

**Summary of 2015 Legislative Bills in Which WEA Is Interested—chart updated 3/9/2015 3:19 PM**

Specifics on any bill can be viewed at: <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/2015/billreference/BillReference.aspx?type=ALL>

**NOTE: BILLS THAT HAVE DIED IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS ARE MOVED TO THE "DEAD BILLS CHART" ONE DAY AFTER DYING.**

Bill Number	Title	Sponsors	Summary	WEA's Position	Current Status of Bill: <i>Bold = action taken today.</i> <i>Red = dead bill.</i> <i>Blue = Enrolled Act.</i> <i>Green = Signed into law.</i>
<b>HOUSE BILLS</b>					
<a href="#">HB0001</a>	General government appropriations-2.	Appropriations	<i>(See mirror bill SB0001, below)</i>		<i>See SF 1.</i>
<a href="#">HB0010ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act 0002</a>	Education-state authorization reciprocity agreement.	Education	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Authorizes the WY Comm. College Commission to enter into & administer reciprocity agreements with other states on the licensing of specified post-secondary institutions. Requires such agreements to protect the integrity of WY post-secondary ed., but also allow authorized institutions the ability to reach as many potential students as possible. Authorizes admission & monitoring of public or private post-secondary institutions w/ a physical presence in WY (as specified) under the reciprocity agreement & providing for reciprocal licensure in WY of institutions located in states that are signatories to the agreement. Outlines ways in which an institution can satisfy the requirements/standards. Authorizes the collection of fees from authorized institutions to cover admin. expenses of this act. Effective immed. upon becoming law.	Support	Gov. signed HEA002 into law. Effective immediately.
<a href="#">HB0011ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act 0101</a>	Distance education task force.	Education	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Establishes a distance ed. (DE) task force (TF), chaired by the State Supt., for the purpose of informing the 2015 ed. block grant model recalibration. TF will rpt. & make recommendations on specified aspects of K-12 DE programs. Starting 6/15/15, WDE must make monthly reports on the TF work to LSO, who will share the info. w/the approp. legislative committees to ensure the info. is considered in recalibration. Final rpt. due by 10/15/15. Effective immed. upon becoming law.	Support	H Speaker Signed HEA No. 0101. S President Signed HEA No. 0101.

<a href="#">HB0023</a>	Next generation science standards-2.	Rep.s Patton, Berger, Brown & Freeman, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02) & Rothfuss	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Repeals the 2014 budget footnote, thus allowing SBE to expend funds to consider the Next Generation Science Standards in adoption of uniform student content & performance standards. Requires SBE to "independently examine & scrutinize any science standards proposed or reviewed as a template in order to ensure that final standards adopted for WY schools promote excellence." Effective immed. upon becoming law.	Support	Gov. signed into law. Effective immediately.
<a href="#">HB0067ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0007</a>	Wyoming retirement system amendments.	Appropriations	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Amends the WY Retirement System (WRS). Changes the definition of "actuarial equivalent amt." Allows local elected officials to decline participation in the WRS as specified. Broadens the definition of eligible firefighters in the WRS to include WY Army Nat'l Guard members. Changes the interest rate calculation for past-due employer contribution pymts. & redeposit of contributions. Repeals or updates archaic language & provisions. Extends the time limit for re-deposit of retirement contributions to 10 yrs. after rehire, rather than the current 7 yrs. Effective 7/1/15.	Support	Signed by Governor. Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">HB0071ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0003</a>	Nursing education programs.	Labor	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Amends the WY Investment in Nursing loan program. An RN w/a baccalaureate degree who wishes to apply for a loan to pursue a master's or doctorate in nursing ed. is no longer required to have already taught for 1 yr. in a nursing ed. program in WY. Loan repayment can be accomplished by tchg. nursing at a WY community college or UW. Extends the program to 2020. Effective 7/1/15.	Support	Governor signed HEA0003 into law. Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">HB0073ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0078</a>	Development of education standards.	Harshman	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Changes the mandatory review period for WY ed. program standards from every 5 yrs. to at least every 9 yrs. Requires the SBE, in consultation w/ the State Supt., to get stakeholder input (including, at a minimum, parents, teachers, school and dist. administrators, & members of the public at large) on the student content & performance standards prior to the formal review of the standards by the SBE. Effective 7/1/15.	Support	Governor signed into law. Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">HB0086--</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0017</a>	Board of cooperative educational services meetings.	Rep.s Petroff, Barlow, Blake, Freeman, Jaggi & Loucks, & Sen. Barnard	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Requires BOCES boards to meet at least quarterly, not once a month. Effective 7/1/15.	Monitor	Signed by Governor. Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">HB0138ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0069</a>	Worker's compensation for special education teachers.	Rep.s Northrup, Freeman, Harvey, Krone & Larsen, & Sen.s Coe & Driskill	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> In addition to paras already in existing law, adds specified certified special ed. teachers and related services providers to the "extra-hazardous occupations" category for WY Worker's Comp. if they provide services to eligible students with behavioral, emotional, cognitive, learning, physical or health disabilities that require ed. services to be provided outside of the regular classroom because the use of supplementary aids & services cannot be achieved satisfactorily in the regular classroom. Effective 7/1/15.	Support	Signed into law by Governor. Effective 7/1/15.

