education courses, so long as: The teacher teaching the course does so in-person, in a classroom to students in the teacher’s district and provides interactive delivery of content to students in the other district; The districts complete a tuition agreement to compensate the school district providing the courses; and The school district providing the course monitors the academic progress of the students taking the course, facilitates necessary instructional support, maintains student records, and ensures the course being taught complies with and fulfills a portion of the state education program.

House Bill 0297. K-3 reading assessment and intervention program.

(HEA0098, CH0155)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Harshman and Barlow and Senator(s) Landen and Scott
AN ACT relating to education; amending the reading assessment and intervention program required for students in grades kindergarten through grade three; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, each school district must design and implement a reading screening program that measures student reading progress in kindergarten through grade three. The screening program must include a reading assessment plan using screening instruments approved by the Wyoming Department of Education, with standardized measures providing statewide longitudinal data. The bill amends the requirements of the program so that each school district must select and implement a reading assessment and intervention program for K-3 students that uses screening instruments to identify reading difficulties and implements with fidelity an evidence-based intervention program. The bill amends reporting requirements for the assessment and intervention program, including those relating to student performance longitudinal data, intervention methods used, and overall progress achieved. The bill amends requirements for improvement plans for school districts in which less than 85% of third graders are reading on grade level. Current law requires the WDE to promulgate rules and regulations for school districts to administer the reading assessment and intervention program. The bill amends this requirement. Department rules must assist school districts in administering their reading assessment and intervention programs, including through mechanisms to provide professional development.

House Bill 0308. Modernizing and balancing Wyoming’s school funding streams.

(HEA0125, CH0204)

Sponsored by Representative(s) Harshman, Freeman, Obermueller, Paxton and Sommers and Senator(s) Kost, Schuler and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to school finance; modifying provisions of the state’s public school funding system; amending provisions regarding state lands mineral royalties and related bonding provisions; creating an account; amending reimbursement provisions for transportation services within the education resource block grant model; repealing conflicting provisions; requiring rulemaking; providing applicability; and providing for effective dates.

Under existing law, for FY 2019 and 2020, 33 1/3% of the mineral royalties received from the lease of school lands each year is distributed for school capital construction. This act provides

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that beginning in FY 2021, 33 1/3% of this revenue will be distributed to a new account, the school lands mineral royalties account. The act authorizes the new account to be used for revenue bonds issued by the school facilities commission. This act amends provisions related to the education resource block grant funding model's transportation component by: Eliminating the partial moratorium that exists on school bus purchases; Authorizing school districts to purchase or lease-to-purchase buses, but school districts must attempt to secure federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act funds when procuring a school bus; Requiring the WDE to establish restrictions on how and under which conditions a school district may procure a school bus or other student transportation vehicle, either through purchase or lease, to ensure that the procurement method used is the most cost effective; Providing for reimbursement of bus purchases at a rate of 20% per year over a five year period and reimbursement of lease-to-purchase payments annually; Requires WDE to establish bus replacement schedules based on national averages for replacement cycles for school bus mileage and age; Eliminates transportation operations funding based on the average of transportation funding paid to school districts in 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years and returns to one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for operations costs.

Senate File 0018. Campaign finance revisions.

(SEA0003, CH0001)

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Committee
AN ACT relating to elections; modifying restriction on contribution of funds to political candidates for the general election as specified; modifying requirements for filing campaign reports as specified; requiring the filing of campaign reports relating to electioneering communications; amending campaign advertising provisions; repealing provisions relating to political speech by certain organizations; repealing archaic language; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

Existing law restricts contributions to general election candidates prior to the date for the primary election. This act exempts from this restriction candidates unopposed in the primary election and nominated candidates. This act modifies requirements for candidates to report election contributions and expenditures by: Specifying the filing of reports be made not more than 14 days before the election; Requiring contributions received or expenditures made after initial filing be filed as an amendment to the report within 10 days after the election; Raising the filing threshold for detailed contribution reporting from \$25 to \$100; Requiring the reporting of certain electioneering communications by organizations. This act modifies provisions relating to campaign advertising. The act specifies the disclosure required for certain campaign literature or campaign advertising. This act repeals a provision relating to political speech by certain organizations.

