

Summary of 2015 Legislative Bills That Have DIED in Which WEA Had Interest—chart updated 3/9/2015 3:18 PM

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

| Bill Number | Title | Sponsors | Summary | WEA's Position | Current Status of Bill: <i>Red = dead bill.</i> |
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| HOUSE BILLS | | | | | |
| HB0035 | Boards and commissions-removal of appointed members. | Rep. Zwonitzer, Dn., & Sen. Case | (Would affect SBE & PTSB.) Requires a member of a state board, commission or other bodies appointed by the Gov. to notify the Gov. when s/he fails to meet or maintain qualifications as specified, including but not limited to residency or political party affiliation. Provides for removal for failing to meet or maintain qualifications as specified, & for the Gov. to fill the resulting vacancy w/in 30 days. Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Monitor | S Introduced and Referred to S Corporations. No report-out by cut-off. |
| HB0087ENG | Content and performance standards. | Rep.s Sommers, Freeman, Harshman & Paxton, & Sen.s Dockstader & Rothfuss | <u>Engrossed Bill:</u> Requires review of student content & performance standards at least every 10 yrs. (currently 5 yrs.). Establishes a review process that includes SBE holding a min. of 4 public hearings in separate geographic areas prior to rulemaking activity, & requires that LA, MA, & Sci. ea. be considered in different yr.s; requires that all public comments rec'd be reported to JEC by Dec.1 of the yr. of the review. SBE must establish a process to receive stakeholder input on standards during the intervening time between formal reviews. Gives dist.s a min. of 3 SYs after adoption to incorporate new/revised standards into the dist. program. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | S Education FAILED bill for lack of a 2 nd . |
| HB0090ENG | Student religious liberties. | Rep.s Kroeker, Baker, Edmunds, Gay, Halverson, Jaggi, Jennings, Loucks, McKim, Miller, Piiparinen, Reeder, Steinmetz & Winters, & Sen. Dockstader | <u>Engrossed Bill:</u> Creates the WY Student Religious Liberties Act of 2015. Students at school may pray or engage in religious activities/expression before, during, & after the school day, & can organize prayer groups or religious clubs, in the same manner & to the same extent as non-religious activities/expression. Religious groups must be given the same access to school facilities for assembling as is given to other non-curricular groups. Students may wear clothing, accessories, & jewelry in school that display religious messages/symbols in the same manner & to same extent that other messages/symbols are permitted. By 8/15/15, school dist.s must adopt a religious non-discrimination policy which includes the establishment of a limited public forum, as specified, for student speakers in the event students or parents request such a forum. Act applies at the beginning of SY 2015-16. Act effective 7/1/15. | Oppose | S Received for Introduction. S Did Not Introduce Prior to Cut-Off. |
| HB0094ENG | Parental rights. | Rep.s Jennings, Allen, Berger, | <u>Engrossed Bill:</u> The liberty of a parent to direct the upbringing, education & care of the parent's child is a fundamental right; prohibits the state or any | Monitor | S Received for Introduction. S |

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| | | Blackburn,Clem, Edmunds, Gay, Halverson,Jaggi, Kroeker,Lindholm, Miller, Piiparinen, Steinmetz & Winters, & Sen.s Christensen, Dockstader & Meier | state entity from infringing on that right “w/o demonstrating that the interest of the gov’t as applied to the parent or child is a compelling state interest addressed by the least restrictive means.” Applies to any state or local law or ordinance, regardless of whether it was enacted before or after this law; if <u>after</u> , the law is subject to the strict scrutiny standard articulated by the US Supreme Ct., including requiring that the statute furthers a compelling state interest & is narrowly tailored to achieve that interest by the least restrictive means available. Does not apply do any parent whose parental rights have been legally terminated. Effective 7/1/15. | | Did Not Introduce Prior to Cut-Off. |
| <u>HB0101</u> | Education-charter schools. | Rep.s Wilson, Eklund & Freeman, & Sen.s Emerich & Pappas | Changes the authorizer of charter schools from school districts to the WY Community College Comm. (CCC). The CCC would also oversee the operation of the charter. It would not be considered a school in the dist.; however, if the charter closes down, its records & assets would all revert to the dist. in which it is located. The SBE would consider granting waivers of state regulations, & would review such waivers every 2 yrs. Allows any organization or person to apply for a charter. Prior to submission of a charter application, the applicant must meet w/ the supt. of the school district in which the charter school proposes to locate to discuss the contents of the application & any possible coordination between the applicant & the dist. for services, to include at a min. allocation of financial resources under the charter law, student transportation, sp.ed. services & ed. facilities. The application must I.D. the innovative programs & instructional methods to be used & describe how they differ from those in the dist. in which the applicant proposes to operate; must specifically include alternative schools, magnet programs & dual enrollment programs that may be operated by the dist. Authorizes an application fee of up to \$5K to cover the direct & indirect costs of administering the regulatory provisions of the charter law. W/in 30 days of receiving a charter app., requires the authorizer to hold a public hearing in the school dist. in which the charter proposes to operate, including the opportunity for the dist. supt. & school bd. to comment. Establishes additional contents of the report that is required to be submitted when the charter applies for renewal. In addition to existing reasons, a charter may be revoked or non-renewed if it failed to administer the innovative programs or instructional methods it delineated in its app. The authorizer must report annually to SBE re: compliance w/the charter contract & outcomes of innovative programs/instruc. methods. As part of the contract, the charter must I.D. any services to be provided by the dist. & the allocation of resources between the dist. & the charter school for block grant funding for the charter students. | Oppose | H Education FAILED. |

