

# **Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills**

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## **Bills that PASSED the 2021 Legislative Session**

### **House Bill 0021. Wyoming National Guard-preference for education. (HEA0035, CH0047)**

Sponsored by Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Interim Committee  
AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; extending existing preference for entry into academic programs based on Wyoming residency to current nonresident Wyoming national guard members; and providing for an effective date.

This act extends any preferences for admission to a program or course of study that are given to Wyoming residents based on that Wyoming residency to any current Wyoming National Guard member, regardless of the member's state of residence. The act applies to academic programs with the University of Wyoming or any Wyoming community college, vocational, technical or trade school, other secondary educational institution or school district.

### **House Bill 0052. Wyoming school protein enhancement project. (HEA0047, CH0074)**

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

AN ACT relating to school nutrition; codifying a project that provides grants for school districts to increase the availability of Wyoming meat products in school nutrition programs; requiring matching funds; authorizing the department of education to accept donations and other outside funds as specified; requiring rulemaking; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

The act creates the school protein enhancement project, which authorizes the WDE to provide financial assistance to school districts to increase the quantity of Wyoming raised protein in school meals. The program provides funds for processing costs so districts may process poultry, lamb, pork, beef or bison donated to the district. The program requires a 1:1 match from the school districts to pay for the processing costs. The act allows districts to receive contributions to support the program and requires WDE to endeavor to provide funding to as many school districts as possible. The act provides for an application process and minimum application requirements which include the goals of the district in increasing the quantity of Wyoming meat used in school lunches. The act authorizes WDE to use up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) of appropriated funds to implement the program.

### **House Bill 0057. Advance enrollment. (HEA0033, CH0071)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Brown, Barlow and Harshman and Senator(s) Gierau, Kost and Nethercott

AN ACT relating to K-12 student enrollment; providing for the advance enrollment of children of transferred or transferring military personnel; and providing for an effective date.

This act provides that an elementary or secondary school student is considered a resident of Wyoming for school registration purposes if the student's parent or guardian is transferred to or

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## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

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is pending transfer to Wyoming while on active military duty. The act also requires a school district to allow such a student to enroll electronically in the school district.

### **House Bill 0120. Hathaway Scholarships-success curriculum in middle school.**

**(HEA0029, CH0043)**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Flitner and Senator(s) Kost

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; authorizing additional courses taken prior to grade nine to qualify for the Hathaway success curriculum; and providing for an effective date.

Under existing law, certain courses required for the Hathaway scholarship success curriculum could be taken prior to grade nine, while other courses were required to be taken in grades nine through twelve. This bill authorizes any course that would qualify for credit under the success curriculum to be taken before grade nine.

### **House Bill 0239. Worker's compensation-student learner agreements.**

**(HEA0078, CH0160)**

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

AN ACT relating to worker's compensation; providing for student learner agreements between eligible students, school districts, community colleges or technical schools, and employers; providing for the coverage of student learners under worker's compensation; specifying premiums and rates for employers to pay for covered student learners; specifying duties for the department of workforce services for student learners and student learner agreements; authorizing school districts, community colleges and technical schools to enter into student learner agreements; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

This act authorizes the establishment of student learner agreements and student training agreements. School districts, community colleges, or technical schools may enter into a student learner agreement with an employer to provide student learners vocational work and training opportunities while earning course credit or compensation (or both). Student learners—those who are between sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) and enrolled in a school district, community college, or technical school—may enter into an agreement with an employer to complete work or vocational training in exchange for course credit from the school district, college, or technical school, or compensation from the employer (or both). A student learner who enters into a student training agreement with an employer is considered an employee covered under the worker's compensation program, and each employer must pay premiums charged for each student learner as required in the Worker's Compensation Act. The Worker's Compensation Division of the Department of Workforce Services is required to promulgate rules for these agreements and must create standard agreements for use by students, employers, and educational institutions.

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### **Senate File 0002. School facilities-project prioritization.**

**(SEA0058, CH0131)**

Sponsored by Select Committee on School Facilities

## **Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills**

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AN ACT relating to K-12 school facilities; amending provisions governing school facility adequacy standards; amending provisions governing school facility needs assessments; amending provisions governing the prioritization of remedies for school facilities by the school facilities commission; conforming provisions; and providing for an effective date.

