

# **Summary of 2020 Legislative Session Bills**

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## **Bills that PASSED the 2020 Legislative Session**

### **House Bill 0011. Qualified residential treatment programs.**

**(HEA0003, CH0002)**

Sponsored by Joint Judiciary Committee

AN ACT relating to children; requiring an assessment for children placed in a qualified residential treatment program; requiring court review and presentation of information about the program; defining terms; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

The federal Family First Prevention Services Act and other federal law provide standards for qualified residential treatment programs that provide trauma informed treatment for addressing the emotional and behavioral needs of foster children. The federal law connects some federal funding to states that provide treatment programs that meet federal standards. This bill requires qualified and trained professionals (as determined by federal law) in the Department of Family Services to conduct assessments of children who are placed in qualified residential treatment programs. The assessments consider whether a child's needs can be met through placement in a foster family home or if placement in a qualified residential treatment program is the most effective level of care in the least restrictive environment. The act requires the Department of Family Services to provide information to the juvenile court regarding an assessment, including the appropriateness of the placement, the specific treatment needs of the child that can be met through the placement, the anticipated length of the placement and the steps the Department is taking to prepare the child to return home or be placed for adoption. The act also requires the juvenile court to review a child's placement within sixty (60) days of placement by reviewing the assessment and determining whether the placement in the qualified residential treatment program is the most effective level of care in the least restrictive environment while being consistent with the short-term and long-term goals of the child. The juvenile court must approve or disapprove of the placement.

### **House Bill 0023. School district procurement amendment.**

**(HEA0015, CH0021)**

Sponsored by Select School Facilities Committee

AN ACT relating to school districts; clarifying that procurement activities by a school district that are conducted through a board of cooperative educational services are subject to publication and competitive bidding requirements; and providing for an effective date.

Current law establishes cost thresholds for purchasing goods and services above which a school district must meet bid collection or publication requirements. This bill clarifies that school districts must independently meet those bid collection and publication requirements when procuring goods or services through a Board of Cooperative Educational Services

### **House Bill 0039. Remote education within a school district.**

**(HEA0005, CH0007)**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to virtual education; creating an exception to virtual education requirements; and providing for an effective date.

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Current law provides that certain 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. This bill creates an exception to State Superintendent rules for virtual education courses. It provides that a teacher who teaches a course in-person, in a physical classroom setting in the teacher's district of employment may teach the course remotely to other students in the same district without that course being subject to state virtual education oversight.

### **House Bill 0040. School finance - model recalibration.** **(HEA0096, CH0157)**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; creating the select committee on school finance recalibration; providing for a study to recalibrate the education resource block grant model; authorizing the use of consultants; requiring a report; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

This bill would create a select committee to oversee a K-12 recalibration study during the 2020 legislative interim to determine if modifications are necessary to ensure the model remains cost based in light of changing conditions, including changing technologies and modifications to law. The bill authorizes the Select Committee to work with consultant experts to complete the preliminary study and recalibration study. The bill also requires a report to the legislature with any associated legislation and appropriates funds to LSO for legislative salary, per diem and other Select Committee expenses.

### **House Bill 0050. Government procurement-amendments.** **(HEA0030, CH0029)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; modifying provisions related to procurement and contracting by governmental entities; specifying duties of the state construction department and the University of Wyoming board of trustees; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

Under existing law, procurement and contracting by state agencies is administered by the Department of Administration and Information. This applies to procurement of services and supplies generally, including capital construction projects. The act creates separate requirements and bidding thresholds for capital construction procurement and contracting by state agencies (including school districts), the University of Wyoming, and community colleges for certain projects. The bill charges the State Construction Department to administer capital construction procurement for state agencies and requires notice of an opportunity to bid on state capital construction projects to be posted on the state procurement website. For school district capital construction projects, notice must be published in a newspaper and on the state procurement website. The act also raises the threshold value of capital construction projects requiring a bid bond and increases bidding and contracting thresholds for general procurement by state agencies for noncapital construction procurement of services and supplies and certain road and bridge

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improvements. The portion of the act requiring promulgation of rules is effective immediately. The remainder of the act has a delayed effective date of October 1, 2020.

