



Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Legislative and Missed Votes Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of legislators who serve in state legislatures, and to bring awareness to lawmakers. The Foundation's State Legislative Scorecards, such as this scorecard, specifically inform the public about the positions taken by legislators in a particular state on economic growth issues.

# Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION **EDUCATES THE** PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-**GROWTH POLICIES.** 

THE FOUNDATION CONDUCTS **COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS OF VOTING RECORDS.** 

THE FOUNDATION'S **GOAL IS TO INFORM** THE PUBLIC AND **BRING AWARENESS** TO LAWMAKERS.

**METHODOLOGY 2021 WYOMING** 

> **WYOMING** SENATE **SNAPSHOT**

WYOMING SENATE **VOTES** 

WYOMING SENATE VOTE **DESCRIPTIONS** 

> WYOMING HOUSE **SNAPSHOT**

**WYOMING** HOUSE VOTES

# Methodology | Wyoming 2021

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Wyoming's elected state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker's record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

The Foundation examines legislative votes related to the Club's immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limited government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing Term Limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examines votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation, and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

# LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS **CONSIDERED IN WYOMING IN 2021**

The Foundation's study examined over 700 floor votes and, in the end, included 19 Wyoming House votes and 17 Wyoming Senate votes.

# COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted signified as an "X" on the scorecard - though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker's position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an "I".

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from ties, lawmakers with 0%

scores are, by default, ranked #60 in the House and #30 in the Senate. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a "Lifetime Score" for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2021 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases "n.a." for "not applicable" appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with "n.a." listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without "n.a." years may be misleading.

# **ADDITIONAL FACTORS**

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the Wyoming House and Wyoming Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker's work in committee. advocacy in his party's caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating progrowth policies.

"Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity."

- DAVID McINTOSH PRESIDENT, CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

**METHODOLOGY 2021 WYOMING** 





**30 MEMBERS** 

# Wyoming Senate Snapshot

28 Republicans

2 Democrats

**O Vacancies** 

Average Republican Score: 52% (Up from 46% in 2020)

Average Democrat Score: 20% (Down from 28% in 2020)





HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICANS
Senator Tom James (SD-13) | 91%
Senator Troy McKeown (SD-24) | 91%

WYOMING SENATE SNAPSHOT

> WYOMING SENATE VOTES

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WYOMING HOUSE

WYOMING HOUSE VOTES

WYOMING
HOUSE
VOTE







LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICANS

Senator James Anderson (SD-28) | 29%

Senator Dan Furphy (SD-10) | 29%

Senator Stephan Pappas (SD-7) | 29%



HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT
Senator Michael Gierau (SD-17) | 25%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT
Senator Chris Rothfuss (SD-9) | 14%

# Wyoming 2021 | Senate Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Life- score	HB0030	HB0049	HB0051	HB0054	HB0075	HB0118	HB0148	HB0170	HB0179	HB0217	6000CH	SF0004	SF0019	SF0038	SF0062	SF0076	SF0157	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	
POINTS					5	8	3	4	8	5	8	7	8	5	7	5	7	5	4	7	4	
Anderson, James	SD-28	R	29%	21%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	26
Baldwin, Fred	SD-14	R	36%	28%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	18
Biteman, Bo	SD-21	R	85%	93%	5	8	-	4	8	5	8	7	8	-	7	5	-	5	4	7	4	3
Boner, Brian	SD-02	R	35%	44%	-	-	Х	-	8	5	-	Х	-	-	-	5	7	5	-	-	X	23
Bouchard, Anthony	SD-06	R	84%	84%	5	8	3	4	8	5	8	7	8	-	7	5	-	5	-	7	4	4
Case, Cale	SD-25	R	43%	52%	ı	-	3	4	-	5	-	7	-	-	-	5	7	5	-	7	-	15
Cooper, Edward	SD-20	R	44%	44%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	8	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	14
Dockstader, Dan	SD-16	R	57%	58%	5	8	-	-	8	5	-	7	8	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	10
Driskill, Ogden	SD-01	R	48%	37%	-	-	Х	-	8	5	-	7	8	Х	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	13
Ellis, Affie	SD-08	R	36%	52%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	18
French, Tim	SD-18	R	77%	77%	5	8	-	-	8	5	8	7	8	-	-	5	7	5	-	7	4	6
Furphy, Dan	SD-10	R	29%	34%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	26
Gierau, Michael	SD-17	D	25%	16%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	-	29
Hicks, Larry	SD-11	R	53%	60%	-	8	-	-	8	5	-	7	8	-	-	5	7	5	-	-	-	11
Hutchings, Lynn	SD-05	R	83%	88%	5	8	-	-	8	5	8	7	8	-	7	5	7	5	-	Х	4	5
James, Tom	SD-13	R	91%	92%	5	8	3	4	8	5	8	7	8	-	7	5	7	5	-	7	4	1
Kinskey, David	SD-22	R	41%	39%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	5	7	5	-	-	4	16
Kolb, John	SD-12	R	65%	65%	5	8	-	-	8	5	8	7	8	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	9
Kost, R.J.	SD-19	R	36%	24%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	18
Landen, Bill	SD-27	R	36%	29%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	18