This act amends the school facility adequacy uniform standards for educational space to require standards that allow for the delivery of required educational programs. The act amends school capital construction references to school facility needs assessments by expanding the possible assessments that may be included from only the adequacy assessment in W.S. 21-15-115 to any assessment provided for in W.S. 21-15-117. The W.S. 21-15-117 statute also includes reference to the adequacy standards in W.S. 21-15-115. The act amends the School Facilities Commission school building and facility assessments in W.S. 21-15-117 to include:

- Evaluating the adequacy of school buildings and facilities;
- Conducting on-site visits and inspections of school buildings and facilities;
- Consideration of school district facility plans;
- A process for prioritizing school building and facility needs from most critical to least critical by establishing:
  - Two (2) schedules for building and facility remediation, prioritized according to needs that impede delivery of the prescribed statewide educational program, one (1) schedule to remedy building condition needs and one (1) schedule to remedy building capacity needs; and
  - One (1) schedule that consolidates the two (2) remediation schedules.

This act also expands school capital construction appropriation expenditure requirements to include adherence to design standards that are subject to value engineering, are reasonably uniform across the state and incorporate reasonable input from community design aesthetics.

### **Senate File 0023. Public meetings-executive sessions for security plans. (SEA0017, CH0057)**

Sponsored by Joint Judiciary Committee

AN ACT relating to public meetings; authorizing executive 2 sessions for safety and security planning; making 3 conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

This bill allows agency governing bodies to go into executive session, not open to the public, to discuss and conduct security planning that, if disclosed, would pose a threat to life safety or property.

### **Senate File 0035. State budget department. (SEA0015, CH0056)**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to administration of government; approving the implementation plan to transfer the budget division of the department of administration and information to the state budget department; specifying duties of the department; conforming provisions to reflect responsibilities; recreating, renumbering and amending statutes for the department of administration and information; repealing

## **Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills**

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conflicting provisions; directing the legislative service office to correct statutory references; and providing for an effective date.

In the 2020 Budget Session, a new department was created by transferring the Budget Division within the Department of Administration and Information into the newly created State Budget Department. This act implements the resulting governmental reorganization plan to carry out that transfer by amending, recreating, repealing and renumbering Wyoming Statutes. The act: Codifies the provisions governing the State Budget Department within the existing Title 9, Chapter 2, Article 9 and updates all references to the Budget Division; Renumbers and recreates provisions governing the Department of Administration and Information within a new Title 9, Chapter 2, Article 32; and Updates statutory references to implement the renumbered and recreated sections.

### **Senate File 0057. School finance-dates for fund transfers.**

**(SEA0005, CH0024)**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; revising the dates of recapture payments for school districts; specifying an additional annual distribution of the county school fund; and providing for an effective date.

In order to address changes to ad valorem tax collection dates from legislation passed in 2020, this bill revises the dates of recapture payments for school districts and specifies an additional annual distribution from the county school fund to ensure that all ad valorem taxes have been collected prior to the fund transfers.

### **Senate File 0060. Monthly ad valorem tax revisions-2.**

**(SEA0009, CH0028)**

Sponsored by Joint Revenue Committee

AN ACT relating to ad valorem taxation of mineral production; specifying that the monthly payment of ad valorem taxation begins January 1, 2022; providing for the payment of ad valorem taxes from calendar years 2020 and 2021; clarifying distribution of the taxes; making conforming changes; repealing an existing ad valorem tax payment transition period; providing for loans to counties; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

This bill provides for the monthly payment of ad valorem taxes on mineral production beginning January 1, 2022. The bill specifies that fifty percent (50%) of production from calendar year 2020 and all of production from calendar year 2021 will be paid at eight percent (8%) per year beginning December 1, 2023 until the total outstanding amount is repaid. The bill appropriates funds for loans to counties to address shortfalls caused by the transition to monthly payments. The bill appropriates funds from the school foundation program account to address decreased local revenues caused by the transition to monthly payments and makes revisions to the annual computation of school district revenues to account for the payment of monthly ad valorem taxes. The bill also appropriates funds to the Department of Revenue to administer the collection of ad valorem tax by the Department.