### **House Bill 0051. Professional services procurement-amendments. (HEA0029, CH0030)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to professional services procurement; renumbering and amending provisions related to the procurement of professional architectural, engineering and land surveying services; modifying applicability of resident firm selection requirements; specifying duties of the state construction department; making conforming amendments; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

Under current law, the Professional Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services Procurement Act, which governs procurement of professional services by state agencies, is administered by the Department of Administration and Information. This bill transfers the duty to administer the Professional Architectural, Engineering and Land Surveying Services Procurement Act to the State Construction Department. It revises requirements, definitions, and exemptions related to the procurement of professional services by state agencies (including school districts) and clarifies the applicability of resident firm selection requirements for the University of Wyoming, community college districts, the Wyoming Business Council, and the Wyoming Department of Transportation. The bill requires notice of the need for professional services to be posted in a newspaper and on the state procurement website. That portion of the act requiring promulgation of rules is effective immediately. The remainder of the act has a delayed effective date of October 1, 2020.

### **House Bill 0052. Public works and contracts. (HEA0031, CH0031)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to public works and contracts; modifying and conforming provisions governing public contracting; repealing provisions; and providing for an effective date.

This bill standardizes and updates statutes governing public works and contracts by public entities, including state agencies, boards, commissions, cities, towns, counties, school districts, the University of Wyoming, community colleges, and any other public corporation. The bill creates standard definitions for public entities and public works and revises provisions related to substantial completion and payments for contractors. It also requires notice of substantial and final completion to be published in a newspaper and on the public entity's official website or the state procurement website. The act revises the amount of retainage that may be held by a public entity on a contract and revises provisions for the release of retainage. It also standardizes requirements for contractor's performance and payment bonds for public works and revises procedures for disputed claims for subcontractors and materialmen. The bill authorizes certain notice to be provided by electronic means and repeals obsolete provisions.

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### **House Bill 0053. Education accounts-investment earnings. (HEA0016, CH0111)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to public funds; providing for the investment of specified accounts; providing for the retention of investment earnings; and providing for an effective date.

Current law does not explicitly specify where the investment earnings on the Common School Permanent Fund Reserve Account and the School Capital Construction Account are distributed. This act specifies that the investment earnings on the Common School Permanent Fund Reserve Account and the School Capital Construction Account shall be retained in each fund, respectively.

### **House Bill 0068. Sex offender-prohibited access to school facilities. (HEA0050, CH0151)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Simpson, Blake, Harshman, Kirkbride and Paxton and Senator(s) AnselmiDalton, Baldwin, Ellis and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to regulation of sex offenders; amending an exception that allows registered sex offenders to be in, on or near school buildings and grounds under certain specified circumstances; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, registered sex offenders are restricted from visiting or loitering near school buildings and school grounds when children are present or are likely to be present. Statutory exceptions to this rule exist. Two relevant exceptions are: when the registered sex offender is a parent or guardian of student, the registered sex offender may attend an academic conference or other extracurricular school event when school officials are present; or when the registered offender has written permission from the school principal, vice principal, or person with equivalent authority to be on the school grounds. This act amends the first exception noted above by requiring a registered sex offender to receive the written permission of the school principal, vice-principal or person with equivalent authority to attend an academic conference or other extracurricular school event that the registered sex offender's child or ward is attending.

### **House Bill 0119. Medicaid billing for school-based services. (HEA0072, CH----) GOVERNOR VETOED**

~~Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee~~

~~AN ACT relating to school finance; authorizing school districts to bill for school based services for Medicaid eligible students as specified; providing reimbursement to school districts for administrative costs; providing appropriations; authorizing positions; authorizing a transfer of funds; requiring reports; and providing for effective dates.~~

~~The act expands the state Medicaid program to include school-based services. These services include the services of school psychologists and school social workers and other school-based services provided pursuant to an individualized education plan. The act authorizes school districts that have twenty-five (25) or more Medicaid eligible students who receive special education programs and services to bill the Wyoming Department of Health for school-based services provided to those students. The Department of Health will provide payment to school~~

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~~districts for those services and then, by September 1 of the following school year, school districts will remit those payments to the Wyoming Department of Education. The remitted funds will be deposited in the School Foundation Program Account. School districts may begin billing the Department of Health for school-based services beginning July 1, 2021. The act provides appropriations to allow for administration of the program. The act requires the Department of Health and the Department of Education to provide two reports regarding implementation of the Medicaid billing for school-based services program.~~