Senate File 0022. School district personnel definitions.

(SEA0013, CH0032)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

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AN ACT relating to school districts; removing the requirement that school district personnel be under contract with the school district to qualify to carry a firearm on school property; removing volunteers from the definition of employee in W.S. 21-3-132(b); and providing for an effective date.

In 2017 the legislature passed a bill to allow a board of trustees of a school district to allow employees under contract with the school district to carry a concealed firearm pursuant to state law and board rules. This bill removes the requirement that an employee be under contract with the district from the definition of employee.

Senate File 0043. Hathaway scholarship eligibility. (SEA0020, CH0028)

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to higher education; modifying portions of the Hathaway scholarship program; modifying an eligibility requirement for the Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship; amending success curriculum provisions to qualify for Hathaway honor or performance scholarships; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

This act amends eligibility requirements for the Hathaway scholarship success curriculum. Under existing law, for a student to earn an Honor or Performance scholarship, the student must, among other things, take two years of a foreign language in sequence plus two years of either fine arts, career and technical education, or additional foreign language. The act replaces these requirements with a new requirement that a student must complete four years total of foreign language, fine and performing arts, or career and technical education. The student must take at least two years of related courses in sequence. One year of high school coursework taken prior to high school may satisfy one year of this four-year requirement. The act provides that students graduating in school year 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 may either satisfy the new success curriculum, as created by this act, to earn an Honor or Performance scholarship or satisfy the success curriculum as it existed prior to this act to earn an Honor or Performance scholarship. Students graduating in school year 2020-2021 and each year thereafter will have to satisfy the new success curriculum as created by this act. Additionally, under existing law, a student may use a qualifying WORKKEYS test score to satisfy a requirement to earn a Hathaway Provisional Opportunity scholarship. The act deletes references to "WORKKEYS tests" and replaces those references with generic terminology.

Senate File 0049. County zoning authority- private schools. (SEA0067, CH0196)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Bebout, Agar, Boner, Coe, Driskill and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Clausen, Greear, Hallinan, Lindholm, Miller and Salazar

AN ACT relating to counties; exempting private schools from county zoning authority as specified; and providing for an effective date.

The bill creates an exception to zoning authority for boards of county commissioners. The bill provides that no zoning resolution or plan shall regulate and restrict the location and use of buildings and structures and the use, condition of use or occupancy of lands for the use of a private school in any manner different from a public school, provided that the private school: Is

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certified by the professional engineer or architect of record for the private school as being substantially similar to school facility commission guidelines for education buildings and siting and is designed to be constructed with appropriate materials, means and methods; Has capacity for 50 students or more; and Is owned and operated by a not-for-profit entity.

Senate File 0054. Wyoming cowboy challenge academy endowment. **(SEA0023, CH0050)**

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Interim Committee
AN ACT relating to the administration of defense forces and affairs; creating the Wyoming national guard youth challenge program endowment account to be administered by the state treasurer; authorizing the receipt of donations and gifts as specified; authorizing distribution of investment earnings as specified; specifying an alternate designation; and providing for an effective date.

The Wyoming National Guard Youth Challenge Program (commonly known as the Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy) operates at Camp Guernsey to provide a disciplined learning environment for Wyoming teenagers to improve their educational level and leadership skills. This act creates an endowment account for the Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy. The act provides that donations may be accepted for the endowment account, and the State Treasurer must invest funds and distribute ½ of the investment earnings to the Academy, which may be expended only for the Academy's operation and facility needs.