<a href="#">HB0159</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0050</a>	Education-writing assessment.	Rep.s Throne, Freeman, Harshman, Madden & Sommers, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe, Landen, Pappas & Rothfuss	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Eliminates the state writing assessment in its entirety. Orders the SBE, the State Supt., & WDE to “cease any development or administration of a separate writing assessment as a part of the statewide assessment system...” Effective immediately upon becoming law.	Monitor	Governor signed into law. Effective immediately.
<a href="#">HB0231ENG</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0045</a>	Hathaway scholarships-exceptions from requirements.	Rep.s Harshman, Patton, Pelkey, Piiparinen & Throne, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe, Ross & Rothfuss	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Modifies eligibility criteria by creating add'l “good cause” reasons for allowing eligibility for Hathaway scholarships prior to the graduation date of the student's class shall include, but be not limited to, showing that the student is legally emancipated or that the student is a parent or legal guardian of a minor. Effective 7/1/15.	Monitor	Governor signed into law. Effective 7/1/15.
<b>SENATE BILLS</b>					
<a href="#">SF0001</a> <a href="#">Enrolled Act</a> <a href="#">0056</a>	General government appropriations.	Appropriations	<b>Enrolled Act: This summary includes highlights specific to education, &amp; only includes <u>changes to the 2014 biennial budget bill</u>:</b>  <b>School Facilities Dept:</b> Increases funding by approx. \$7.4M for Major Maintenance, of which it then authorizes school dist.s to use up to 10% thru 6/30/16 for bldg. safety & security needs, if approved by SFD; authorizes transfer of specified un-reverted funds to Cap. Con. acct. in order to close that acct. out. <b>UW &amp; CCs:</b> Some highlights: UW will assess & rpt. on opportunities & costs for establishing a 4-yr. degree in elem. ed. at the NWCC dist., Gillette campus, & for assessing alternatives for delivering a B.N. degree program administered by UW at 1 or more CCs. <b>Ed.--School Finance:</b> Increase of approx. \$10.6M for an ECA as specified for SY 2015-16 only; removes the previously allocated funding for a salary increase for '15-16. For SYs 2014-15 & 2015-16 only, amt.s payable to a school dist. for resident students attending an out-of-state public school will be paid by WDE NLT 30 days after dist. request for reimbursement. <b>WDE:</b> If HB23 is not enacted (to repeal the footnote that banned consideration of NGSS), this bill repeals the footnote. NLT 11/1/15, WDE must review & report to JEC on possible methods to incentivize completion of the Success Curriculum by HS students for Hathaway scholarship eligibility. The review shall include, but is not limited to, consideration of mechanisms to account for the academic rigor of		<b>Governor line-item vetoes a few things. S fails to override vetoes. Remainder of bill becomes law, effective immediately.</b>

			<p>HS classes, such as AP &amp; IB courses, and a weighted GPA scale. Up to \$130K of specified, previously appropriated but unobligated funds set to revert are re-appropriated to WDE for eval. &amp; consultation for agency re-organization, update &amp; review of personnel descriptions, &amp; development of agency policies &amp; procedures thru 6/30/16. <b>A&amp;I Cap Con:</b> Authorizes the spending of private &amp;/or general funds for several CC bldgs. <b>Common School Acct.:</b> Raises from \$475M to \$600M the threshold at which any unappropriated, unexpended, unobligated funds in the permanent land fund holding account will be transferred to the common school acct. on 6/30/16. <b>School Funding Model Recalibration:</b> Creates the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration to undertake a recalibration study of the ed. resource block grant model to determine if modifications are necessary to ensure the model remains effective &amp; cost-based in light of changing conditions &amp; modifications to law. Must rpt. its findings in time for consideration for the 2016 legis. session. May contract w/consultants. Comm. will exist by 3/15/15 &amp; cease by 3/31/16. Appropriates \$60K to LSO for comm. members' expenses. Appropriates \$60K for expenses of the Comm. <b>Contingent Appropriations:</b> To the extent the funds are available, authorizes expenditures for several UW &amp; CC projects from contingent appropriations from investment earning in FY 15 and FY 16. Transfers \$5M to CC endowment acct.s. <b>CC Funding Model:</b> NLT 9/1/15, JAC shall review the CC funding model &amp; determine whether it requires improvement or change, &amp; shall either recommend a new funding formula or recommend the structure of a taskforce to review the model. JAC will determine if local limits on college expansion of facilities &amp; programs should be limited to legislative oversight so as to regulate growth among CCs.</p>		
<a href="#">SF0008ENG Enrolled Act 0087</a>	State education accountability and assessment.	State Ed Acct	<p><b>Enrolled Act:</b> The optional WORKKEYS can be given in either 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Allows the State Supt. to select a date for statewide 11<sup>th</sup> gr. admin. of ACT "that best meets the needs of students &amp; school dist.s." Including ACT or WORKKEYS scores on student transcripts is now optional.</p> <p>Starting SY 15-16, ea. dist.'s assessment system (DAS) must be reviewed every 5 yrs. to ensure alignment w/state standards &amp; adherence to uniform grad. standards; rpt. findings to SBE; deficiencies addressed thru Statewide System of Support (SSoS). The state rep. assigned to dist.s under WAEA does not have to be from WDE; rep. must consult w/the local school bd.; rep. may review &amp; evaluate the DAS &amp; will provide suggestions on, not "approve," the School Improvement Plan, unless the school is Not Mtg. Expectations for 1 year, in which case approval by rep. is mandatory. The DAS may be reviewed in the SY immed. after the SY in which any of its schools are designated as</p>	Monitor	<p><b>Assigned Number SEA No. 0087.</b>  <b>S President Signed SEA No. 0087.</b>  <b>H Speaker Signed SEA No. 0087.</b>  <b>New summary of Enrolled Act shown at left.</b></p>