## **Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills**

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### **Senate File 0068. Absenteeism in public schools.**

**(SEA0016, CH0036)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Ellis, Salazar and Scott and Representative(s) Brown, Larsen and Simpson

AN ACT relating to education; amending provisions related to school attendance and unexcused absences; clarifying what constitutes an unexcused absence for purposes of school attendance; amending and repealing duties and powers of the boards of trustees for Wyoming school districts; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

This act requires the board of trustees in each school district to define “habitual truancy” and “unexcused absence” for all students attending public schools and establish rules for student attendance. As part of this requirement, preapproved absences or absences due to injury or illness are not to be considered an unexcused absence. Absences due to participating in the Wyoming State Fair are to be considered an excused absence for participating in a school-district cocurricular program. This act repeals the previous law making it optional for each board of trustees to define “unexcused absence” and “habitual truancy” for school-attendance purposes.

### **Senate File 0074. Athletic trainer revisions.**

**(SEA0026, CH0076)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Landen, Baldwin, Kost, Nethercott, Pappas, Schuler and Wasserburger and Representative(s) Barlow, Brown, Flitner, Harshman, Sommers, Walters and Washut

AN ACT relating to athletic trainers; broadening definitions under the Wyoming Athletic Trainers Licensing Act to expand athletic trainers’ scope of practice; authorizing the provision of telehealth services; authorizing the provision of additional services during a declared state of emergency; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

This act broadens definitions under the Wyoming Athletic Trainers Licensing Act to expand athletic trainers’ scope of practice. Specifically, the definitions of “athlete” and “athletic injury” are expanded to include employment related physical activity. Further, this act authorizes the board of athletic training to promulgate rules regarding the provision of telehealth services and the provision of services during a declared state of emergency.

### **Senate File 0079. Medicaid billing for school-based services.**

**(SEA0020, CH0060)**

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 a position; requiring reports; and providing for effective dates.

This 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 Medicaid-eligible students who receive special education programs and

## **Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills**

---

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 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, 2022. The act provides appropriations and authorizes a position to allow for administration of the program. The act requires the Department of Health and the Department of Education to provide two (2) reports regarding implementation of the Medicaid billing for school-based services program. The reports are to be provided to the Joint Education Committee, the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Committee and the Joint Appropriations Committee. The first report is due not later than October 1, 2021 and the second report is due not later than October 1, 2022.

### **Senate File 0108. Career and technical education terminology.**

**(SEA0029, CH0066)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Cooper and Kost and Representative(s) Winter

AN ACT relating to education; changing terminology from vocational education to career and technical education for purposes of K-12 education; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Current law generally uses the terminology “career-vocational education” or “vocational education.” This act updates the terminology to “career and technical education” which matches current usage in the education field. The act specifies that the change in terminology is not intended as a substantive change in law and that any inconsistent provisions in noncodified law shall be considered to be consistent with the provisions of the act.

### **Senate File 0115. Education-pupil teacher contact time.**

**(SEA0042, CH0082)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Kost, Kinskey and Wasserburger and Representative(s) Sommers

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the state board of education to establish minimum amounts of pupil-teacher contact time; and providing for an effective date.

Current law specifies that the State Board of Education is required to approve any school district schedule that operates for fewer than one hundred seventy-five (175) days and provides that no schedule shall be approved which reduces pupil teacher contact time as defined by the State Board. This act requires the State Board to define minimum pupil-teacher contact time requirements. The act specifies that minimum pupil-teacher contact time may include instruction outside of the classroom, including through virtual education.

### **Senate File 0121. State funds – investments and distributions.**

**(SEA0075, CH0144)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Perkins and Furphy and Representative(s) Harshman and Walters

AN ACT relating to public funds; modifying spending policies and other investment and revenue distribution provisions; repealing the legislative deficit control account

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

---

funded from the strategic investments and projects account; revising account distributions as specified; redistributing certain severance taxes; repealing obsolete and inconsistent provisions; providing for a study; and providing for effective dates.

Provides uniformity for crediting investment earnings to various funds and accounts – distinguishing between income from interest, rents and dividends and realized capital gains. The statutory changes reflect current practices of the State Treasurer’s Office. Amends various statutes that use differing terms, such as “interest,” “income” and “interest and income,” to a uniform use of “earnings.” Modifies spending policy amounts for the Permanent Mineral Trust Fund (PWMTF), Common School Account within the Permanent Land Fund and the Higher Education Endowment by establishing each at five percent (5%) of the five (5) year average market value of each fund. The “step-downs” in current law for the various spending policy amounts are repealed. Spending policy amounts are established to provide:

- Consistent, sustainable flow of earnings for expenditure over time;
- Protection of the corpus of the permanent funds against inflation; and
- Making earnings available for expenditure to offset the effects of inflation, if practicable.