Senate File 0057. Public records. **(SEA0072, CH0174)**

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Interim Committee
AN ACT relating to public records; requiring the release of public records within a specified time; requiring the designation of a public records person for each governmental entity; requiring applications for public records to be made to the designated public records person; requiring the department of administration and information to post contact information of designated public records persons; requiring the governor to designate an ombudsman to receive complaints for violations of the public records act as specified; modifying penalties and providing remedies for violations of the public records act; authorizing a position; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

This act amends the statutory provisions governing public records. The act: Requires governmental entities to designate a public records person and requires applications for public records to be made to the designated public records person; Requires the Department of Administration and Information to post contact information of the designated public records person on the Department's website; Defines governmental entity to mean the state of Wyoming, an agency, political subdivision or state institution of Wyoming; Requires the release of public records not later than 30 calendar days from the date of acknowledged receipt of the request unless good cause exists, in which case the records shall be released on a specified date mutually agreed to by the applicant and the governmental entity; Requires the Governor to designate an ombudsman to receive complaints for violations of the Public Records Act and authorizes applicants of public records to file a complaint with the ombudsman; Authorizes the ombudsman

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to mediate disputes, prescribe timelines for release of records and waive fees charged by a governmental entity.

Senate File 0074. Professional services procurement.

(SEA0070, CH0185)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Case, Kinskey and Pappas and Representative(s) Loucks and Sommers

AN ACT relating to professional services procurement; modifying residency requirements related to the procurement of professional architectural, engineering and land surveying services; providing a definition; providing applicability; and providing for an effective date.

This act amends the Professional Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services Procurement Act. The act: Requires agencies to select resident firms for professional services unless less than 3 firms are resident firms or if the resident firms are determined not qualified by the agency; Specifies that the preference to resident firms shall not apply to the extent a proposed project will utilize funds, the receipt of which is conditioned to prohibit a residency preference; Requires contracts for professional services entered into by an agency to contain a certification by the resident firm that it will comply with certain residency requirements; Defines “resident firm” to mean a firm that: Possesses a physical office within the State that is staffed by individuals with professional and technical expertise who are employed in the State; Certifies that if selected for the project a specified percentage of the contract costs for professional services shall be performed by individuals or consultants employed in the State who will perform their labor or professional services provided under the contract within the boundaries of the State. Defines “agency” for purposes of the resident preference provisions within the Act to mean those entities specified in W.S. 9-2-1028 including the University of Wyoming, community college districts, the Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Department of Transportation. *(Note: This Act potentially conflicts with HB65.)*

Senate File 0080. Passing stopped school bus- recorded images.

(SEA0042, CH0074)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Ellis, Coe and Wasserburger and Representative(s) Brown and Northrup

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; providing for enforcement of violations related to passing a stopped school bus; clarifying access to and the use of recordings from video systems installed on a school bus; providing a fine for vehicles passing a stopped school bus; providing defenses; and providing for an effective date.

This bill provides that a recording made by a video system installed on a school bus that shows a person passing a stopped school bus is admissible in a judicial or administrative proceeding to adjudicate liability for the violation. The bill provides that if the identity of the offending driver cannot be determined, the registered owner of the vehicle shall be fined \$195.00. The bill provides that a fine issued to a registered owner of a vehicle for passing a stopped school bus shall not be considered a moving violation for the purpose of suspending a driver’s license and shall not be considered a conviction for any other purpose. The bill also clarifies access to and the permissible use of recordings made by video systems installed on school buses.

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Senate File 0089. Death benefits- Wyoming retirement plans. (SEA0024, CH0051)

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to retirement plans administered by the board of the Wyoming retirement system; amending death benefits paid under specified retirement plans for future nonvested members who are not employed by a participating employer at the time of death; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Under existing law, if a member of the Public Employee Plan, the Law Enforcement Plan, or the Judicial Plan dies before retirement under the system, the member's heir or estate is paid a benefit equal to double the balance of the member's account. This act amends death benefit provisions for members of these plans hired after July 1, 2019. If a non-vested member who is no longer employed by a qualifying employer dies, only the balance of the member's account will be paid to the member's heir or estate. The act does not affect the death benefit for a member during periods in which the member is employed by a qualifying employer or the death benefit for a member after vesting.