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| | | | <p>Requires ea. member of the CCC to get 4 hrs. of PD during every term served on best practices for charter school operation; subjects may include charter school finance and governance.</p> <p>Charters in existence before the passage of this bill continue to operate under the oversight of the dist. until due for renewal, at which time the CCC takes over as authorizer.</p> <p>Appropriates \$50K from school foundation program to CCC for 1 yr. for costs of administering this act. R&Rs will be promulgated in time to enable implementation of the act by 7/1/15; this part of the bill is effective immed. upon becoming law. Remainder of bill effective 7/1/15.</p> | | |
| HB0103ENG | Merit career-technical scholarships. | Rep.s Hunt, Allen & Berger, & Sen.s Driskill & Wasserburger | Engrossed Bill: Creates a taskforce, as specified, to study the establishment of a merit CTE scholarship program to make recommendations to the legislature for future legislation necessary for a student merit CTE scholarship program to make WY post-secondary CTE programs as free as possible to WY HS grad.s.; initial rpt. is due by 11/1/15; TF will cease to exist on 3/31/16. Appropriates \$20K to LSO to fund the TF. Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Support | S Received for Introduction. S Did Not Introduce Prior to Cut-Off. |
| HB0114 | Wyoming Repeal Gun Free Zones Act. | Rep.s Jaggi, Baker, Jennings, Kroeker, Lindholm, Loucks, Miller, Piiparinen & Reeder | <p>Creates a Wyoming Repeal Gun Free Zones Act. Allows persons holding a valid WY concealed carry permit to carry concealed weapons in: any gov't. mtg.; any mtg. of legislature or its committees; any public school, college or professional athletic event, whether or not related to firearms; any public elem. or secondary school facility; and any public college or univ. facility w/out written consent of the security service of the college/univ. Does not change the prohibition of concealed weapons in courtrooms or prohibit a property owner from restricting firearms on his private property. Effective immed. upon becoming law.</p> <p>Amendments: To adopt Substitute Bill #1:</p> <p>Cites legal cases where the Supreme Court has found that the right to bear arms is not absolute—"a balance must be struck between the individual's right to exercise this constitutional guarantee & society's right to enact laws which will ensure some semblance of order. ...It is incumbent upon the state to provide for the public health, safety & welfare of its citizens. That duty is never higher than when students are educated at schools provided by the state." Bill allows concealed carry IF AUTHORIZED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY &/OR OWNER in: any gov't mtg; legis. mtgs.; public school or college athletic or professional athletic events; any public school facility; any public college or univ. facility. Carrier must be at least 21</p> | Oppose | S Further Amended Substitute Bill and FAILED 3rd Reading: 3-25-20-0. |

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| | | | <p>yrs. old. Governing body of Univ. or CC which contains child care facilities as a component of an accredited ed. program shall prohibit carrying w/in the facility or on the grounds if necessary to comply w/accreditation requirements. Authorization to carry is limited to the property of or w/in a facility of that governing body or for the specific event. Specifies how the authorization will be established (ex.: R&Rs, ordinance, etc.) & requirements for notification & signage. The governing bodies & members thereof are immune from liability. No person shall be considered in any manner to be acting on behalf of the state or any other gov't entity in carrying a concealed weapon under the authority of this section, unless otherwise provided by law. Still prohibits concealed carry in courtrooms & on private property if the property owner chooses to restrict firearms. Effective 7/1/05.</p> <p>Amendments to Substitute Bill: 1) Allows any adult who may lawfully possess a firearm to have it in a private motor vehicle on any road, street, driveway or parking area on the grounds of any public facility in which firearms are prohibited provided the firearms are in a portion of the vehicle that may be locked & are concealed or in a closed container (for this bill, a closed gun bag is a closed container). The Gov. may prohibit the application of this section in special circumstances where the presence of a firearm in a private vehicle poses a significant threat to safety and security. 2) Deletes all the citations of legal cases and legislative intent. 3) Allows for legal exceptions to prohibition against action on behalf of the gov't when carrying. 3rd READING AMENDMENT IS NOT SUMMARIZED, DUE TO THE BILL ITSELF FAILING 3RD READING.</p> | | |
| HB0117 | Spending policy reserve accounts. | Rep.s Throne, Byrd, Kirkbride & Madden, & Sen. Esquibel, F. & Rothfuss | Provides for the automatic transfer of funds from certain earnings on state investments as specified. The portion specific to education requires transfers of unobligated funds from the Common School Permanent Land Fund (SCPLF) Reserve Account to the Common School Land Income Account (CSLIA); Funds in the CSLIA are then transferred to the School Foundation Program (SFP). Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Support | H Referred to Revenue. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| HB0118ENG | Education-community college commission budget request. | Rep.s Berger, Barlow, Blake, Esquibel, K., Freeman, Harvey, Hunt, Jennings, Kasperik, Krone, Laursen, Lindholm, McKim, Northrup, Patton, Petroff, Sommers, | Engrossed Bill: Requires the CCC to report to JAC by 9/1/15 by on the fiscal & policy implications of the incorporation of performance-based financial incentives into the state funding allocation model. JAC, w/the assistance of the CCC & other interested parties, will develop legislation for 2016 which establishes a funding model based on sustainable revenue sources for supplemental funding of CCs, & the format & content of the CCC's standard budget. Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Support | S Received for Introduction. S Did Not Introduce Prior to Cut-Off. |