# **Wyoming 2021 | Senate Scorecard (Continued)**

Name	District	Party	Score	Life- score	НВ0030	HB0049	HB0051	HB0054	HB0075	HB0118	HB0148	НВ0170	HB0179	HB0217	6000fH	SF0004	SF0019	SF0038	SF0062	SF0076	SF0157	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	
POINTS					5	8	3	4	8	5	8	7	8	5	7	5	7	5	4	7	4	
McKeown, Troy	SD-24	R	91%	91%	5	8	3	4	8	5	8	7	8	-	7	5	7	5	-	7	4	1
Nethercott, Tara	SD-04	R	36%	35%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	18
Pappas, Stephan	SD-07	R	29%	32%	-	-	-	-	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	26
Perkins, Drew	SD-29	R	39%	32%	-	-	Х	Х	8	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	17
Rothfuss, Chris	SD-09	D	14%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	4	30
Salazar, Tim	SD-26	R	72%	77%	5	8	-	-	8	5	8	7	8	-	-	-	7	5	-	7	4	7
Schuler, Wendy	SD-15	R	32%	25%	-	-	Х	-	8	5	-	Х	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	24
Scott, Charles	SD-30	R	53%	53%	-	-	Х	Х	8	5	-	7	8	-	-	5	7	5	-	-	4	11
Steinmetz, Cheri	SD-03	R	67%	67%	5	8	Х	Х	8	5	-	7	8	-	-	5	7	5	-	-	4	8
Wasserburger, Jeff	SD-23	R	32%	21%	-	-	-	-	8	5	Х	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	4	24

WYOMING SENATE VOTES

# **HB 30**

# **INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRICES**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases fees paid by public utilities if the current assessment is insufficient to cover the expenses of the Public Service Commission. This fee increase will result in higher electricity and gas costs for consumers. A fee increase is a tax increase. The government should be cutting its spending and costs, not increasing them and usurping more taxpayer funds. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 39-21, on February 1, 2021, and the Wyoming Senate passed it, 20-10, on February 4, 2021.

# **HB 49**

## TAX AND FEE CASH GRAB

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases healthcare licensing fees, environmental quality permitting fees, agricultural licensing fees, and fees for the department of family services for background checks and central registration fees. Among the more eye-popping increases are a 100 percent minimum fee increase for a standard mining permit, a 600 percent fee increase for mineral extraction operations, and a 1000 percent fee increase for a mineral exploration permit. The bill is estimated to add \$1.2 million per year to the state coffers. Additionally, it allows the health department broad authority to establish new fees for other types of healthcare facilities not set explicitly in the bill. Such licensing schemes are little more than government cash grabs, intended to raise revenue to prop up bureaucrats through alternative taxation. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 47-13, on March 31, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 19-11, on April 1, 2021.

# **HB 51**

# **NEW MEAT PROCESSING GRANT PROGRAM**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes the creation of a new "temporary" grant program, funded by federal tax dollars through the CARES ACT, for the purpose of expanding the meat processing industry. The legislation allows eligible businesses to qualify for up to \$1 million in grants and requires the funds to be spent on facility improvements. Meat processing is a critical part of the Wyoming economy, however, creating new programs to benefit one well-connected industry is not a core function of government. The government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers and should let the free market do its work. Additionally, such cronyism sends the wrong message to federal lawmakers who have racked up \$30 trillion in debt on the backs of hardworking Wyomingites. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 49-8, on April 6, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 20-4, on April 2, 2021.