Senate File 0090. Nonvested member accounts- Wyoming retirement plans. (SEA0025, CH0052)

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to retirement plans administered by the retirement board of the Wyoming retirement system; amending provisions related to interest paid on nonvested member's accounts as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Under existing law, Wyoming public employee retirement plans require both a member and an employer to contribute an amount equal to a percentage of each member's salary to the member's retirement account. Existing law provides for interest to be paid on retirement accounts for members of the Public Employee Plan, the Law Enforcement Plan, the Warden and Patrol Plan and the Judicial Plan, even if the members have not vested or are no longer employed by the qualifying employer. The member account balance is used to determine the amount paid to a member who elects to receive an account refund, the death benefit, and the amount that may be distributed pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order. This act prohibits nonvested members of the Public Employee Plan, the Law Enforcement Plan, the Warden and Patrol Plan and the Judicial Plan from earning interest on their member accounts during any period in which they are not employed by a qualifying employer. For all nonvested members, including new and existing employees, the act applies to interest that otherwise would accrue on and after July 1, 2019. The act does not affect the interest or benefits of a member during periods in which the member is employed by a qualifying employer or the benefits of a member after vesting.

Senate File 0109. Educational attainment executive council. (SEA0061, CH0149)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to government; continuing the educational attainment executive council; providing duties; providing for staffing; requiring reports; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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The bill continues the Educational Attainment Executive Council, which was originally created by executive order 2018-4. The Council consists of 11 members. The purpose of the Council is to establish a 5-year strategic plan and a 10-year strategic plan to meet the needs of Wyoming's businesses and to reach the following educational attainment goals: By 2025, 67% of Wyoming's working population, age 25 to 64, will possess a valuable postsecondary certificate or degree; and By 2040, 82% of Wyoming's working population, age 25 to 64, will possess a valuable postsecondary certificate or degree. The bill provides the Council mechanism to help develop the strategic plans. The Council may develop legislative recommendations to present to the Joint Minerals Interim Committee and Joint Education Interim Committee to effectuate the strategic plans. If the Council does so, the recommendations are to be reported by September 1 of each year. The bill requires quarterly reports to the governor, the board of trustees of the University of Wyoming, the Community College Commission, and the executive council of ENDOW. The Council must provide a report to the Joint Minerals Interim Committee and Joint Education Interim Committee on its progress to develop the strategic plans by September 1 of each year. The Council shall exist until December 31, 2022.

Senate File 0120. Student expulsion hearing requirements.

(SEA0062, CH0164)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Bebout and Coe and Representative(s) Salazar

AN ACT relating to education; amending sections related to suspension and expulsion; specifying and amending hearing timeframes for students subject to suspension or expulsion; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

This bill reorganizes the current statutory language relating to student suspensions and expulsions to clarify what notice and hearing requirements apply to suspensions or expulsion of different time frames and providing definitions relating to different types of hearings. The bill also specifies that for a student suspended for longer than ten (10) days, a hearing must occur within ten (10) business days of the disciplinarian's recommendation to the administrator and allows the school to accommodate a student's request for an extension of time prior to the hearing.

Senate File 0122. Wyoming works program.

(SEA0078, CH0176)

Sponsored by: Senate Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to education; establishing the Wyoming works program at community colleges; providing for grants for students and funding for community college technical programs approved to meet labor and economic development needs; specifying requirements for student grants and for community college program funding; providing for administration; requiring reports; providing an appropriation; specifying funding distributions; and providing for an effective date.

Establishes the Wyoming works program at community colleges and the community college commission. Provides grants for students and funding for community college technical programs approved by the Community College Commission to meet labor and economic development needs. Specifies requirements for student grants and for community college program funding.