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| | | Throne, Wilson, Zwonitzer, Dn. & Zwonitzer, Dv., & Sen.s Barnard, Burns, Coe, Driskill, Kinskey, Landen, Peterson, Von Flatern & Wasserburger | | | |
| HB0144ENG | Education-school safety and security. | Education | <p>Engrossed Bill: Creates the Unit of School Safety & Security w/in the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) of the Office of the Attorney Gen. (AG), to be supervised by a deputy. The Unit will establish & administer a comprehensive statewide school safety & security program which shall: include an anonymous tip program that allows necessary info. to be shared w/law enforcement; establish training protocols on school safety & security awareness & appropriate responses to info. provided by law enforcement to other govt. entities; provide educational materials about the program to schools & other entities. All records/tips rec'd in the program will be confidential & not public records; establishes a procedure for an accused criminal to request that the court call for records in order to provide a defense.</p> <p>For 7/1/15 the period beginning with enactment of the law thru 6/30/16, the AG is authorized \$265K \$410K for salary & benefits for 3 5 FT positions, as specified, for the Unit of School Safety & Security; the positions cannot be included in the AG's 2017-18 standard budget request. Appropriates an add'l \$225K to the AG for support services & equipment & software for the Unit. Transfers specified unused appropriations and positions \$45K from WDE to the AG, & reduces the bill's appropriations accordingly. Effective immed. upon becoming law. Amendments: 1) See changes in red above. 2) Adds a sunset provision of 6/30/19.</p> | Support | H Did NOT Adopt HB0144JC001: 28-29-3-0-0. H postponed indefinitely. |
| HB0147 | Wyoming council for education. | Rep.s Sommers, Freeman, Harshman, Northrup, Paxton & Throne, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe & Landen | Creates the WY Council for Public Education, comprised of: 2 legislators, Gov. or designee, State Supt. or designee, SBE Chair or designee, UW Pres. or designee, 1 UW College of Ed. administrator or faculty member, ED of CCC or designee, DWS Director or designee, an early childhood specialist from Dept. of Health, Dept. of Ed., or Dept. of Family Services, a WSBA member, a K-12 teacher, a K-12 school or dist. admin., & 2 parents. The council will identify a common vision for WY's public ed. system Pre-K thru post-secondary, including defining roles & responsibilities of agencies & entities involved w/ WY's public ed. system, & will I.D. goals, measurable outcomes | Support | H Failed COW: 28-31-1-0 |