Redistributes the one percent “statutory” severance tax in future years in equal amounts to the PWMTF and the common school account within the permanent land fund (for eight (8) years) and thereafter distributes the funds two-thirds (2/3) to the PWMTF and one-third (1/3) to the common school account within the permanent land fund. Directs a study by the Select Committee on Capital Finance and Investment on various issues involving allocation of investment earnings as either principal of the fund or as income for distribution, limitations on investing in equities, limitations on diminution to the principal of funds held as inviolate, and the ability of the state to adopt an endowment model allowing a fixed percentage of the value of a permanent fund to be distributed. The study is to be conducted in coordination with the State Loan and Investment Board and the Investment Funds Committee.

### **Senate File 0130. Charter schools.**

**(SEA0074, CH0169)**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Driskill, Boner, Ellis and Salazar and Representative(s) Andrew, Olsen, Simpson, Sweeney and Wilson

AN ACT relating to charter schools; revising the process for approval and renewal of charter schools; providing for authorization of charter schools by a school district or the state loan and investment board; revising the operation of charter schools; authorizing fees; specifying funding; making conforming changes; repealing conflicting provisions; specifying limitations; requiring a study; requiring a report; and providing for effective dates.

This bill revises the overall process for the approval and renewal of charter schools. The bill provides that, in addition to a local school district board, the State Loan and Investment Board can authorize charter schools. The bill makes revisions to the operations of charter schools including specifying the terms that must be included in a charter contract. The bill specifies how funding is determined for charter schools that are authorized by the State Loan and Investment Board. The bill limits the number of charter schools that can be approved by the State Loan and Investment Board to three until the Legislature takes further action. The bill requires the Joint

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

---

Education Interim Committee to study charter schools during the 2021 interim. Requires a report from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Joint Education Interim Committee.

*Note: The Governor allowed this bill to become law without his signature. The letter can be found [here](#).*

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### **Bills that FAILED the 2021 Legislative Session**

#### **House Bill 0002. School buildings and facilities study.**

Sponsored by: Select Committee on School Facilities

AN ACT relating to school buildings and facilities; requiring a study on the suitability, capacity and condition of school buildings and facilities; authorizing contracting with a consultant; requiring reporting; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

#### **House Bill 0061. School finance recalibration.**

Sponsored by: Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration

AN ACT relating to school finance; implementing recalibration modifications to the Wyoming education resource block grant model; codifying previously uncodified law; providing for additional sales and use taxes in amounts, if any, determined necessary to fulfill constitutional requirements; amending related provisions; repealing conflicting provisions; and providing for an effective date.

#### **House Bill 0062. Suicide prevention.**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to education; requiring suicide prevention education; and providing for an effective date.

#### **House Bill 0063. Early childhood education.**

Sponsored by Joint Education Committee

AN ACT relating to early childhood education; providing that the department of education and the department of family services shall administer early childhood education services; transferring specified early childhood education programs, functions and positions; requiring reports; making conforming statutory changes; requiring formation of a working group; authorizing rulemaking; repealing a conflicting provision; and providing for effective dates.

#### **House Bill 0077. School district reorganization.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Zwonitzer, Brown, Gray, MacGuire, Stith and Wilson and Senator(s) Furphy and Hutchings

AN ACT relating to school district reorganization; providing for the reorganization of school districts as specified; establishing a planning committee; imposing a consolidation planning process; providing for consolidation in the absence of a plan by the planning committee; imposing duties on the state board of education; providing reporting requirements; and providing for an effective date.