### **House Bill 0159. Monthly payment of ad valorem tax on mineral production.**

**(HEA0078, CH0142)**

Sponsored by Select Committee on Coal/Mineral Bankruptcies

AN ACT relating to ad valorem taxation of mineral production; providing for monthly payment of ad valorem taxes on mineral production commencing January 1, 2020; providing a process for reporting, payment, reconciliation and distribution of the monthly ad valorem tax; specifying the payment schedule for the transition period; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, the ad valorem tax on mineral production is paid in two (2) payments with the first payment due by November 10 of the year following the year of production and the second payment due by May 10 of the following year. The act creates a provision providing for the monthly payment of the ad valorem tax on mineral production not later than the twenty-fifth day of the second month following production. The act provides procedures for implementation of the monthly payment of the tax including providing for the reporting, payment, reconciliation and distribution of the monthly payments. Notwithstanding the provision requiring monthly payments, the act provides for a transition period for mineral producers to transition from the current payment structure to the monthly payment of taxes. The transition period begins with payments first due in 2020 for 2019 mineral production. The transition period in the act specifies payment schedules through mineral production in 2026. That payment schedule would then continue until additional affirmative action is taken by the legislature to complete the transition to monthly payments.

### **House Bill 0161. Reserve accounts-investments.**

**(HEA0025, CH0055)**

Sponsored by Select Committee on Capital Financing & Investments

AN ACT relating to public funds; authorizing investment of the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account and common school permanent fund reserve account in equities as specified; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, the Reserve Accounts for the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund and the Common School Account in the Permanent Land Fund may not be invested in equities as they are non-permanent funds of the state. Under Article 16, Section 6 of the Wyoming Constitution, non-permanent funds may only be invested in common stock and other equities if the Legislature authorizes the investment by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members elected to both houses voting separately. The act, adopted in accordance with the constitutional requirement, authorizes a portion of the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund Reserve Account and the Commons School Permanent Fund Reserve Account to be invested in equities,

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including stock of corporations. The act also specifies that the investment earnings on the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund Reserve Account and the Commons School Permanent Fund Reserve Account shall be retained in each account, respectively.

### **House Bill 0162. State trust lands-proposals and study. (HEA0083, CH0158)**

Sponsored by Select Committee on Capital Financing & Investments

AN ACT relating to state lands; requiring the office of state lands and investments to solicit proposals for the development of identified school and state trust lands in Teton county; requiring the office to review proposals and make recommendations as specified; requiring reports; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

The act requires the Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI) to solicit proposals for potential development opportunities for school trust land parcels and state trust lands in Teton County for potential development to maximize the value of each parcel to its greatest extent. The act requires OSLI to review all submitted proposals and to develop a report with preliminary plans and recommendations for developing the parcels identified in the proposals, including opportunities for transferring, leasing, developing or exchanging the parcels, the impacts associated with the possible opportunities and the costs and sources of revenue from the opportunities. The act allows OSLI to engage with research firms and consultants to solicit proposals and prepare the proposed plan. The act requires the plan that OSLI prepares to ensure that any development opportunity would retain all of the state's royalty and income interests and would include only feasible proposals. Throughout the proposal process, OSLI must consult with agencies and local governments and engage in good faith negotiations with Teton County's commissioners, recognizing the objectives of Teton County's comprehensive master plan. OSLI must provide regular updates to the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Select Committee on Capital Financing and Investments and must provide the final version of the plan to both committees by October 31, 2020. The act appropriates \$75,000 to OSLI to complete the required study.

### **House Bill 0165. School nursing-state school nurse. (HEA0085, CH0125)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Wilson, Barlow, Connolly, Dayton-Selman, Henderson, Northrup, Paxton, Sommers and Senator(s) Baldwin, Coe, Ellis, Schuler

AN ACT relating to education; authorizing the state superintendent of public instruction to employ a state school nurse; specifying duties of the state school nurse; authorizing a position subject to conditions; requiring reports; providing a sunset date; and providing for effective dates.