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| | | | <p>& data that can be used to monitor progress; will make recommendations to improve ed. transitions at all levels; I.D. any modifications to WY's ed. governance structure that may increase efficiency & improve student transitions. Will meet a min. of 2 times/yr. & report its activities & any recommended legislation to JEC. The Dir. of the CCC will be the Council Chair & the CCC office will provide all necessary support to the Council.</p> <p>Appropriates \$35K to CCC for council expenses from 7/1/15-6/30/16. CCC is authorized 1 FTE management-level position \$130K for salary & benefits from the effective date of the law until 6/30/16; thereafter, it is to be included in the CCC standard budget request \$70K to hire an at-will contract position, & CCC cannot include it in the next standard budget request. \$5K to LSO for legislators' travel expenses. Effective immed. upon becoming law.</p> <p>Amendments: H Ed. amended to change K-12 representation on council to 1 teacher of K-5 and an administrator from a 6-12 school; the 2 parents would be appointed by State Supt., not Gov., & 1 of the parents must be from a small dist. & 1 from a large dist. Adds 1 member of the business community & 1 WY CC instructor, both appointed by State Supt. New language above in red. Beginning 9/1/17 & ea. yr. after, the rpt. from the council to JEC may include recommendations to modify the duties & responsibilities of the council, including but not limited to recommendations to modify the composition of the council or the chairmanship. H Approp. amended to change the authorized position at CCC to an at-will contract position. Lowered the appropriation to CCC from \$130K to \$70K from the School Fnd. Acct.</p> | | |
| HB0164 | Student data privacy. | Rep.s Steinmetz, Hunt & Reeder, & Sen. Anderson, J.D. (SD02) | Creates the Privacy in Education Act. Any personally identifiable student info. collected by a school dist. shall not be disseminated in personally identifiable form except w/the written consent of the adult student or a minor student's parent/legal guardian. Does not apply to info. collected for Title I. All reporting requirements must be fully disclosed. Requires JEC to conduct a review of statutes (after the fact) to ensure that no conflicting or redundant provisions exist as a result of passage of this act; any necessary legislation must be drafted prior to the 2016 budget session. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | In H Education, this bill was withdrawn by the sponsor. |
| HB0179 | Education-state board membership. | Rep.s Patton, Freeman & Northrup, & Sen. Coe | Makes the State Supt. an ex-officio, non-voting member of the State Bd. of Ed. Effective 7/1/15. | Monitor | H Education Laid Bill Back. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |

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| HB0185 | Severance tax distributions. | Rep.s Esquibel, K. & Patton, & Sen.s Hastert and Peterson. | Diversion of one-half of the additional 1% severance tax from the Permanent Wyoming Mineral Trust Fund (PWMTF) to the Highway Fund, to the School Capital Construction Account (over \$20M/yr. for ea. of the next 3 yrs.) & to local govt.s for FYs 2016-2021 (1/3 to ea. of the 3). Effective 7/1/15. | Support | H Introduced and Referred to H Revenue. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| HB0190 | Hathaway scholarship program grade point average. | Rep.s Throne & Connolly, & Sen. Rothfuss | Modifies the definition of "GPA" for purposes of determining initial eligibility for Hathaway scholarships to mean: the numbered grade average calculated using a 4.0 scale &, beginning SY 2015-16 & thereafter, must include a measure to account for academic rigor of HS courses in accordance with best practices & WDE R&Rs. Effective 7/1/15. | Monitor | H Introduced and Referred to H Education. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| HB0191 | Education-Hathaway scholarship requirements. | Rep.s Freeman, Madden, Northrup, Patton & Wilson, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Craft & Emerich | Increases the # of sem. hrs. considered FT attendance for the Hathaway Scholarship from 12 to 15 hrs. Beginning SY 2015-16 and thereafter, for the first semester of scholarship eligibility only, allows up to 6 sem. hrs. of remedial courses to be included in determining FT enrollment status & satisfactory acad. progress for students receiving the Hathaway Opportunity or Provisional Opportunity scholarships. Effective 7/1/15. Amendments: Language not yet available. | Monitor | H Education Amended and FAILED. |
| HB0192ENG | Education-Hathaway scholarship program. | Rep.s Freeman, Dayton, Harshman, Northrup, Sommers & Throne, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe & Craft | Engrossed Bill: A student who has received a Hathaway Performance scholarship and who has maintained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 for 2 consecutive semesters is allowed to petition to receive the higher-level Honor Scholarship for the remainder of his/her scholarship eligibility. A student who has received a Hathaway Opportunity or Provisional Opportunity scholarship and who has maintained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 for 2 consecutive semesters is allowed to petition to receive the higher-level Performance scholarship for the remainder of his/her scholarship eligibility. WDE may delegate to any eligible institution WDE's authority to grant a scholarship increase request, but shall only in accordance with WDE R&Rs. Act will apply prospectively. The academic performance of Hathaway recipients prior to the effective date of this act will not be considered in determining eligibility to receive an increase in their scholarship. WDE must promulgate R&Rs in sufficient time to enable implementation of act by 7/1/15; this part of bill is effective immediately on becoming law. Remainder of bill is effective 7/1/15. | Support | S Received for Introduction. S Did Not Introduce Prior to Cut-Off. |
| HB0196 | Civics proficiency examination. | Rep.s Clem, Halverson, Jaggi & Miller, & Sen. Meier | Beginning SY 2016-17 & after, requires students to pass a "civics test" on the essentials of the US Constitution in order to graduate from HS. The test must be comprised of 100 questions used to grant US citizenship. Students must be provided an opportunity to take the test at least once/SY & must score at | Oppose | H Education. FAILED this bill. |

