



# 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## RECAP & INTERIM UPDATE

# LEGISLATIVE SESSION TIMELINE

## 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



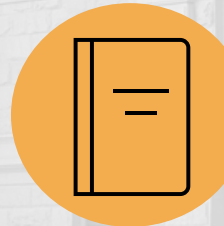
WEDA LEGISLATIVE  
COMMITTEE



PRIORITIES &  
PROCESS



SESSION &  
BILL TRACKING



INTERIM



# 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
- Jerimiah Rieman
- John Jenks\*
- Josh Dorrell\*
- Kaley Holyfield\*
- Kayla McDonald
- Kevin Kershnik
- 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



**BETSEY HALE**  
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR



**MICHAEL HOWE**  
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR



**CHRIS BROWN**  
LEGISLATIVE CO-CHAIR



**SARA DIRIENZO**  
LOBBYIST

*\*non-voting member of state government*

# 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## **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.

# 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

## Allow Wyoming to be competitive for economic development.

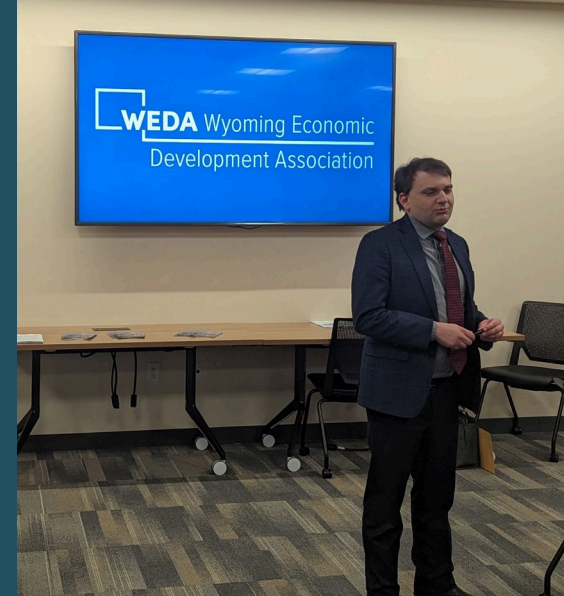
- Support innovative effective economic strategies and investments to help Wyoming industries grow, innovate, remain in the state and spur entrepreneurship.
- Enable Wyoming to attract new companies and industries to remain nationally and globally competitive.
- Support a balanced tax policy and incentives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

We also had a handout!





# WEDA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE





# 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



### ACTION ALERT: Support ARPA amendment for Unmet Housing Needs

WEDNESDAY | FEB. 1 | 7:30 a.m.  
House Appropriations  
State Capitol, Room E301 and online  
[WATCH](#) | [TESTIFY](#)

The House Appropriations Committee will be hearing [HBo195 - American Rescue Plan Act appropriations-amendments](#). 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 E301

If you plan to testify, please email [Sara DiRienzo, WEDA Executive Director](#).

Sample testimony  
Keep it short! 1-3 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 HBo195 - American Rescue Plan Act appropriations-amendments. This is one 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].

Example of one of our Action Alerts

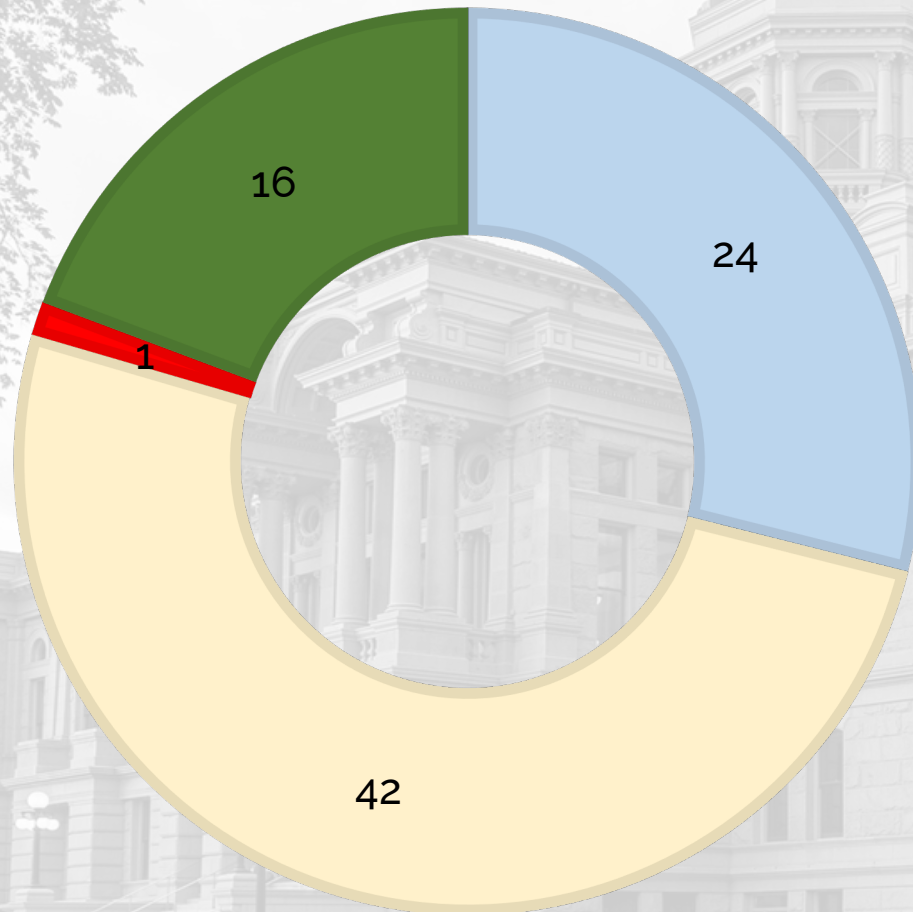




# BREAKDOWN

of the **83** bills WEDA followed

■ Tracked ■ Monitored ■ Opposed ■ Supported



**497**

Bills filed

**153**

Bills completed

**83**

Bills WEDA followed

**6**

Bills WEDA supported  
passed

**1**

Bill WEDA opposed  
failed

# WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL

- Continue investment in the Wyoming Business Council as it supports local economic development efforts in all 23 counties across the state.
- Enable Wyoming to attract new companies and industries to remain nationally and globally competitive.



## **HBoo1/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**

- HBoo1/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.**

## NOTABLE TRACKED OR MONITORED

- 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!**