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Provides for administration by the Community College Commission with eligibility and grant amounts initially determined by colleges. Provides for two levels of student grants with maximum dollar amounts at levels set for Hathaway provisional and honors scholarship amounts (unlike Hathaway, neither the grant eligibility nor the levels are based on academic achievement but are instead based on enrollment in a credential program). Reappropriates funds from an ENDOW program for the grants to students and to colleges (to set up new credential programs).

Senate File 0129. Education reporting requirements.

(SEA0052, CH0102)

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Bebout, Coe, Ellis and Landen

AN ACT relating to education; eliminating reporting requirements as specified; and providing for an effective date.

This bill modifies and eliminates the following education-related reporting requirements: The State Superintendent's annual report on the status of the statewide technology plan; The State Superintendent's annual report to the Legislature on the general status of all public schools; School district reporting requirements on the results of academic assessments for students who participated in preschool programs; and The WDE report on innovative program grants. The bill modifies the following reporting requirements: The Eastern Shoshone and the Northern Arapaho Joint Business Council's report on education-related expenditures from amounts provided by the State of Wyoming pursuant to contract; WDE Hathaway scholarship reporting requirements.

Senate File 0131. Spending policy amendments.

(SEA0081, CH0201)

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to public funds; amending spending policy amounts for state funds as specified; amending amounts available for transfer to ensure certain maximum distributions are available; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

Existing law establishes the annual spending policy amounts for the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund and the Common School Account within the Permanent Land Fund. Earnings in excess of the specified spending policy amount from the corpus of these permanent funds are annually deposited to their respective reserve account. This act extends the current spending policy for the PWMTF by revising the spending policy as follows: For FY 2020 through 2022, an amount equal to 5% of the previous 5 year average market value of the PWMTF; For FY 2023, an amount equal to 4.75% of the previous 5 year average market value of the PWMTF; For FY 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, an amount equal to 4.5% of the previous 5 year average market value of the PWMTF. This act extends the current spending policy for the CSPLF by revising the spending policy as follows: For FY 2020 through 2024, an amount equal to 5% of the previous 5 year average market value of the CSPLF; For FY 2025, an amount equal to 4.75% of the previous 5 year average market value of the CSPLF; For FY 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, an amount equal to 4.5% of the previous 5 year average market value of the CSPLF. This act provides that funds shall be transferred from the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund Reserve Account to "guarantee" the distribution of earnings to the Strategic Investments and Projects Account. This act creates the Legislative Deficit Control

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Account within the Legislative Stabilization Reserve Account. Beginning in FY 2021, a portion of the available funds in the Strategic Investments and Projects Account will be deposited to the Legislative Deficit Control Account after other specified transfers are made.

Bills that FAILED the 2019 Legislative Session

House Bill 0008. Major maintenance multiplier.

Sponsored by: Select Committee on School Facilities

AN ACT relating to school finance; modifying the formula for major maintenance funding for public K-12 schools; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0050. Legislative review of state land transfers.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands & Water Resources Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to state lands; requiring legislative review of state land exchanges and sales under specified conditions; establishing review procedures; amending standards relating to surface and mineral rights for land transfers; requiring public hearings as specified; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0068. School funding revenue.

Sponsored by: Joint Revenue Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; providing additional mills for school funding as specified; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0075. Background check requirements- professional licensure.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Zwonitzer and Wilson and Senator(s) Pappas

AN ACT relating to criminal history records; requiring individuals certified by the professional teaching standards board to submit to a criminal history record background check every five years after initial certification; requiring speech language pathologists and assistants to submit to a criminal history record background check as a condition of licensure; making conforming amendments; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0080. School capital construction- supplemental budget.

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to supplemental appropriations for school facility needs; modifying prior appropriations relating to school facilities; making additional appropriations relating to school facilities; making certain appropriations subject to specified terms and conditions; providing for a transfer of funds; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0117. College entrance exam-written component.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Freeman, Brown, Haley, Paxton, Piiparinen and Sommers and Senator(s) Coe, Kost, Pappas and Schuler

AN ACT relating to education; amending the minimum test requirements of a college entrance exam selected by the state superintendent; and providing for an effective date.