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| | | | least 60% at some point between gr.s 9 & 12; test can be retaken as necessary in order to try to pass it. Requirement doesn't apply if student is exempted per an IEP. Effective 7/1/15. | | |
| <u>HB0198</u> | Education-compulsory attendance. | Rep.s Harshman, Northrup & Throne, & Sen.s Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe & Rothfuss | Changes compulsory attendance ages: for students attending a private school, must have reached 16 th birthday or completed 10 th grade; for students attending public school, 17 th birthday or completed 11 th grade. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | H FAILED 3rd Reading: 26-33-1-0 |
| <u>HB0204</u> | Campus security study. | Rep. Gay | WCCC & UW will jointly conduct a study of the security of WY's public institutions of higher education, as specified. The goal is to determine the readiness of ea. institution to prevent & effectively respond to campus security events. They must rpt. by 9/1/15 on their findings & conclusions. "The findings & conclusions of the study shall not be construed to limit, restrict or otherwise affect a person's right to carry & use firearms as otherwise provided by law." JEC can bring any legislation it deems appropriate to resolve any identified problems. Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Monitor | H Education FAILED this bill. |
| <u>HB0218</u> | Minimum wage-federal minimum amount. | Rep.s Petroff & Madden, & Sen. Hastert | Requires employers to pay at least the fed. minimum wage, except as specified in the fed. Fair Labor Standards Act. Repeals a current provision in WY law that allows employers to pay employees under age 20 a lower wage during their first 90 days of employment. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | H Introduced and Referred to H Travel. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| <u>HB0221</u> | Education-parental rights. | Rep.s Lindholm, Blackburn, Clem, Kroeker & Steinmetz | Requires that all personally identifiable student info. held by the state, school dist., or school, including but not limited to info. related to acad. performance, special services rec'd or participation in extracurricular activities, shall be available to the parent/ legal guardian; the parent/guardian can prohibit the state, dist., or school from collecting personally identifiable student info. on his child attending a public school. Allows parents to opt their public school child out of any assessment required by state or fed. law. A school employee is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$750 if he destroys, conceals, or purges any personally identifiable student info. w/o the written consent of the parent, or if he fails to provide such info. upon written request of the parent, including but not limited to info. related to acad. performance or participation in | Oppose | H Introduced and Referred to H Education. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |

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| | | | <p>extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Dist.s are required to allow home- or private-schooled students to enroll in dual & concurrent courses & any other extracurricular or elective courses offered by the dist. & will be included in the dist. ADM. Local school board must establish policies. Children enrolled FT in the public school must be given priority for enrollment if the class size exceeds the capacity for a specific class or program.</p> <p>Changes the definition of “unexcused absence” to be an absence not consented to by the parent/guardian/person having control of the child, rather than as defined by the school bd.</p> <p>Extends to school dist.s the prohibition of exercising any control or influence over parochial, church, or religious schools. Removes the limitation of allowing only 1 family in a home-school. Prohibits the state & school dist.s from exercising any control or supervision over a home-school. Changes the definition of “basic acad. ed. program” to include instruc. in LA, MA, Sci, & SS (which may include but is not limited to civics, history, religious instruction, & geography). Private & home-schools are not required to implement any academic or other standards or include in its curric. any concept, topic, or practice in conflict with its religious doctrines or to exclude from its curric. any concept, topic, or practice consistent with its religious doctrines. Requires a private school to hold classes for a period of time equal to that of the public schools in the child’s attendance area. Prohibits any fed. or state entity or school dist. from determining or approving a home-school program, from imposing standards, from requiring tests/assessments, or imposing a curric. A parent would notify a dist. that their child will not attend school by submitting a written letter of withdrawal; in such a case, the dist. must give the parent all of the student’s records. Imposes a misdemeanor & \$750 fine if a dist., state, or fed. employee tries to collect personally identifiable info. on a student from a private or home-school.</p> <p>JEC must review related statutes to ensure no conflicting or unnecessary provisions exist as a result of passage of this act & report to Legis. prior to 2016 session. Effective 7/1/15.</p> | | |
| <u>HB0226</u> | State board of education-members. | Rep.s Steinmetz, Halverson, Jennings, McKim & Reeder, & Sen. | Changes the SBE such that five positions of the 13 are appointed by the Gov. & confirmed by the Senate, six elected by non-partisan ballot, 1 is State Supt., & 1 is ED of CCC. The 5 appointed members would be: a certified classroom teacher, a certified school administrator, one school bd. member | Monitor | H Introduced and Referred to H Education. No report prior to |