# **HB 54**

### **MEAT-PACKING INITIATIVE**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill requires the Wyoming Business Council to meet no fewer than two times a year with the state Department of Agriculture, governor's office, and agricultural industry lobbyists to maintain a strategy to promote Wyoming agriculture. Additionally, the legislation authorizes the business council to manage a grant program designed to create, maintain, or expand meat processing facilities. Such economic development initiatives routinely devolve into cronyism schemes that benefit well-connected industries and lobbyists at the expense of taxpayers. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 53-7, on March 26, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 22-5, on March 25, 2021.

# **HB 75**

# INCREASING ELECTION INTEGRITY THROUGH VOTER ID

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements key election integrity provisions that focus on requiring voter ID for in-person voting. Additionally, the legislation updates mail-in ballot requirements and provides grounds to challenge individuals who fail to provide proper identification before casting an in-person ballot or requesting an absentee ballot. As a record number of Americans remain concerned about the integrity of their elections, policies and processes that curb the potential for fraud are vital legislative priorities. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 51-8, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 28-2, on the same day.

# HB 118

# FOOD FREEDOM FOR HOMEMADE GOODS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill expands the potential of the cottage food industry in Wyoming by authorizing the sale of

homemade food and drink products, as well as eggs, to the maximum extent provided under federal law. While states should not automatically defer to federal regulations on industries that vary state-by-state, particularly when it remains dubious that the federal government should be involved in such regulation at all, opening up new opportunities for entrepreneurs to build or expand their businesses is good policy. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 55-5, on March 8, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 30-0, on March 25, 2021.

# **HB 148**

# SECRETARY OF STATE FEE AND TAX INCREASES

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a series of new and increased "fees" on a myriad of business activities and candidate filings. These include a 100 percent fee increase in filing articles of incorporation, an 830 percent fee increase for amending articles of incorporation, and a slew of new and increased political filing fees that explicitly serve as barriers

of entry for those seeking to run for public office and to those starting or operating businesses. While lawmakers intend for these alternative forms of taxation to provide new sources of revenue, the bill is estimated to raise taxes by \$1.87 million. The reality is that such measures serve only to grow the size of the government and empower the state bureaucracy. The government should be focused on cutting costs, not increasing already high taxes. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 45-15, on March 8, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 21-8, on March 26, 2021.

# **HB 170**

# CENTRALLY-PLANNED ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT ZONES**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill tasks the Wyoming Business Council with identifying potential "economic development" zones for the purpose of picking various winners and losers of future taxpayer-funded projects throughout the state. Additionally, the legislation identifies a number of industries of specific interest, including renewable energy production, that should be considered when evaluating a potential site. It is neither the government's job nor the government's ability to create jobs and long-term growth through central planning and cronyism. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 35-24, on March 23, 2021. The Wyoming Senate failed to pass it, 6-22, on April 2, 2021.

# **HB 179**

# **EXPANDING TAX HIKE OPPORTUNITIES** (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill removes the requirement that municipal tax increases be approved by voters during general elections and expands the opportunity to hike local taxes whenever local bond votes are held. Such a measure greatly increases the number of opportunities for municipalities to increase taxes on their constituents. Lawmakers should be working to make tax hikes harder, not easier. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 32-28, on March 12, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 16-14, on March 31, 2021.

# HB 217

# SUBSIDIES FOR LOCAL HEALTH CLINICS (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a taxpayer-funded grant program for community health centers and rural health clinics, providing for the usage of grants in capital expenditures, start-up costs, and additional equipment costs. Additionally, the legislation prohibits the use of such funds for ongoing operating expenses. Instead of expanding the burden on taxpayers, many of whom have already seen their health care costs skyrocket due to continued federal intervention, lawmakers should instead work to eliminate and repeal existing regulatory barriers at the state level that harm access and quality of care. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 53-7, on March 22, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 29-0, on March 29, 2021.

WYOMING SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

# HJ 9

# **GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF STOCKS** (CFGF OPPOSES)

This joint resolution amends the Wyoming Constitution to allow political subdivisions of the state (including cities, counties, townships, and school districts) to invest taxpayer funds in the stock of any corporation or association. Simply put, this is a terrible idea that all but ensures taxpayer money will go into the coffers of wellconnected corporations and industries in abuse of Wyomingites hard-earned money. Additionally, infusing stocks with government money creates a massive conflict of interest for all parties involved. Furthermore, the broad authorizing language of this resolution fails to include any meaningful measures to mitigate corrupt practices. The Wyoming House passed this resolution, 46-13, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 25-5, on the same day.

