SESSION STRUCTURE

- 37 days
- Jan. 10 – March 3
- Daily committee meetings in morning, over lunch, upon adjournment
- Senate and House meet mid-morning and afternoon
- Evening receptions
WEDA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

2023 ACTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Andy Gramlich
- Anja Richmond
- Ashley Harpstreith
- Betsey Hale
- Brayden Connour
- Brian Muir
- Chris Brown
- David Bush
- Drew Kramer
- Eric Bingham
- Glenn Januska
- James Klessens
- Jeremiah Rieman
- John Jenks*
- Josh Dorrell*
- Kaley Holyfield*

- Kayla McDonald
- Kevin Kershisnik
- Lisa Mueller
- Michael Howe
- Phil Christopherson
- Robert Briggs
- Rick Kaysen
- Rocky Case
- Ron Gullberg*
- Scott Hoversland
- Sharon Fain
- Shawn Taylor
- Stephanie Salazar
- Susan Bigelow
- Tracy Morris
- Tracy Rue

* non-voting member of state government

BETSEY HALE
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR

MICHAEL HOWE
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR

CHRIS BROWN
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR

SARA DIRIENZO
LOBBYIST
Enable Wyoming communities to drive economic development.
- Direct and protect adequate funding to Wyoming’s cities, towns and counties.
- Provide tools and resources to communities that support local decision-making.

Develop and retain a trained and skilled workforce.
- Support job training and education programs.
- Encourage the development of affordable workforce housing for Wyoming’s current and future workforce.

Invest in Wyoming’s infrastructure.
- Bolster transportation, local government systems, utilities, broadband and buildings that will ensure Wyoming is well-situated for future economic growth.
Allow Wyoming to be competitive for economic development.

- Support innovative effective economic strategies and investments to help Wyoming industries grow, innovate, remain in the state and spur entrepreneurship.
- Enable Wyoming to attract new companies and industries to remain nationally and globally competitive.
- Support a balanced tax policy and incentives to encourage ongoing capital investment and primary job creation.
- Continue investment in the Wyoming Business Council as it supports local economic development efforts in all 23 counties across the state.
LEGISLATIVE POSITION PROCESS

**STEP I:** POSITION REQUESTS/CONSIDERATIONS

**STEP II:** WEDA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REVIEW

**STEP III:** BOARD ADOPTION

**STEP IV:** FINALIZATION
TRACKING, UPDATES & ACTION ALERTS

ABOUT BILL TRACKING AND LOBBYING

- Updated daily
- Priority tracker – support, oppose and track
- Monitor List
- Failed list
- Enrolled list
- Testimony, legislator communications, letters, coalitions

Example of one of our Action Alerts

ACTION ALERT: Support ARPA amendment for Unmet Housing Needs

WEDNESDAY | FEB 17:30 a.m.
House Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 106 and online
WATCH | TESTIFY

The House Appropriations Committee will be hearing HB1873 Amendment 1 – American Rescue Plan Act (appropriations-amenements). This bill includes an amendment for $5 million in ARPA funds through the Local Government Grant Program for infrastructure – including water, sewer and utilities – to support unmet housing needs.

WEDA supports this amendment because it encourages the development of affordable housing for Wyoming’s current and future workforce.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Give testimony to the House Appropriations Committee
- Virtual: Sign up online
- In-person: Capitol Extension, Room 106

If you plan to testify, please email Sara DiFronzo, WEDA Executive Director.

Sample testimony:
Keep it short! 3-5 minutes
Chairman Nicholas, Committee – my name is (NAME) with (JOB TITLE, PLACE OF WORK) a member of the Wyoming Economic Development Association.

Please support the amendment for $5 million in ARPA funds through the Local Government grant program for infrastructure to support unmet housing needs, part of HB1873 – American Rescue Plan Act appropriations-amenements. This is one of the best uses for ARPA funds for Wyoming.

(BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE HOUSING ISSUE IN YOUR COMMUNITY)

The opportunity to apply for funds to support housing infrastructure would (DESCRIBE HOW THIS MONEY COULD HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND HOUSING NEEDS).
**BREAKDOWN**

of the **83** bills WEDA followed

- **497** Bills filed
- **153** Bills completed
- **83** Bills WEDA followed
- **6** Bills WEDA supported passed
- **1** Bill WEDA opposed failed
HB001/SF001: Budget Bill - SUPPORTED.

- $30m for Business Ready Community fund
- Project manager position
- $5.5m for community facilities

...and then the rest of the budget

- HB001/SF001: Budget Bill
TAXES

- Support a balanced tax policy and incentives to encourage ongoing capital investment and primary job creation.