			<p>Not Mtg. Expectations. Removes statutory language that failure of a school to meet its improvement goals for 2 consecutive yrs. may be grounds for dismissal of the principal.</p> <p>Changes the timelines &amp; procedures for a requested review of a school's WAEA rating; review will be done only by SBE, not first by PJP. Removes requirement for SBE to establish performance level descriptors for student content standards. HS graduation will be evidenced by course completion &amp; measured by the DAS; removes statutory language requiring multiple dist. measures to determine HS grad. Removes tiered grad. diploma endorsements. Dist.s will have 3 full SYs to align their assessment systems whenever state standards are revised.</p> <p>Delays Phase II of accountability—SBE must promulgate R&amp;Rs for performance eval. systems for school &amp; dist. leaders by 7/1/18 &amp; for teachers by 7/1/19. By 2019-20 for teachers and by 2018-19 for leaders, dist.s must conduct evaluations based in part on student achievement. Beginning 6/1/20 for teachers &amp; 6/1/19 for leaders, &amp; ea. yr. after, dist. supt. must rpt. to their school bd. the names of all who are In Need of Improvement or Ineffective for that SY, including a summary of mentoring or assistance provided. Beginning SY 2019-20, gaining or retaining continuing contract status is dependent on satisfactory performance on eval.s under WAEA. Beginning SY 2019-20, a school board may dismiss, terminate, or suspend any teacher (including continuing contract teachers) for inadequate performance as determined through performance eval. tied to student academic growth for at least 2 consecutive yrs.</p> <p>Continues the Select Comm. on Accountability thru 12/31/16 and its Advisory Comm. thru 12/31/15. They are to continue to study Phase II of Accountability for teacher and leader accountability. Advisory Comm. must consider existing eval. systems used by WY dist.s &amp;, to the extent possible, incorporate them into the eval. systems required by Phase 2. Student achievement &amp; growth cannot be weighted over 20%. Advisory Comm. must periodically rpt. to Select Comm.; final rpt. on implementation findings must go to both JEC &amp; the Select Comm. by 10/15/15, who will jointly consider the final rpt. &amp; any enabling legislation. Any rpt. from Advisory Comm. done w/ help from a consultant must be approved by a majority of the Advisory Comm. members prior to submission to JEC &amp; Select Comm.</p> <p>WDE must immediately convene a technical advisory group to work w/ the</p>		
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<a href="#">SF0010 Enrolled Act 0018</a>	Education Administration-1.	Education	<p><u>Enrolled Act:</u> In order to comply w/ the Supreme Ct. decision last year re: SF104, eliminates all statutory references to the Director of WDE, and returns/assigns those duties &amp; responsibilities to the State Supt. or the SBE. Specifies that the State Supt. will be the administrative head &amp; CEO of WDE. Specifies that the State Supt., as a member of the SBE, cannot participate in Bd. deliberations <i>or vote on</i> any matter relating to a contested case involving actions of WDE. Due to the elimination of the Director position, the School Facilities Comm., the CCC, and the UW Bd. of Trustees will have fewer bd. positions. Effective immed. upon becoming law.</p>	Support	Governor signed EA0018. Effective immediately.
<a href="#">SF0020 Enrolled Act</a>	School finance-excess mill levy	Education	<p><u>Enrolled Act:</u> Repeals the reduction of recapture payments for school dist.s levying more than the statewide average mill levy for the repayment of</p>	Monitor	Governor signed EA0018.