The bill creates the position of state school nurse which is contingent on the availability of nonstate funding. The state superintendent shall solicit nonstate funds for the position and the nurse may be an employee within the Department of Education or an at-will contractor. The provisions are repealed effective July 1, 2026. The bill creates duties for the state school nurse which include developing best practice standards for school nursing, identifying professional development needs, developing training materials and assisting the superintendent create materials to provide recommendations to districts on behavioral health needs, disease prevention,

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substance abuse prevention, and bullying prevention. The bill also allows the nurse to advise district boards of trustees upon request on a specified program, write or obtain standing orders for medication administration for specified students and provide information to school nurses on public health issues. The bill requires the state school nurse to maintain aggregated data on specified diagnoses and nursing challenges in a manner that protects student confidentiality. The bill also requires the state school nurse to determine consistent cost-effective outcomes, collect and maintain data relating to cost-effective outcomes and report the same to the Joint Education Interim Committee and the Joint Appropriations Committee annually.

### **House Bill 174. Kindergarten start date.**

**(HEA0059, CH0159)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Duncan, Clifford, Freeman, Lindholm, Newsome, Northrup, Olsen, Salazar and Senator(s) Coe, Kost, Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to education; amending the minimum school age; conforming provisions; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

The act sets back the date from September 15 to August 1 as the date by which a child must have attained the age of five (5) years to be able to register for kindergarten. The act requires the board of trustees in each school district to establish a process to approve or deny requests to assess whether a pupil is sufficiently mature to be admitted to the applicable grade. If a board approves a parent or guardian request, then a child may register for kindergarten in a year in which the child attains the age of five (5) years by September 15. The act makes conforming amendments in statutes related to school mandatory attendance, district financial responsibility to students, first grade start date and preschool start date. Has a Delayed Effective Date: August 1, 2021.

### **House Bill 0178. Transportation of nonresident students.**

**(HEA0041, CH0079)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Northrup, Brown, Clausen, Freeman, Harshman, Paxton, Piiparinen and Senator(s) Coe, Driskill, Kost, Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to school finance; limiting transportation for nonresident students as specified; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, a school district may send school buses into another school district for the purpose of loading or discharging students residing in that district. The act prohibits that practice, but creates the following three (3) exceptions to the prohibition: If the transportation is performed for shared services for the purpose of efficiency; If the transportation is required for the educational stability of a child taken into protective custody; or If the two (2) school districts agree to the student's attendance in the school district in which the student does not reside.

### **House Bill 190. School district reporting-certification elimination.**

**(HEA0019, CH0024)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Connolly, Brown, Flitner, Freeman, Paxton and Senator(s) Ellis and Hutchings

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

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Under prior law the school district superintendent was required to certify that all data submitted to the department relating to the state's school finance system was complete, accurate and in accordance with reporting requirements. The bill removes the requirement for district superintendent certification and instead requires the school district to be responsible for providing data and reports in compliance with law and department rules.

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### **Senate File 0001. General government appropriations. (SEA0040, CH0080)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT to make appropriations for the fiscal biennium commencing July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2022; providing definitions; providing for appropriations and transfers of funds for the period of the budget and for the remainder of the current biennium as specified; providing for carryover of certain funds beyond the biennium as specified; providing for employee positions as specified; providing for duties, terms and conditions and other requirements relating to appropriations for the remainder of the current biennium and the period of the budget as specified; providing for position and other budgetary limitations; amending existing law by redirecting revenues and making transfers for the period of the budget; authorizing temporary surcharges; creating accounts; providing for a continuous appropriation; providing for reports related to appropriations; and providing for effective dates.

This bill provides for the general governmental appropriations for the 2021-22 biennium. This bill contains the following appropriations:

General Fund Appropriations*:	\$2,970,382,316
Federal Fund Appropriations:	\$1,710,314,793
School Foundation Program Account Appropriations:	\$1,867,214,543
Other Fund Appropriations:	\$2,270,830,361
<i>Total Appropriations in Budget Bill:</i>	<i>\$8,819,042,013</i>

The following apply to K-12 education:

**K-12 Foundation Program** – Appropriations of \$1.84 billion from the School Foundation Program Account for school districts, including an external cost adjustment, with limitations, and a limitation on increases in health insurance model funding. The bill includes School Capital Construction Account appropriations of \$87.8 million for K-12 facilities, leases, and related projects as specified in section 313.

**Department of Education** – Appropriations of \$325.3 million (\$18.1 million GF; \$297.0 million FF; and \$10.2 million OF).