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| | | Meier | from a large dist. & one from a small dist., & one from business & industry; they would serve 6-yr. terms. The 6 elected members would serve 4-yr. terms & would be elected from ea. of 6 specified election dist.s. Establishes difference procedures for filling vacated positions, according to whether elected or appointed. Establishes a transition from the current Bd. make-up to that specified in this act. Effective 7/1/15. | | CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| HB0232 | Open meetings. | Rep. Nicholas, B. & Sen.s Nicholas, P. & Perkins | Makes it legal under the open meetings law for a governing body to <i>take action</i> on a confidential matter during executive session. Effective 7/1/15. | Oppose | Bill withdrawn by sponsor. |
| HB0238 | Flaring of natural gas. | Rep.s Krone, Blake & Connolly | Natural gas which is vented or flared is exempt from taxation for not more than 90 days for any well. After that period, such natural gas will be taxed as provided under law. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | H Introduced and Referred to H Minerals. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| HB0242 | Education-continuing contract teacher. | Rep. Winters & Sen. Case | Modifies the existing definition of a "continuing contract" teacher to apply only to those teachers who meet the current definition before 7/1/15; for any initial contract teacher employed 7/1/15 or after, it is at the discretion of the employing school district to grant continuing contract status and, beginning SY 2016-17 and after, the teacher must also have performed satisfactorily on dist. performance evaluations. Under this subparagraph, length of service shall not be a prerequisite requirement for a dist. in granting continuing contract teacher status and shall be granted solely at the discretion of the employing school district. Effective 7/1/15. | Oppose | H Introduced and Referred to H Education. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
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| HJ0002 | State superintendent of public instruction. | Education | A joint resolution proposing to allow the electorate to decide whether to amend the WY Constitution, relating to education, at the next general election: effective 1/7/19, eliminates the state supt. as an elected official on and after 1/7/19 and instead provides that the general supervision of public schools shall be prescribed by law; on and after 1/7/19, removes the state supt. as an ex-officio member of the UW Bd. of Trustees & from the Bd. of Land Commissioners. | Monitor | Bill failed Mon.in H Ed. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| SENATE BILLS | | | | | |
| SF0015 | Children in need of supervision-2. | Judiciary | When an investigation is being conducted to determine if a child should be designated as in need of supervision (CHINS) & the DA determines that it is in the best interests of the child to be served thru non-judicial intervention, the DA may enter into a voluntary written diversion agreement, as specified in the act, w/ the child & the child's parents/guardian/custodian. They have | Support | Died in Judiciary for lack of a 2 nd . |

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| | | | the right to consult on a limited basis w/a guardian ad litem before signing the agreement. Effective 7/1/15. | | |
| <u>SF0041</u> | Employee online privacy. | Corporations | Prohibits an employer from requesting or requiring access to a personal Internet account of an employee or prospective employee except as provided below. Prohibits an employer from taking adverse action against an employee or prospective employee for failing to disclose such info. However, it does <i>not</i> prohibit an employer from: 1) requesting or requiring an employee to disclose info. to access an acct. provided by the employer or used primarily for the employer's business purposes; 2) viewing of the employee's personal Internet acct. as part of a work related investigation of employee misconduct being conducted based on reliable & reasonable info., when viewing the info. is reasonably necessary to make a factual determination, so long as the employer does not try to obtain access to the employee's personal acct.; 3) requesting a personal e-mail for the purpose of enhancing communications w/ an employee or prospective employee; 4) viewing info. about an employee or prospective employee that is available in the public domain; 5) establishing lawful workplace policies governing the use of the employer's network or electronic device paid for in whole by the employer, including policies regarding employee use of personal internet acct.s; 6) restricting or prohibiting an employee's access to certain websites while using an account, device or service supplied by, or paid for in whole by, the employer or while using an employer's network or resources; 7) monitoring, reviewing, accessing or blocking elec. data stored on a device supplied by, or paid for in whole by, the employer or stored on an employer's network. Prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to waive their rights under this law. Establishes a monetary fine for employers violating this act. Allows civil action against an employer who violated the act. Effective 7/1/15. Amendments: See changes in red above. | Support | S FAILED 3rd Reading: 13-17-0-0 |
| <u>SF0078</u> | Education-dual language immersion programs. | Sen.s Wasserburger & Rothfuss, & Rep. Stubson | Creates new program to provide funding to schools for dual language immersion programs. Requires the use of a target foreign language during at least 50% of student-teacher contact time in the core content areas during ea. school day of student enrollment in the program. Dist. must apply on behalf of the school(s) NLT Apr. 15 of the preceding SY. The supplemental funds must be used for training & acquisition of instructional capacity necessary to initiate a dual immersion program w/in the school. The amt. is limited to a max. of \$20K + 100% reimbursement for the cost of the foreign instructor's visa. Ea. school is only eligible 1 time for this financial assistance. Dist. must rpt. to WDE on the expenditures. Repeals 2014 Session Law that allocated a different amt. of funding for dual language immersion programs. Requires WDE to promulgate rules re: this supplemental funding in time for | Support | S FAILED 3 rd Reading: 15-14-1-0. |