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House Bill 0129. Civics proficiency examination.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Olsen, Brown, Clem, Flitner, Henderson, Lindholm, Miller, Northrup and Piiparinen and Senator(s) Agar, Bebout, Biteman, Boner, Case, Coe and Pappas

AN ACT relating to education; requiring 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; providing legislative findings; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0132. Hathaway scholarships- award increase.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman, Connolly, Piiparinen and Sommers and Senator(s) Anselmi-Dalton, Baldwin, Coe, Landen, Pappas, Rothfuss, Schuler and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; increasing scholarship awards as specified; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0136. School district teacher adjustment.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sommers, Crank and Paxton and Senator(s) Baldwin, Boner, Coe, Driskill and Kost

AN ACT relating to public school finance; modifying the education resource block grant model to provide additional funding to certain school districts for teacher positions; modifying a definition; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0137. Hathaway eligibility requirements.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Sommers, Lindholm, Northrup and Paxton and Senator(s) Driskill, Kost and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; modifying the Hathaway success curriculum; requiring a study; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0147. K-2 foreign language requirement.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Piiparinen, Burlingame, Clem, Edwards, Flitner, Hunt, Northrup, Obermueller, Pownall, Simpson and Western and Senator(s) Anselmi-Dalton, Baldwin, Biteman, Coe, Driskill, Gierau, Hutchings, Nethercott, Schuler and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to education; making permissive the requirement that school districts provide instruction in foreign languages to students in kindergarten through second grade; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0153. Public records- state spending and revenues.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Jennings, Clem, Edwards, Gray, Laursen, Miller, Salazar and Stith and Senator(s) Biteman and James

AN ACT relating to administration of government; requiring public reports on state spending and revenues as specified; requiring the posting of state entity requests and contracts for supplies and services as specified; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0154. Restriction on public benefits.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Jennings, Miller, Pownall, Salazar and Tass and Senator(s) Kinskey

AN ACT relating to public benefits; conditioning eligibility for state or local public benefits on lawful presence in the United States; requiring verification of lawful

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presence in the United States upon application for state or local public benefits; specifying penalties; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0156. Sound Money Pension Act.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Jennings, Clem, Edwards, Miller and Piiparinen and Senator(s) Hutchings and James

AN ACT relating to public funds; requiring a portion of Wyoming retirement system assets to be held as specie; providing for storage of specie; specifying that public funds may be invested in specie; providing applicability; providing legislative findings; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0172. Wyoming Budget Stabilization Act.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Gray, Barlow, Blackburn, Clem, Edwards, Jennings, Laursen, Miller, Piiparinen, Salazar and Western and Senator(s) Biteman, Boner, Bouchard, Hutchings and James

AN ACT relating to public funds; creating the Wyoming Budget Stabilization Act; specifying limits on state expenditures; specifying distribution of surplus funds; requiring review of related statutes; and providing for effective dates.

House Bill 0182. Special education funding.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Flitner

AN ACT relating to school finance; amending an appropriation to the Wyoming department of education for special education out of district placements; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0183. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments-2

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Salazar, Blackburn, Brown, Burkhart, Clausen, Clem, Edwards, Eklund, Eyre, Gray, Hallinan, Henderson, Jennings, Laursen, Lindholm, Loucks, Miller, Olsen, Piiparinen, Stith, Styvar, Tass, Washut and Winter and Senator(s) Agar, Biteman, Boner, Bouchard, Hicks, Hutchings, James, Kinskey and Steinmetz

AN ACT relating to concealed weapons; repealing gun free zones; providing for the carrying of concealed weapons as specified; clarifying that only the state legislature may regulate firearms, weapons and ammunition as specified; defining a term; amending a definition; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0193. Wyoming career technical pathway workforce strategy.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Henderson, Harshman and Northrup and Senator(s) Kost and Nethercott

AN ACT relating to workforce development; creating the Wyoming career technical pathway trust fund; authorizing funding for career technical training, internships, opportunities and services; requiring rulemaking; conforming provisions; authorizing a contract position; providing for appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0197. K-12 school district reserve increase.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Freeman, Blake, Crank, Flitner, Piiparinen, Roscoe and Stith and Senator(s) AnselmiDalton, Baldwin, James and Kost

AN ACT relating to school finance; increasing permissible school district cash reserves amount; removing obsolete language; and providing for an effective date.