**Other K-12 Education** - Appropriations of \$11.6 million from the School Foundation Program Account to the Military Department, Attorney General, Department of Health, Community College Commission, State Lands and Investments and Enterprise Technology Services for education-related expenditures.

**Major Maintenance for State Facilities and Schools** – Appropriations of \$128.9 million GF for state, community college, and university properties as specified in section 308. Appropriations of \$157.0 million from the School Capital Construction Account for K-12 school district major maintenance in section 027.



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The Governor did veto Section 335 – a provision that would have limited payments to National Board Certification of Teachers.

### **Senate File 0007. School buildings and facilities-lease reimbursements. (SEA0025, CH0070)**

Sponsored by Select Committee on School Facilities

AN ACT relating to school finance; limiting state reimbursements for buildings leased by a school district or charter school; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, school districts and charter schools, under certain circumstances, can receive compensation for the costs of routine maintenance and utilities for leased buildings and facilities under both the Education Resource Block Grant Model and a statute that provides reimbursement for lease payments for buildings and facilities. The bill limits reimbursements for lease payments so that the maximum reimbursement amount cannot include costs for routine maintenance or utilities.

### **Senate File 0016. School district procurement. (SEA0006, CH0043)**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to school districts; amending procurement requirements; providing applicability; and providing for an effective date.

The act amends procurement requirements for school districts (increasing the bid threshold to \$50,000). Current law establishes cost thresholds for purchasing goods and services above which a school district must meet bid collection or publication requirements. The act increases some of those cost thresholds.

### **Senate File 0017. Hathaway need-based scholarships-graduate school. (SEA0022, CH0040)**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; limiting Hathaway need-based scholarships for graduate school; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, Hathaway Scholarship recipients, under certain circumstances, may use their merit-based Hathaway Scholarship for graduate school. The merit-based scholarships provide a statutorily established award to students each semester. Graduate students who can use their merit-based Hathaway Scholarship may also qualify for the need-based Hathaway Scholarship, which provides additional funding for the recipient. For Hathaway Honor Scholarship recipients, the need-based award is calculated as the student's unmet financial need exceeding \$2,000.00. The bill creates a maximum limit for need based awards for graduate school students. The new limit is the undergraduate cost of attendance at the University of Wyoming minus \$2,000.00. This act is effective July 1, 2022.

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### **Senate File 0024. State employees' and officials' group insurance. (SEA0009, CH0046)**

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Committee

AN ACT relating to insurance; requiring the state employees' and officials' group insurance program to be administered in accordance with insurance laws and regulations as specified; modifying a definition regarding coverage; authorizing rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

The bill requires the state employees' and officials' group insurance program to be administered in accordance with the insurance laws governing group health benefit plans under title 26 of the Wyoming Statutes and any rules promulgated thereto. The bill authorizes the Insurance Commissioner to adopt rules to identify procedures for conducting examinations of the state employees' and officials' group insurance program. The bill modifies the definition of "dependent" for purposes of the state employees' and officials' group insurance program to include an employee's unmarried child under the age of twenty-six (26) years.

### **Senate File 0082. Public records-amendments. (SEA0016, CH0036)**

Sponsored by Joint Judiciary Committee

AN ACT relating to public records; amending provisions related to the designated public records person and ombudsman; specifying gubernatorial appointment of the ombudsman; amending salary reporting requirements for certain governmental entities; amending compilation and formatting requirements; defining terms; clarifying and modifying the release of agricultural information and rulemaking authority; and providing for an effective date.

In 2019, the Legislature passed a bill that made comprehensive amendments to the Wyoming Public Records Act, including the designation of a public-records person for each governmental entity and the creation of a new ombudsman position to receive and resolve complaints for violations of the Wyoming Public Records Act. This bill provides a definition for the ombudsman, who is appointed by the Governor. The bill also clarifies that the ombudsman can receive complaints, mediate disputes, provide uniform interpretations, train on the ombudsman's role and make recommendations regarding the public-records statutes to agencies and the public. The act makes other conforming amendments to the public-records statutes, including that the designated public-records person must be an employee or officer of the governmental entity. The act also amends publication requirements for salary information on employees of municipalities and counties to require publication of both employee base annual pay and overtime pay.