# SF 4

# **NEW AIRPORT BUREAUCRACY**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new political subdivision of the state known as the airport district. This expansion of bureaucracy would allow counties and municipalities to create airport districts capable of imposing new taxes on constituents at 3 mils on the dollar. Creating new layers of government bureaucracy infused with taxation authority only increases the overall tax burden on Wyomingites at a time when the tax and regulatory burden should be lowered. The Wyoming House failed to pass this bill, 30-30, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 18-12, on March 8, 2021.

# SF 19

### **COVID LEGAL LIABILITY REFORM**

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill extends liability protections for businesses against frivolous COVID-19-related lawsuits through March 31, 2022. Importantly, the legislation provides immunity to these entities unless gross negligence or willful misconduct can

be proven. This is critical for ensuring that small businesses and healthcare providers that follow health code guidance can continue to operate. grow, and contribute to the economy without fear of reprisal from those seeking to profit off the pain inflicted by government mandates and the virus. The Wyoming House passed it, 38-22, on March 31, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 27-3, on April 1, 2021.

# **SF 38**

# APPROVING DECENTRALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AS LLCs

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill expands the definition of a limited liability corporation (LLC) in Wyoming to include so-called decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) that may be run in whole or in part by computer via algorithmic means. DAOs are generally entities connected with cryptocurrencies that have a decentralized organizational structure where decisions are made from the bottom up. Incorporating DAOs in the state's definition of what constitutes an LLC is an important means

of providing the opportunity for this emerging and innovative industry to grow. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 48-5, on April 7, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 30-0, on the same day.

# SF 62

# **EXTENDS OFFICE OF CONSUMER** ADVOCATE

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill permanently eliminates the July 1, 2023 sunset date for the Office of the Consumer Advocate, thereby effectively making this office permanent. Lawmakers should not be restricting their own ability to monitor and review the necessity of government agencies. Holding executive agencies and offices accountable, specifically by periodically evaluating whether or not they should exist, is a fundamental responsibility of the legislative branch and a basic expectation of the citizens who elect state legislators. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 56-4, on March 29, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 29-1, on March 11, 2021.

# **SF 76**

# TAXPAYER-FUNDED BROADBAND

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the Wyoming Business Council's broadband development program to include socalled "middle-mile" project grants. The middlemile projects provide fiber optic infrastructure to connect to last-mile customers and users. The Broadband Development Subaccount had \$10 million allocated to it initially. Currently, over \$10.6 million in unexpended funds remain in the account. Expanding the scope of this taxpayer-backed grant program under the purview of "economic development" crowds out market development while rewarding well-connected grant applicants at the expense of the general citizenry. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 46-13, on April 2, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 22-7, on March 8, 2021.

# **SF 157**

# PROPERTY RIGHTS-LIMITATION ON LOCAL **AUTHORITY**

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill limits affordable housing mandates imposed by cities and towns by prohibiting them from conditioning the connection of a municipal sewer system to a property on the inclusion of a deed restriction that requires the development or provision of affordable housing. This bill protects private property rights by limiting local government overreach on the development of private property. The House passed it 39-20 on April 2, 2021, while the Senate passed it 26-3 on the same day.

WYOMING SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

**SNAPSHOT** 



# Wyoming **House Snapshot**

51 Republicans

7 Democrats

1 Independent

1 Libertarian

**O Vacancies** 

**Average Republican Score: 53%** (Down from 56% in 2020)

**Average Democrat Score: 13%** 

(Down from 18% in 2020)



**HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN** Rep. Chuck Gray (HD-57) | 97%



**LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN** Rep. Bob Nicholas (HD-8) | 20%



**HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT** Rep. Chad Banks (HD-17) | 25%



LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS Several members with 7%

**WYOMING** HOUSE **SNAPSHOT** 

# WYOMING HOUSE **VOTES**

# Wyoming 2021 | House Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB0030	HB0049	HB0051	HB0054	HB0075	HB0118	HB0148	HB0170	HB0171	HB0174	HB0179	HB0217	6000CH	SF0004	SF0019	SF0038	SF0062	SF0076	SF0157	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	
POINTS					2	6	3	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	7	4	3	6	2	
Andrew, Ocean	HD-46	R	64%	64%	2	-	-	-	8	3	8	-	7	11	7	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	18
Baker, Mark	HD-60	R	80%	80%	2	6	-	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	-	4	-	6	-	8
Banks, Chad	HD-17	D	25%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	49
Barlow, Eric	HD-03	R	33%	42%	2	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-	42
Bear, John	HD-31	R	72%	72%	2	-	3	1	8	3	8	-	7	11	7	5	-	5	-	4	-	6	2	13
Blackburn, Jim	HD-42	R	77%	70%	-	-	-	-	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	7	4	3	-	2	9
Brown, Landon	HD-09	R	46%	45%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	-	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	32
Burkhart, Jr., Donald	HD-15	R	28%	40%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	48
Burt, Marshall	HD-39	L	86%	86%	2	-	х	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	-	Х	3	6	2	2
Clausen, Aaron	HD-06	R	46%	54%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	-	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	32
Clifford, Andi	HD-33	D	7%	10%	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	56
Connolly, Cathy	HD-13	D	7%	17%	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	56
Crago, Barry	HD-40	R	48%	48%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	х	7	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	-	26
Duncan, Shelly	HD-05	R	42%	49%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	34
Eklund, John	HD-10	R	40%	34%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	37
Eyre, Danny	HD-19	R	33%	44%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	42
Flitner, Jamie	HD-26	R	54%	60%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	7	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	21
Fortner, Bill	HD-52	R	72%	72%	2	-	3	-	Х	-	8	6	7	11	7	5	Х	5	-	-	-	6	2	13
Gray, Chuck	HD-57	R	97%	95%	2	6	3	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	7	4	-	6	2	1
Greear, Mike	HD-27	R	53%	51%	-	6	Х	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	7	-	-	5	-	Х	-	-	2	22

# WYOMING HOUSE VOTES

# **Wyoming 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)**

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB0030	HB0049	HB0051	HB0054	HB0075	HB0118	HB0148	HB0170	HB0171	HB0174	HB0179	HB0217	6000fH	SF0004	SF0019	SF0038	SF0062	SF0076	SF0157	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	
POINTS					2	6	3	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	7	4	3	6	2	
Hallinan, Timothy	HD-32	R	47%	52%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	7	-	-	5	-	4	-	-	2	30
Haroldson, Jeremy	HD-04	R	86%	86%	2	6	-	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	7	4	3	-	2	2
Harshman, Steve	HD-37	R	22%	27%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	51
Heiner, Scott	HD-18	R	71%	71%	2	-	-	-	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	-	-	7	4		6	2	15
Henderson, William	HD-41	R	33%	31%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	42
Hunt, Hans	HD-02	R	52%	61%	2	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	3	-	2	25
Jennings, Mark	HD-30	R	77%	86%	2	6	3	1	8	3	-	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	-	4	-	6	2	9
Kinner, Mark	HD-29	R	42%	46%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	7	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	34
Knapp, Christopher	HD-53	R	61%	61%	2	6	-	-	8	3	-	6	7	11	7	-	-	5	-	4	-	-	2	19
Larsen, Lloyd	HD-54	R	48%	45%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	7	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	26
Laursen, Dan	HD-25	R	77%	79%	2	-	-	-	8	-	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	-	4	-	6	2	9
MacGuire, Joe	HD-35	R	29%	32%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	47
Neiman, Chip	HD-01	R	82%	82%	2	6	3	-	8	3	-	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	7	4	-	х	х	6
Newsome, Sandy	HD-24	R	40%	42%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	7	-	-	-	7	Х	-	-	2	37
Nicholas, Bob	HD-08	R	20%	28%	-	-	3	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	54
O'Hearn, Kevin	HD-59	R	33%	33%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	42
Oakley, Ember	HD-55	R	48%	48%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	7	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	26
Obermueller, Jerry	HD-56	R	39%	42%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	6	-	39
Olsen, Jared	HD-11	R	47%	59%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	-	-	-	5	7	4	-	-	2	30
Ottman, Pepper	HD-34	R	85%	85%	2	6	-	-	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	-	Х	-	6	2	4