#### **House Bill 0080. Kindergarten start date.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Duncan, Brown and Harshman and Senator(s) Kost and Schuler

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

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AN ACT relating to education; amending the minimum school age; making conforming amendments; repealing a duty of the board of trustees in each school district; specifying legislative intent; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0081. School finance litigation.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Baker and Burt

AN ACT relating to school finance litigation; creating the school finance litigation account; prohibiting expenditures of school districts related to school finance litigation; continuously appropriating funds; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0089. School finance amendments.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Hallinan, Bear, Fortner, Jennings, Laursen, Neiman, Ottman and Wharff and Senator(s) McKeown and Steinmetz

AN ACT relating to K-12 education funding; reducing the minimum time schools are to be operated; amending and repealing components within the education resource block grant model; specifying applicability of a temporary external cost adjustment; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0097. Interstate compact for education-withdrawal.**

Sponsored by Joint Appropriations Committee

AN ACT relating to education; withdrawing from the interstate compact for education; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0106. Wyoming educations options act.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Wilson, Andrew, Duncan, Gray, Jennings and Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Boner, Ellis and Steinmetz

AN ACT relating to education; establishing the Wyoming education options act; authorizing reimbursement of private school costs for students; providing rulemaking authority; requiring reports; and providing for effective dates.

### **House Bill 0117. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments-3.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Wharff, Andrew, Baker, Bear, Burt, Fortner, Gray, Heiner, Jennings, Laursen, Neiman, Ottman, Rodriguez-Williams, Styvar and Winter and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, French, James, McKeown and Salazar

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; amending a definition; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0124. Second Amendment Preservation Act-2.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Laursen, Baker, Bear, Blackburn, Burt, Gray, Haroldson, Jennings, Neiman, Ottman, Styvar, Wharff and Winter and Senator(s) Biteman, Bouchard, French, Hutchings, James and Salazar

AN ACT relating to firearms; making legislative findings; invalidating certain federal laws that limit the right to bear arms; prohibiting enforcement of invalidated federal laws; imposing employment consequences for those enforcing invalidated federal laws; waiving sovereign immunity as specified; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

---

### **House Bill 0129. School finance-activities funding.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Western

AN ACT relating to school finance; repealing funding for activities in the school foundation program and repealing reimbursement of transportation expenses for student activities; specifying that activities may be offered through the use of other funds; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0141. Transfer of federal lands.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Wharff, Baker, Eklund and Laursen

AN ACT relating to public lands; requiring transfer of public lands; specifying distribution of proceeds from sale of public lands; creating a joint select committee on the transfer of public lands; providing duties of the committee; providing definitions; providing legislative findings; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0152. Hathaway eligibility requirements.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Sommers and Senator(s) Kost

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; specifying that the Hathaway success curriculum shall conform to high school graduation standards; repealing the current Hathaway success curriculum; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0154. School finance-school district reserves.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Sommers and Senator(s) Kost

AN ACT relating to school finance; increasing the amount that can be computed for a school district's operating balance and cash reserves as specified; prohibiting expenditures on capital construction during a specified period; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0173. School finance funding-2.**

Sponsored by House Education Committee

AN ACT relating to school finance; implementing modifications to the Wyoming education resource block grant model; codifying previously uncodified law; amending the computation of average daily membership; increasing the amount that can be computed for a school district's operating balance and cash reserves as specified; prohibiting expenditures on capital construction during a specified period; amending provisions governing the distribution of investment earnings; amending provisions governing the distribution of severance taxes; implementing a sales and use tax for school finance; providing for distribution of the taxes; amending related provisions; repealing conflicting provisions; providing applicability; providing for a study on the reorganization of school districts; requiring a report; and providing for effective dates.

*Note: This is the legislation that almost passed. A Joint Conference Committee was close to agreement but was unable to achieve such in the end. This is the most likely starting place for future legislation on school finance.*

### **House Bill 0175. Suicide prevention-2.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Rodriguez-Williams

AN ACT relating to education; requiring suicide prevention education; and providing for an effective date.

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

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### **House Bill 0191. Statewide mill levy for education.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Brown

AN ACT relating to special education; providing for the creation of accounts to provide for the costs of special education programs and services delivered outside of a public K-12 school; providing for a continuous appropriation; providing for a criminal offense and penalties; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0201. Special education savings accounts.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Styvar, Andrew, Baker and Wilson and Senator(s) Hutchings

AN ACT relating to school funding; establishing the school foundation program permanent account; specifying distribution of earnings from the account; imposing a mill levy to provide funds to the account; providing a sales and use tax credit for specified taxpayers; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Bill 0243. State accounts-elimination and transfer of funds.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Harshman, Brown, Connolly, Paxton, Sommers and Walters and Senator(s) Rothfuss and Wasserburger

AN ACT relating to public funds; repealing the Wyoming state penitentiary capital construction account; repealing the legislative deficit control account; providing for the transfer of funds from the repealed accounts; providing an annual transfer of funds to the school capital construction account; providing for transition of invested funds; and providing for an effective date.