### **Senate File 0083. Budget and financial data reporting. (SEA0017, CH0037)**

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; amending requirements for the Wyoming public finance and expenditure of funds website; and providing for an effective date.

Under current law, the Department of Administration and Information must maintain the Wyoming Public Finance and Expenditure of Funds Website, where state entities must submit

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certain public financial information for publication. This bill expands the reporting requirements to the University of Wyoming and to local government entities (including school districts) but allows these entities to opt in if they choose. By July 1, 2020, the Department of Administration and Information must provide access via the website to the public financial information of local government entities beginning with those entities' financial information for fiscal year 2020 (beginning July 1, 2019).

### **Senate File 0138. Investment of state funds-2.**

**(SEA0069, CH----) GOVERNOR VETOED**

Sponsored by: Senator(s) ~~Bebout, Driskill, Gierau, Hicks, Kinskey, Perkins, Rothfuss~~  
~~AN ACT relating to the investment of state funds; authorizing the purchase or purchases of real property assets and associated interests and other actions regarding a purchase as specified; specifying requirements for any purchase; specifying sources of funding for purchases; providing for the treatment and management of purchased assets; providing for distribution of earnings from purchased assets; creating the property tax payment reimbursement account; requiring reports; requiring public notice and a public comment period and meeting; requiring approval by the legislature prior to entering into any purchase agreement; providing for reimbursement to local governments in lieu of property taxes as specified; specifying other required arrangements for any purchase; requiring recommendations; authorizing the retention of consultants; authorizing reviews, studies and recommendations as alternatives to executing any authorized purchase; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.~~

~~The act authorizes the investment of state funds for purchases of surface interests, mineral interests and other associated interests located in Wyoming and states contiguous to Wyoming. The act specifies the sources of funding that may be used for investment purchases, including the legislative stabilization reserve account, the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund, the common school account within the permanent land fund, revenue bonds and other specified unobligated funds. The act specifies the distribution of earnings from investment purchases, including the distribution of mineral royalties, earnings from the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund and the Common School Account within the Permanent Land Fund and proceeds of any revenue bonds that are issued associated with investment purchases. The act requires the State Loan and Investment Board to conduct due diligence that analyzes the assets to be purchased and their fair market value before entering into any purchase agreement. The act also provides public notice requirements and the convening of a legislative session before any purchase agreement. The act requires any purchase to comply with the state's investment policies and the prudent investor rule. The act authorizes the State Loan and Investment Board and the Board of Land Commissioners to manage the purchased assets, continue with existing leases and renegotiate leases based on each entities' fiduciary duties to the state and the beneficiaries of the funding sources used.~~

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### **Senate Joint Resolution 0001. Firearm and hunter education. (SEJR No. 0001)**

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Driskill, Dockstader, Hicks, Moniz, Nethercott and Representative(s) Burlingame, Hunt, Lindholm, Pownall

A JOINT RESOLUTION to urge and request the game and fish commission to work with the state superintendent of public instruction and the state board of education to provide firearm and hunter education as a voluntary physical education elective in public schools.

The joint resolution requests the Game and Fish Commission and the Game and Fish Department to work with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education and the Department of Education to provide firearm and hunter education as a physical education elective in the public schools of Wyoming.

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## **Bills that FAILED the 2020 Legislative Session**

### **House Bill 0015. School capital construction account.**

Sponsored by: Select Committee on School Facilities

AN ACT relating to school finance accounts; authorizing interfund loans for school major maintenance payments; eliminating the major maintenance subaccount within the strategic investments and projects account; eliminating the school lands mineral royalties account; maintaining the current distribution of revenue for school related major maintenance and capital construction and directing those revenues to the school capital construction account; amending related bonding provisions; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0046. Special education funding.**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; amending provisions governing special education funding; modifying an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

### **House Bill 0066. Promotion of individual invention act.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Stith and Olson and Senator(s) Dockstader

AN ACT relating to cooperative educational services; authorizing a board of cooperative educational services to establish an intellectual property program as specified; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

### **House Bill 0122. Tax exemption-private school attendance.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Clem, Hallinan, Lindholm and Olsen and Senator(s) Bebout