HB0124 - Electricity generation-taxation. **OPPOSED.**

HB0213 - Energy production inventory exemption. **SUPPORTED.**

### NOTABLE TRACKED OR MONITORED

- HB003 - State assessment of independent power producers.
- HB0162 - County optional tax - affordable housing.
- HB0071 - Sales tax holiday-back to school.
- HB0072 - Sales tax revisions.
- HB0099 - Property tax refund program.
- SJ0003 - Property tax exemption for the elderly and infirm.
- HB0100 - Acquisition value study.
- HB0174 - Homestead exemption-amendments.
- HB0256 - Property tax holiday.
- SF0070 - Back to school tax holiday.
- SF0101 - Wyoming legal tender act - amendments.
- SF0110 - Personal property-tax exemption.
- SF0043 - EMS Districts
- HB0144 - Senior citizen district programs and services.
HOUSING

- Encourage the development of affordable workforce housing for Wyoming’s current and future workforce.
- Bolster transportation, local government systems, utilities, broadband and buildings that will ensure Wyoming is well-situated for future economic growth.

HB0195 - American rescue plan act appropriations- amendments. SUPPORTED.
- $5m for cities and towns for housing infrastructure through the Local Government Grant Program.

HB001/SF001: Budget Bill - SUPPORTED.
- $5m for cities and towns for housing infrastructure through the Local Government Grant Program.

HB0132 - Wyoming housing trust fund. – SUPPORTED.
OUTDOOR RECREATION & FIREARMS

- Enable Wyoming to attract new companies and industries to remain nationally and globally competitive.
- Support innovative effective economic strategies and investments to help Wyoming industries grow, innovate, remain in the state and spur entrepreneurship.
- Direct and protect adequate funding to Wyoming’s cities, towns and counties.

✔ HB0074 - Wyoming outdoor recreation trust fund. - SUPPORTED.
✔ SF0169 - State shooting complex task force. – SUPPORTED.

NOTABLE TRACKED OR MONITORED
- SF0116 - Protection of lawful commerce in firearms.
CITIES AND TOWNS

- Direct and protect adequate funding to Wyoming’s cities, towns and counties.
- Provide tools and resources to communities that support local decision-making.
- Bolster transportation, local government systems, utilities, broadband and buildings that will ensure Wyoming is well-situated for future economic growth.

HB0135 - Cities and towns-abandoned and nuisance buildings. SUPPORTED.
HB0185 - Local government distributions-revisions. SUPPORTED.
SF0082 - Eligible water and sewer projects funding. SUPPORTED.

HB0040 - Airport districts.
EDUCATION AND JOB GROWTH

- Support job training and education programs.
- Encourage the development of affordable workforce housing for Wyoming’s current and future workforce.

- **HB0029** - Community college funding-distance education credit hours. SUPPORTED.
- **HB0030** - Wyoming's tomorrow scholarship program amendments. SUPPORTED.
- **SF0078** - Apprenticeship and job training promotion in schools. SUPPORTED.
- **HB0109** - Wyoming works for tomorrow. SUPPORTED.
NATIONAL DEFENSE & PROTECTION

- Provide tools and resources to communities that support local decision-making.
- Bolster transportation, local government systems, utilities, broadband and buildings that will ensure Wyoming is well-situated for future economic growth.

HB0196 - Wyoming infrastructure protection act. SUPPORTED.

NOTABLE TRACKED OR MONITORED

- HB0088 - Foreign ownership of agricultural land-prohibited.
- HB0116 - Prohibiting foreign property ownership in Wyoming.
- SF0124 - Foreign ownership of agricultural land.
INDUSTRY

- Support innovative effective economic strategies and investments to help Wyoming industries grow, innovate, remain in the state and spur entrepreneurship.
- Enable Wyoming to attract new companies and industries to remain nationally and globally competitive.

**HB0092 - Wyoming film production rebates program. SUPPORTED.**

**HB0190 - Wyoming value added energy and industrial plan. SUPPORTED.**

**NOTABLE TRACKED OR MONITORED**

- HB0214 - General regulatory sandbox program.
- SF0159 - Stop ESG-Eliminate economic boycott act.
- SF0101 - Wyoming legal tender act amendments.
- SF0172 - Stop ESG-State funds fiduciary duty act.
POTENTIAL INTERIM TOPICS

- HOUSING
- VALUE – ADDED ENERGY
- PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY
- CARBON CAPTURE
- WYOMING INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP
- ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL GOVERNANCE
- PROPERTY TAX, ELECTRICAL GENERATION TAX
INTERIM MEETINGS

MINERALS
- MAY 18-19 - Kemmerer
- JULY 17-18 – Rock Springs
- NOV. 9-10 - Gillette

APPROPRIATIONS
- JULY 10-11 - Cheyenne
- AUG. 22-23 – Cheyenne
- SEPT. 27 - Cheyenne
THANK YOU TO A GREAT TEAM AND CONGRATULATIONS ON AN IMPACTFUL SESSION!