# **Wyoming 2021 | House Scorecard (Continued)**

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifescore	HB0030	HB0049	HB0051	HB0054	HB0075	HB0118	HB0148	HB0170	HB0171	HB0174	HB0179	HB0217	6000CH	SF0004	SF0019	SF0038	SF0062	SF0076	SF0157	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	
POINTS					2	6	3	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	5	6	5	7	4	3	6	2	
Paxton, Jerry	HD-47	R	24%	26%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	50
Provenza, Karlee	HD-45	D	7%	7%	ı	-	ı	ı	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	ı	-	-	4	-	-	-	56
Rodriguez-Williams, Rachel	HD-50	R	84%	84%	2	6	X	-	8	3	8	-	7	11	7	-	6	5	7	х	-	6	2	5
Romero-Martinez, John	HD-44	R	41%	41%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	36
Roscoe, Jim	HD-22	ı	7%	13%	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	56
Schwartz, Andy	HD-23	D	22%	19%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	51
Sherwood, Trey	HD-14	D	14%	14%	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	55
Simpson, Evan	HD-21	R	53%	50%	2	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	-	11	7	-	-	5	7	х	-	-	2	22
Sommers, Albert	HD-20	R	30%	51%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	7	х	-	-	-	46
Stith, Clark	HD-48	R	35%	44%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	7	11	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	41
Styvar, Clarence	HD-12	R	81%	86%	2	6	3	1	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	6	5	-	-	-	6	2	7
Sweeney, Patrick	HD-58	R	22%	19%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	51
Walters, Tom	HD-38	R	53%	51%	-	-	3	•	8	-	-	6	-	11	7	-	•	5	7	4	-	-	2	22
Washut, Arthur	HD-36	R	66%	65%	ı	6	ı	ı	8	3	-	6	7	11	7	-	ı	5	7	4	-	-	2	16
Western, Cyrus	HD-51	R	55%	57%	2	-	ı	ı	8	3	-	-	7	11	7	-	6	5	-	4	-	-	2	20
Wharff, Robert	HD-49	R	76%	76%	2	6	•	•	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	6	-	-	4	-	6	2	12
Wilson, Sue	HD-07	R	48%	53%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	6	-	11	7	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	26
Winter, John	HD-28	R	65%	76%	2	6	-	-	8	3	8	6	7	11	7	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	2	17
Yin, Michael	HD-16	D	7%	20%	•	-	•	•	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	4	-	-	-	56
Zwonitzer, Dan	HD-43	R	38%	31%	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11	-	5	-	-	7	4	-	-	-	40

WYOMING HOUSE VOTES

# Wyoming 2021 | House Vote Descriptions

# **HB 30**

# **INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRICES**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases fees paid by public utilities if the current assessment is insufficient to cover the expenses of the Public Service Commission. This fee increase will result in higher electricity and gas costs for consumers. A fee increase is a tax increase. The government should be cutting its spending and costs, not increasing them and usurping more taxpayer funds. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 39-21, on February 1, 2021, and the Wyoming Senate passed it, 20-10, on February 4, 2021.

# **HB 49**

# **TAX AND FEE CASH GRAB**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases healthcare licensing fees, environmental quality permitting fees, agricultural licensing fees, and fees for the department of family services for background checks and central registration fees. Among the more eve-popping increases are a 100 percent minimum fee increase for a standard mining permit, a 600 percent fee increase for mineral extraction operations, and a 1000 percent fee increase for a mineral exploration permit. The bill is estimated to add \$1.2 million per year to the state coffers. Additionally, it allows the health department broad authority to establish new fees for other types of healthcare facilities not set explicitly in the bill. Such licensing schemes are little more than government cash grabs, intended to raise revenue to prop up bureaucrats through alternative taxation. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 47-13, on March 31, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 19-11, on April 1, 2021.

# **HB 51**

# **NEW MEAT PROCESSING GRANT PROGRAM**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill authorizes the creation of a new "temporary" grant program, funded by federal tax dollars through the CARES ACT, for the purpose of expanding the meat processing industry. The legislation allows eligible businesses to qualify for up to \$1 million in grants and requires the funds to be spent on facility improvements. Meat processing is a critical part of the Wyoming economy, however, creating new programs to benefit one well-connected industry is not a core function of government. The government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers and should let the free market do its work. Additionally, such cronyism sends the wrong message to federal lawmakers who have racked up \$30 trillion in debt on the backs of hardworking Wyomingites. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 49-8, on April 6, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 20-4, on April 2, 2021.