AN ACT relating to ad valorem taxes; creating a tax exemption for a person whose child, or other school age person in their control and charge, attends private school full-time; limiting a tax refund for persons receiving the exemption; conforming provisions; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0138. Select committee on government consolidation and reduction.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Zwonitzer, Connolly, Harshman, Kirkbride, MacGuire, Stith and Wilson and Senator(s) Biteman, Case and Nethercott

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AN ACT relating to the administration of government; creating the select committee on government consolidation and reduction; providing for membership and duties of the select committee; requiring reports; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0141. Seizure safe schools.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Duncan, Barlow, Connolly, Hallinan, Kirkbride and Wilson and Senator(s) Baldwin and Steinmetz

AN ACT relating to public schools; imposing requirements on school districts relating to students with seizure disorders; creating associated authority for the department of education; creating civil immunity as specified; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0147. Wyoming income tax act.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Connolly and Senator(s) Rothfuss

AN ACT relating to taxation; creating the Wyoming Income Tax Act; imposing an income tax on taxpayers as specified; providing for administration of the act; providing penalties; requiring rulemaking; requiring a report; and providing for effective dates.

### **House Bill 0152. Student hazing.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Stith and Western and Senator(s) Anselmi-Dalton

AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; creating the crime of hazing; creating penalties; defining terms; requiring school districts and postsecondary institutions to publish and distribute hazing information to students; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0154. Severance tax on coal.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Hallinan, Clem, Edwards, Laursen, Miller and Salazar and Senator(s) Biteman

AN ACT relating to coal taxation; reducing the severance tax rate for surface coal as specified; conforming related tax distribution provisions; providing applicability; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0156. Wyoming intern challenge trust fund.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Henderson, Crank and Lindholm and Senator(s) Kost and Nethercott

AN ACT relating to workforce development; creating the Wyoming intern challenge trust fund; authorizing distribution of investment earnings for workforce development programs; requiring rulemaking; conforming provisions; authorizing a contract position; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0180. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments-2.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Salazar, Blackburn, Clem, Edwards, Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Piiparinen, Styvar, Tass and Washut and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, 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; amending a definition; and providing for an effective date.

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### **House Bill 0186. K-12 and local government structural deficit repair act.**

Sponsored by House Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to state revenues; providing for the transfer of funds; amending provisions governing the distribution of investment earnings; amending provisions governing the distribution of severance taxes; conditionally increasing the sales and use tax rate; providing for distribution of the additional tax revenue; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0191. College entrance exam components.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Freeman, Crank, Eyre, Flitner, Newsome, Northrup, Sommers, Stith, Sweeney and Western and Senator(s) Baldwin, Coe, Kost, Von Flatern and Wasserburger

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.

### **House Bill 0242. Wyoming learning and work program.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Greear and Sommers and Senator(s) Kinskey and Nethercott

AN ACT relating to education and labor; establishing the Wyoming learning and labor program; providing for students to take career technical education programs while also working; specifying requirements for approving programs and for student and employer participation in the programs; providing for payments to community colleges providing approved programs and for payments to employers providing work experience and training; providing for agreements between colleges, high schools and employers; providing for administration by the community college commission; creating accounts; providing a sunset for the program; providing an appropriation and for a continuous appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

### **House Bill 0249. Investment of state funds.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Nicholas, Harshman, Kinner, Larsen, Olsen, Schwartz, Sommers and Walters

AN ACT relating to the investment of state funds; authorizing the purchase of real property assets and associated interests as specified; specifying requirements for the purchase; specifying sources of funding for the purchase; requiring the segregation of purchased assets based on funding source; specifying the distribution of earnings, income and royalties from purchased assets; creating the property tax reimbursement payment account; requiring reports; requiring approved by the legislature prior to execution of any purchase agreement; authorizing payments to local governments in lieu of property taxes as specified; specifying other required arrangements for the purchase and management of assets purchased; requiring recommendations; authorizing the retention of consultants; authorizing reviews, studies and recommendations as alternatives to executing any authorized purchase; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Joint Resolution 0001. State lands mineral royalties-constitutional amendment.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Hallinan

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to provide that for six years two-thirds (2/3) of 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.