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House Bill 0198. Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act clarification.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Piiparinen, Crank, Eyre, Freeman, Northrup, Simpson and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Kost and Schuler

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act; specifying the applicability of the act to local and state agencies; creating definitions; clarifying provisions; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0220. National Retail Fairness Act.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Obermueller, Barlow, Blackburn, Burkhart, Connolly, Harshman, Lindholm, Nicholas, Schwartz, Sommers, Walters and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Bebout, Case, Coe, Driskill, Kost, Nethercott, Pappas, Perkins, Rothfuss and Von Flatern

AN ACT relating to taxation; creating the National Retail Fairness Act; imposing an income tax on businesses as specified; providing for administration of the tax; providing penalties; authorizing rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

House Bill 0254. Hathaway scholarship award petition.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Freeman, Piiparinen and Sweeney and Senator(s) Coe and Kost

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; allowing students to petition to increase a scholarship award as specified; providing applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

House Bill 0268. Distributions from LSRA and other state funds.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Wilson, Hunt, Olsen and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Bebout and Hicks

AN ACT relating to public funds; providing limitations on the appropriation or transfer of funds from the legislative stabilization reserve account as specified; removing a sunset provision; amending the distribution of excess funds within the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0281. Wyoming lottery-gross proceeds.

Sponsored by: House Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming lottery; providing for the distribution of a percentage of gross lottery proceeds as specified; amending objectives related to procurement decisions; amending budget proposal requirements; and providing for an effective date.

House Bill 0286. K-12 transportation funding.

Sponsored by: Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; amending provisions governing funding for K-12 transportation within the education resource block grant model; providing applicability; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

House Bill 0294. Engrossed School trust lands-studies.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman, Connolly, Freeman, Paxton, Schwartz and Sommers and Senator(s) Coe, Gierau, Pappas and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to state lands; requiring the office of state lands and investments to study and prepare a proposed plan on the development of school trust land parcels as specified; requiring the office to solicit proposals as specified; requiring reports and a presentation of the plan; and providing for an effective date.

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House Joint Resolution 0005. State lands mineral royalties-constitutional amendment.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hallinan, Clem, Haley, Henderson, Laursen, Miller, Pownall and Sweeney and Senator(s) Gierau, Von Flatern and Wasserburger

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to provide that for six years all state mineral royalties earned from the lease of state school lands may be appropriated by the legislature for the support of the public schools and providing a ballot statement.

Senate File 0034. Hathaway Eligibility Act.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to higher education; modifying portions of the Hathaway scholarship program; providing that a prescribed career-technical aptitude test score may be used to satisfy a Hathaway scholarship eligibility requirement; amending success curriculum provisions to qualify for Hathaway honor or performance scholarships; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0053. Government contracts-labor organization.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Anderson, Boner, Driskill and Kinskey and Representative(s) Clausen, Lindholm, Pownall and Walters

AN ACT relating to public works and contracts; prohibiting governmental entities from including specified terms related to labor organization agreements in construction related contracts and grants; providing exemptions; providing legislative findings; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0064. Engrossed School safety and security.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to student and school safety and security; modifying duties of the state superintendent of public instruction and school district boards of trustees; creating a fine relating to unlawfully passing a school bus and amending related provisions; amending school safety drill requirements; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0075. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Bouchard, Agar, Bebout, Biteman, Boner, Case, Dockstader, Driskill, Hicks, Hutchings, James, Kinskey and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Blackburn, Brown, Burkhart, Clausen, Clem, Edwards, Gray, Hunt, Jennings, Laursen, Lindholm, Loucks, Miller, Olsen, Piiparinen, Pownall, Salazar, Stith, Styvar, Tass, Washut, Western and Winter