<a href="#">0015</a>	rebate.		bonded indebtedness. Effective 7/1/15.		Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">SF0037 Enrolled Act 0019</a>	State protection of data privacy.	Corporations	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Specifies powers and duties of the Dept. of Enterprise Technology (ETS) services over data privacy. Specifies that ETS data privacy policies & standards shall be the minimum privacy requirements adhered to by state agencies. Effective 7/1/15.	Support	Governor signed. Effective 7/1/15.
<a href="#">SF0057ENG Enrolled Act 0087</a>	School facilities appropriations.	Appropriations	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Modifies appropriations for school facility projects for the biennial period 7/1/14 thru 6/30/16. <i>See enrolled act for specific appropriations.</i> The \$9M appropriated for security projects approved by SFC can only be spent after completion of a comprehensive, statewide assessment of all school safety & security needs & compilation of a prioritized list of remedies based on uniform standards & guidelines. The SFC, thru the SFD, must provide JEC & the Select Comm. on School Facilities w/ the list of prioritized projects & needed funds, a summary of the results of the statewide assessment, & a copy of the standards or guidelines used to assess & prioritize the projects, prior to the expenditure of any funds appropriated for the security projects.  Requires SFC, thru the SF Dept., to review the process used to I.D., review, & prioritize school dist. bldg. component level needs, considering the proper use of major maintenance & other cap.con. funding provided by the state in addressing bldg. adequacy. Recommendations to refine the component level funding must be reported to the Select Comm. by 9/1/15. \$250K appropriated for consultant fees & admin. costs for this study. Act is effective immed. upon becoming law.	Support	<b>H Appointed JCC01 Members Rep.s Harshman, Madden, Throne. S Adopted SF0057JC001: 26-1-3-0-0. Assigned Number SEA No. 0089. S President Signed SEA No. 0089. H Speaker Signed SEA No. 0089.</b>
<a href="#">SF0060 Enrolled Act 0008</a>	Deferred compensation plan-automatic enrollment.	Appropriations	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Provides for automatic enrollment in the state deferred comp. program for state employees starting or returning to work on or after 7/1/15. Provides a 30-day opt-out period, & a 90-day permissible withdrawal period. Automatic enrollees will contribute 3% of their monthly pre-tax pay, though the employee can change that amt. by written notification. The WRS will invest the funds in appropriate plans, but the employee has the right to change the investment plan. Gives a county, city, town, other political subdivision of the state, or an entity or institution of the state which does not use the state auditor's office for payroll services the option to provide for automatic enrollment of new employees into the program per the requirements of the law & this bill. Effective immed. upon becoming law.	Monitor	Governor signed. Effective immediately.
<a href="#">SF0074 Enrolled Act 0068</a>	Summer school intervention and	Sen.s Rothfuss, Coe & Wasserburger, & Rep.s	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Repeals certain existing statutory requirements that dist.s must meet in order to receive BRIDGES financial assistance for before- & after-school & Saturday-school supplemental intervention programs.	Support	S President Signed SEA No. 0068.

	remediation.	Patton & Throne	Clarifies that the supplemental at-risk funds would be available to dist.s offering either summer school or extended day programs, as apparently was intended by the sponsors of the original bill establishing this program, rather than limiting the supplemental programs to only those districts also offering summer school. Effective 7/1/15.		H Speaker Signed SEA No. 0068.
<a href="#">SF0091 Enrolled Act 0079</a>	Charter school eligibility-bonus payments.	Sen.s Rothfuss, Coe & Wasserburger, & Rep.s Moniz, Patton and Throne	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Effective SY 2015-16 and each SY after, charter school employees shall, for purposes of this subsection, be included as payroll of the school dist. & shall be eligible to participate in any salary adjustment for dist. employees which is funded by the legislature & is in addition to the foundation program amt. 100% of the funding generated to the dist. by charter school employee payroll must flow thru to the charter school for that purpose. Effective 7/1/15.	Monitor	S President Signed SEA No. 0079. H Speaker Signed SEA No. 0079.
<a href="#">SF0098ENG Enrolled Act 0085</a>	School athletic safety.	Sen.s Landen, Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Bebout & Coe, & Rep.s Greear & Harshman	<b>Enrolled Act:</b> Adds rodeo, wrestling & cheerleading to the definition of sports/recreational opportunities in the existing WY statute entitled "Recreation Safety Act." Broadens the definition of "provider" to include any person or governmental entity which for profit or otherwise, regulates an interscholastic sport or recreational opportunity. Implementation of the protocols shall be subject to the immunity provisions of the WY Governmental Claims Act. Effective 7/1/15.	Monitor	S President Signed SEA No. 0085. <b>H Speaker Signed SEA No. 0085.</b>