## Summary of 2020 Legislative Session Bills

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### **House Joint Resolution 0002. Taxpayer's bill of rights.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Gray, Jennings and Salazar and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard and James

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the constitution by creating a new section establishing the taxpayer's bill of rights and taxpayer standing; prohibiting any tax increase by the state or any local government or increase of debt unless approved by the voters; specifying ballot requirements; providing for the refund of excess taxes; providing for emergency taxes; prohibiting increasing state expenditures; providing for distribution of surplus state funds; providing definitions; authorizing persons to commence a civil action against state governmental entities and officials as specified; allowing the state to intervene in actions; and providing for an award of litigation costs as specified.

### **Senate File 0009. Ethics and Disclosure Act amendments.**

Sponsored by Joint Judiciary Committee

AN ACT relating to government ethics; amending definitions and procedures for the Ethics and Disclosure Act; expanding the scope of the Act to local governmental entities and additional state employees; amending penalties for violations of the Act; amending conduct that constitutes a misuse of public resources; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0015. Absenteeism and truancy.**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to compulsory attendance; amending responsibilities for enforcing attendance requirements among school districts, district attorneys, parents and others; providing that a child subjected to willful absenteeism is neglected for purposes of the Child Protection Act; providing that a child who is an habitual truant is a child in need of supervision; creating definitions; amending penalties; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

### **Senate File 0026. State group insurance plan-participation.**

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Committee

AN ACT relating to insurance plans; limiting participation in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan as specified; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0032. Public meetings-executive sessions for security planning.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Kost, Boner, Coe and Nethercott and Representative(s) Barlow, Flitner, Larsen and Sommers

AN ACT relating to public meetings; authorizing executive sessions for safety and security planning; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0051. Wyoming retirement plans-contributions.**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to public employees; increasing employee contributions for law enforcement officers under the Wyoming Retirement Act; increasing employee contributions under the Wyoming State Highway Patrol, Game and Fish Warden and Criminal Investigator Retirement Act; requiring the increased employee contributions to be paid through a reduction in cash salary of the employee for specified employees; repealing archaic provisions; and providing for an effective date.

## Summary of 2020 Legislative Session Bills

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### **Senate File 0054. Surplus food programs.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to school districts; authorizing surplus food programs in schools; authorizing donation of surplus school food to a nonprofit entity; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0058. Wyoming education trust fund-investment earnings.**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming education trust fund; amending the distribution of investment earnings from the Wyoming education trust fund; conforming provisions; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0059. Governmental property.**

Sponsored by Joint Revenue Committee

AN ACT relating to governmental property; providing a definition of “governmental purpose”; providing related definitions; making conforming changes; repealing conflicting provisions; requiring certain property not held for a government purpose to be offered for sale unless good cause is shown; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0070. Government abuse, fraud and waste reporting.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) James, Biteman and Bouchard and Representative(s) Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Salazar and Styvar

AN ACT relating to the administration of government; establishing a reporting system for governmental abuse, fraud and waste; authorizing enforcement actions; amending provisions governing employee protections related to reporting of government abuse, fraud and waste; requiring posted notice of employee protections as specified; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0079. School safety and security.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Ellis, Coe, Hutchings, Landen and Rothfuss and Representative(s) Brown, Connolly, Paxton and Simpson

AN ACT relating to student and school safety; requiring school districts to adopt school safety and security policies; creating duties for the state fire marshal; providing for confidentiality; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0088. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Bouchard, Biteman, James and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Blackburn, Clem, Edwards, Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Piiparinen, Salazar, Styvar and Tass

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 0108. Public employee retirement.**

Sponsored by Senate Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to administration of government; modifying provisions of the Wyoming Retirement Act; increasing employee and employer contributions under the Act as specified; modifying the age and the combined age and service requirements for normal retirement benefits for general members hired after a specified date; modifying definitions; making conforming amendments; repealing archaic provisions; and providing for an effective date.



## **Summary of 2020 Legislative Session Bills**

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### **Senate File 0118. School finance amendments.**

Sponsored by Senate Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; amending provisions of the education resource block grant model; amending provisions governing transportation funding; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate Joint Resolution 0002. General session appropriations-constitutional amendment.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) James, Biteman, Bouchard and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Edwards, Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Miller and Salazar

A JOINT RESOLUTION to amend the Wyoming Constitution by limiting appropriations made in a general appropriations bill introduced during a general session in an odd numbered year to only emergency appropriations and by making conforming amendments.