AN ACT relating to concealed weapons; repealing gun free zones; providing for the carrying of concealed weapons as specified; clarifying that only the state legislature may regulate firearms, weapons and ammunition as specified; amending a definition; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0079. Employee group insurance-local governments.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Rothfuss and Von Flatern and Representative(s) Brown, Gray, Obermueller and Sweeney

AN ACT relating to public employee compensation and benefits; specifying that a local government entity may make coverage through the state employees' and officials' group insurance program available to the officers and employees of the entity; making conforming amendments; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

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Senate File 0084. Distribution of funds-budget bill diversions.

Sponsored by: Senate Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to the distribution of funds; limiting the transfer of the statutory severance tax to the general fund to fiscal year 2019; repealing provisions redirecting revenues for the period of the budget; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0098. Wyoming Budget Stabilization Act-2.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Biteman, Boner, Bouchard, Hutchings, James and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Barlow, Blackburn, Clem, Edwards, Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Miller, Piiparinen, Salazar and Western

AN ACT relating to public funds; creating the Wyoming Budget Stabilization Act; specifying limits on state expenditures; specifying distribution of surplus funds; requiring review of related statutes; and providing for effective dates.

Senate File 0105. Procurement pricing transparency.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) James and Representative(s) Gray and Jennings

AN ACT relating to public contracts; requiring disclosure of recently completed and ongoing contracts for state procurement as specified; making the disclosure public as specified; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0106. New taxes-audit requirement.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) James and Representative(s) Piiparinen

AN ACT relating to taxes and fees; requiring audits before the imposition or increase of any tax or fee; requiring reports of audits; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0123. School district compliance-public records and meetings.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Scott and Representative(s) Lindholm

AN ACT relating to school districts and public records and meetings; requiring specified entities controlled by school districts to comply with public records and public meeting laws; prohibiting school districts from expending funds to specified entities failing to comply with public records and public meeting laws; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0130. State funded capital construction-2.

Sponsored by: Senate Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to state funded capital construction; providing appropriations and increasing prior appropriations for purposes related to state funded capital construction; modifying prior appropriations; making certain appropriations subject to specified terms and conditions; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0143. Civics proficiency.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Pappas, Agar, Bebout and Biteman and Representative(s) Brown, Clem, Henderson, Lindholm and Miller

AN ACT relating to education; requiring passage of an examination on the principles of the constitutions of the United States and the state of Wyoming to receive a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate; specifying examination requirements and composition; providing legislative findings; and providing for an effective date.

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Senate File 0164. School finance-external cost adjustment computation.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Hicks, Agar, Bebout, Gierau and Kinskey

AN ACT relating to public school finance; providing external cost adjustments within the education resource block grant model for school year 2019-2020; and providing for an effective date.

Senate File 0166. General government appropriations-3.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Agar, Bebout, Gierau, Hicks and Kinskey

AN ACT relating to supplemental appropriations for the operation of state government; defining terms; increasing or decreasing certain amounts; adjusting the number of positions; modifying prior appropriations; making additional appropriations; making certain appropriations subject to the terms and conditions specified; providing transfers of certain funds as specified; directing amendments to the Medicaid state plan; and providing for an effective date.

Senate Joint Resolution 0001. State-federal school trust lands exchange.

Sponsored by Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands & Water Resources Interim Committee

A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting the Congress of the United States to enact legislation requiring the exchange of certain landlocked state trust lands in Wyoming.

Senate Joint Resolution 0007. School capital construction-constitutional amendment.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Scott

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to transfer responsibility for construction of school facilities to school districts; to provide for specified mandatory and optional state funding mechanisms; and to provide a ballot statement.