### **House Joint Resolution 0003. State lands mineral royalties-constitutional amendment.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Hallinan, Andrew, Baker, Banks, Bear, Henderson, Sommers, Stith and Sweeney

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to provide that two-thirds 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 for six years and to provide thereafter for retaining a portion of mineral royalties within the perpetual fund to be made available for expenditure for support of public schools in subsequent years; and providing a ballot statement.

### **House Joint Resolution 0015. Taxpayer's bill of rights and taxpayer standing.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Gray, Bear and Jennings and Senator(s) Biteman

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.

### **House Joint Resolution 0016. Vaccine bill of rights.**

Sponsored by Representative(s) Laursen and Fortner

A JOINT RESOLUTION for the state of Wyoming to protect its citizens against unconstitutional and medically irresponsible COVID-19 vaccine mandates.

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

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### **Senate File 0017. Governmental publication requirements.**

Sponsored by Joint Corporations, Elections & Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

AN ACT relating to governmental publication requirements; amending publication and online posting requirements for governmental entities; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0020. Public records-personnel files.**

Sponsored by Joint Judiciary Committee

AN ACT relating to public records; clarifying the right of inspection for personnel files; providing definitions; making conforming amendments; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0045. Monthly ad valorem tax revisions.**

Sponsored by Joint Revenue Committee

AN ACT relating to ad valorem taxation of mineral production; codifying the payment of ad valorem taxation during the transition period between the current payment schedule and monthly payment of the tax; specifying penalties; repealing related provisions; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0065. Government waste, fraud and abuse.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) James, Biteman, Bouchard, French, McKeown and Salazar and Representative(s) Fortner, Gray, Laursen, Neiman and Wharff

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

### **Senate File 0067. Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Driskill, Hicks, Kinskey, Kolb and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Newsome and Oakley

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; providing for an exception; amending a definition; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0081. Second Amendment Preservation Act.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Bouchard, Biteman, French, Hutchings, James, McKeown and Salazar and Representative(s) Baker, Bear, Burt, Fortner, Gray, Haroldson, Heiner, Jennings, Laursen, Neiman, Ottman, Rodriguez-Williams, Wharff and Winter

AN ACT relating to firearms; prohibiting the enforcement of unconstitutional federal actions that infringe upon the right to bear arms; prohibiting the expenditure of public funds to enforce unconstitutional federal actions; authorizing executive orders and other actions to implement the act; providing for representation by the Wyoming attorney general of Wyoming citizens charged by the United States government under federal laws that unconstitutionally infringe upon the right to bear arms; providing rulemaking authority; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

## Summary of 2021 Legislative Session Bills

---

### **Senate File 0127. Wyoming learn while you earn program.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Kinskey, Dockstader, Nethercott and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Greear, Harshman, Kinner and Sommers

AN ACT relating to education; establishing the Wyoming learn while you earn program; providing for students to take career technical education while also working; specifying requirements for approving programs and for student and employer participation in the programs; providing funding of the program as specified; 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; requiring review by the community college commission; requiring the creation of an account for the program; providing a sunset for the program; providing an appropriation and for a continuous appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

### **Senate File 0138. School board trustees-party affiliation.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Ellis and Representative(s) Olsen

AN ACT relating to ballots; authorizing candidates for school board trustee to have their political party affiliation printed on primary and general election ballots; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

### **Senate File 0143. School finance-funding model amendments.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Scott, Biteman, Ellis and Salazar and Representative(s) Simpson

AN ACT relating to school finance; implementing modifications to the Wyoming education resource block grant model and other school finance components; providing for funding adjustments as specified; codifying previously uncodified law; amending related provisions; repealing conflicting provisions; requiring a report; requiring a study; and providing for effective dates.

*Note: This legislation best represents the Senate's position on school finance. It has greater cuts and greater restrictions on uses of funds. It represents a potential starting point for future legislation.*

### **Senate Joint Resolution 0004. School capital construction-constitutional amendment.**

Sponsored by Senator(s) Scott, Biteman, Ellis and Salazar

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution to transfer responsibility to construct school facilities to school districts by providing mandatory and optional state funding mechanisms; and to provide a ballot statement.