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| | | | dist.s to submit applications by 4/15/15. Appropriates \$400K for the program, reduced by any unexpended funds from the aforementioned 2014 Session Laws, but those unexpended funds may also be used for the new program. Authorizes 2 FT positions & \$185K for WDE. The sections of the bill pertaining to WDE rules promulgation, new employee positions & funding, & use of unexpended 2014 funds are effective immed. upon becoming law; the remainder of the bill is effective 7/1/15. Amendments: 1) Adds language that PTSB must promulgate R&Rs to provide for appropriate cert. or licensure of visiting teacher to participate in this program. Rpt. due to JEC by 6/15/15 on progress of R&Rs. 2) See added language in bold red above. | | |
| SF0087 | Education-school finance cost-of-living adjustment. | Sen.s Wasserburger & Anderson, J.D. (SD02) | Changes the computation of the WY Cost-of-Living Index used by the block grant funding model for any school year (SY) to be the greater of the average of the 2 consecutive semi-annual index reports completed by Jan. 1 of the immediately preceding SY or the average of the 6 consecutive semi-annual index reports completed by Jan. 1 of the immediately preceding SY. A decrease in recapture revenues to the School Foundation Program Acct. & an increase in expenditures from the School Foundation Program are expected to occur as a result. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | S Introduced and Referred to S Education. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| SF0107 | Federal education funds study. | Sen.s Driskill, Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Dockstader & Wasserburger, & Rep.s Paxton | From time of bill enactment thru 6/30/16, \$125K appropriated to the Economic Analysis Div. of the WY Dept. of A&I to conduct a study of fed. public ed. funds, including: I.D. of all fed. \$\$ rec'd by WY in most recently completed FY for purposes of ed. programs for resident school-aged children, incl. Pre-K; impact analysis on WY ed. programs, clearly differentiating the impact at the state, school dist., & community levels, & differentiating costs versus benefits accruing to the state; & analysis of the ramifications of eliminating state acceptance of fed. public ed. \$\$\$. Allocation is for purpose of hiring consultants. Rpt. due by 10/1/15 to JEC, JAC, & any recalibration select comm. created by Legis. Effective immed. upon becoming law. | Monitor | S Introduced and Referred to S Education. S No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
| SF0110 | State education accountability and assessment-2. | Sen.s Rothfuss, Anderson, J.D. (SD02), Coe, Hicks, Landen, Peterson & Wasserburger, & Rep.s Freeman, Harshman, Jaggi, Northrup, Paxton, Sommers & Throne | Beginning SY 2016-17, changes Phase I school-level accountability ratings to occur biennially, & to be determined using aggregate student performance data for 2 consecutive yrs. Removes writing & language as 1 of the measures of school-level performance. Changes state assessments in reading, math, & science to only grades 3, 5, 7, & 9. In its R&Rs re: dist. assessment systems used to determine completion of HS grad. requirements, the SBE will be required to include reasonable restrictions on the aggregate time required for admin. of such assessments. Any dist. assessment administered in excess of the limitations prescribed in those R&Rs shall not be considered in determining compliance with any | Support | S 2 nd Reading: Laid Back. No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |

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| | | | <p>minimum school day or pupil-teacher contact time requirements in WY statute.</p> <p>Effective SY 2015-16 & thereafter, changes the state assessment to test reading, math, & science & only at grades 3, 5, 7, & 9. Repeals the state writing & language assessment for gr. 3, 5, & 7. Repeals the restriction of using only multiple choice items.</p> <p>For SY 2015-16 only, the state assessment will be given only in gr. 3, 5, 7, & 9, & will consist of a single standards-based assessment to assess English, math, reading, science, & writing. The assessment shall include multiple choice, constructed response, & technology-enhanced items and shall be administered online using state-of-the-art technology with the option to assess by paper and pencil. For SY 2016-17 & thereafter, SBE shall determine the appropriate assessment(s) that best serve the state's ed. interests & that are necessary to comply w/state & fed. laws. By 10/1/15, the SBE must report on the status & future plans of the state assessment.</p> <p>Requires the SBE, w/assistance from the State Supt., to apply immed. to the US Dept. of Ed. for an NCLB waiver to allow the state assessment to be given as specified above. Requires rpts. from State Supt. & SBE.</p> <p>Beginning SY 2015-2016 and thereafter, WDE must stop collecting data from school dist.s by student name. Student-specific data reported to WDE must reference the student through an anonymized value using a one-way encryption mechanism to prevent the disclosure of the student's named identity. WDE shall in no event collect the names of any students for any data purpose or verification. By 5/1/15, WDE & State Chief Info. Officer must determine a way to collect data that satisfies this new law &, by 5/15/15, notify dist.s of that.</p> <p>Appropriates \$500K to the AG from 7/1/15-6/30/16 for the purpose of defending or taking action before any state or fed. court or administrative agency to challenge the enforcement of any order or action to withhold funds related to the state's noncompliance with NCLB requirements as a result of this law. Effective immed. upon becoming law. Amendments: 1) Requires the SY 2015-16 assessment to be an off-the-shelf product, not custom-made. See deletions in red above. Requires the State Supt. to make available & provide to ea. dist. a data inventory & dictionary of individual student data fields, both as specified, & any personally identifiable student</p> | | |
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| | | | info. used in admin. of the law; the dist. must provide copies to the parents of all dist. children or give them an opportunity to request a copy. Any disclosure of personally identifiable data must comply w/FERPA &, unless specifically required by WY or fed. law, remain redacted, & not be transferred to any other agency. Exempts such info. from public records laws. Requires the State Supt., working w/ETS, to review the data collections & processes used to submit data to WDE, & submit a rpt. by 10/1/15 on recommendations for further anonymizing student data & diminishing WDE's reliance on student names for data collections. 2) Decreases appropriation from \$500K to \$100K. | | |
| SF0115ENG | Discrimination. | Sen.s Rothfuss, Burns, Christensen, Coe, Nicholas, P., Pappas, Von Flatern & Wasserburger, & Rep.s Brown, Connolly, Lockhart, Madden, Paxton, Petroff & Zwonitzer, Dn. | Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity as specified. Provides a religious exemption. Effective 7/1/15. Amendments: 1) Broadens the religious exemption. 2) Stripped all provisions of the bill except prohibiting discrimination in employment situations. | Support | H Amended and FAILED COW 26-33-1-0-0. |
| SF0121 | Career and technical training grants. | Sen.s Hastert, Craft, Rothfuss & Von Flatern, & Rep.s Byrd, Freeman, Krone, Throne & Wilson | Establishes a career and technical training grants program under the auspices of Dept. of Workforce Services (DWS). The purpose is to provide grants to develop or enhance the skills of WY's workforce based on current, projected, or emerging labor shortages in the WY economy. Does not include continuing ed. trng. No grants can be awarded until the acct. balance reaches \$2M. Establishes minimum eligibility requirements for grant recipients. Grantees must agree to work in WY in the trade for which s/he receives trng. for a period specified in R&Rs; duration will be based on the value of the trng., commensurate with the magnitude of the grant, & shall not be less than the length of the grantee's trng. program or 2 yrs., whichever is less. Grants cannot \$1,600/yr. per grantee. DWS must rpt. to several legis. committees by 6/1/16. Appropriates \$50K \$100K to start the grant acct. Appropriated \$50K to DWS for admin. of the program. Effective immed. upon becoming law. Amendments: 1) Changes the definition of an approved CTE provider from a WY CC to a provider approved by DWS. 2) See changes to appropriations in red above. | Support | H FAILED 3rd Reading: 27-32-1-0-0 |

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| SF0127 | Transportation and education revenue distribution. | Sen.s Meier & Craft, & Rep.s Allen, Clem, Jaggi & Sommers | This bill diverts registration fee revenues currently distributed to local school districts and to the School Foundation Program (SFP). This diversion is distributed 50% to WYDOT to provide grants for road maintenance and construction and 50% to the Highway Fund. This diversion is equal to 33 1/3% of the additional 1% severance tax distributed to the Perm. WY Mineral Trust Fund (PWMTF), and is backfilled by 33 1/3% of the additional 1% severance tax currently going to the PWMTF, holding local school districts and the SFP harmless. Another 33 1/3% of the additional 1% PWMTF severance tax is diverted to the Common School Permanent Land Fund (CSPLF), but first deposited to the SFP if there is an SFP deficit. Effective 7/1/16. Amendments: Changes how the road maintenance & construction portion of the funds may be used. | Monitor | S Appropriations FAILED Do Pass Motion. S Placed on General File. S Did Not Consider in CoW. Bill is Now Dead. |
| SF0131 | Minimum wage-staged increase. | Sen.s Hastert, Craft & Rothfuss, & Rep.s Byrd, Dayton & Throne | Requires increases to the minimum wage to bring it to the following levels: after 6/30/15 & before 7/1/16, at least \$7.75/hr.; after 6/30/16 & before 7/1/17, at least \$8.50/hr.; after 6/30/17 & before 7/1/18, at least \$9.25/hr.; after 6/30/18 & before 7/1/19, at least \$10.00/hr. On or before 4/30/19 & April 30 ea. yr. thereafter, DWS must revise the rate by using the WCLI. Effective 7/1/15. | Support | S Introduced and Referred to S Minerals. S No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is Now Dead. |
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| SJ0003 | Limitation of authority. | Wasserburger | A joint resolution calling for Congress to submit to the states a proposed amendment to the US Constitution prohibiting the infringement of the US govt. on the states' educational rights & reserving that responsibility for the states & its people. | Monitor | In S Education, the sponsor withdrew the bill. Comm. laid the bill back. Bill is now dead. |
| SJ0005 | State superintendent of public instruction-1. | Education | Mirror bill to HJ0002— <i>see description elsewhere in this document.</i> | Monitor | S Introduced and Referred to S Education. S No report prior to CoW Cutoff. Bill is now dead. |