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# **Wyoming 2021 | House Vote Descriptions**

# **HB 54**

### **MEAT-PACKING INITIATIVE**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill requires the Wyoming Business Council to meet no fewer than two times a year with the state Department of Agriculture, governor's office, and agricultural industry lobbyists to maintain a strategy to promote Wyoming agriculture. Additionally, the legislation authorizes the business council to manage a grant program designed to create, maintain, or expand meat processing facilities. Such economic development initiatives routinely devolve into cronyism schemes that benefit well-connected industries and lobbyists at the expense of taxpayers. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 53-7, on March 26, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 22-5, on March 25, 2021.

# **HB 75**

# **INCREASING ELECTION INTEGRITY** THROUGH VOTER ID

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill implements key election integrity provisions that focus on requiring voter ID for in-person voting. Additionally, the legislation updates mail-in ballot requirements and provides grounds to challenge individuals who fail to provide proper identification before casting an in-person ballot or requesting an absentee ballot. As a record number of Americans remain concerned about the integrity of their elections, policies and processes that curb the potential for fraud are vital legislative priorities. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 51-8, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it. 28-2. on the same day.

# **HB 118**

# FOOD FREEDOM FOR HOMEMADE GOODS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill expands the potential of the cottage food industry in Wyoming by authorizing the sale of homemade food and drink products, as well as eggs, to the maximum extent provided under federal law. While states should not automatically defer to federal regulations on industries that vary state-by-state, particularly when it remains dubious that the federal government should be involved in such regulation at all, opening up new opportunities for entrepreneurs to build or expand their businesses is good policy. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 55-5, on March 8, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 30-0, on March 25, 2021.

# **HB 148**

# SECRETARY OF STATE FEE AND TAX **INCREASES**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a series of new and increased "fees" on a myriad of business activities and candidate filings. These include a 100 percent fee increase in filing articles of incorporation, an 830 percent fee increase for amending articles of incorporation, and a slew of new and increased political filing fees that explicitly

serve as barriers of entry for those seeking to run for public office and to those starting or operating businesses. While lawmakers intend for these alternative forms of taxation to provide new sources of revenue, the bill is estimated to raise taxes by \$1.87 million. The reality is that such measures serve only to grow the size of the government and empower the state bureaucracy. The government should be focused on cutting costs, not increasing already high taxes. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 45-15, on March 8, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 21-8, on March 26, 2021.

# **HB 170**

# CENTRALLY-PLANNED ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT ZONES**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill tasks the Wyoming Business Council with identifying potential "economic development" zones for the purpose of picking various winners and losers of future taxpayer-funded projects throughout the state. Additionally, the legislation identifies a number of industries of

specific interest, including renewable energy production, that should be considered when evaluating a potential site. It is neither the government's job nor the government's ability to create jobs and long-term growth through central planning and cronyism. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 35-24, on March 23, 2021. The Wyoming Senate failed to pass it, 6-22, on April 2, 2021.

# **HB 171**

# MORE SPENDING FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates approximately \$30 million from the Legislative Stabilization Account to restore spending cuts in the 2021-2022 biennial supplemental budget for the departments of health, family service, and corrections. The Wyoming House failed to pass the bill, 30-30, on March 22, 2021. The Wyoming Senate did not take it up.

# **HB 174**

### **NEW SALES TAX**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases the state sales tax by 1 percent and allows local governments to implement a portion of the tax by resolution. Raising taxes on hardworking Wyomingites is the wrong approach as inflation rises, labor shortages increase, and economic growth remains stagnant. The legislation would increase taxes by well over \$500 million through 2024. The Wyoming House failed to pass the bill, 10-50, on March 23, 2021. The Wyoming Senate did not take it up.

# **HB 179**

# **EXPANDING TAX HIKE OPPORTUNITIES**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill removes the requirement that municipal tax increases be approved by voters during general elections and expands the opportunity to hike local taxes whenever local bond votes are held. Such a measure greatly increases the number of opportunities for municipalities to increase taxes on their constituents. Lawmakers

**SNAPSHOT** 

# **HB 217**

# SUBSIDIES FOR LOCAL HEALTH CLINICS (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill expands a taxpayer-funded grant program for community health centers and rural health clinics, providing for the usage of grants in capital expenditures, start-up costs, and additional equipment costs. Additionally, the legislation prohibits the use of such funds for ongoing operating expenses. Instead of expanding the burden on taxpayers, many of whom have already seen their health care costs skyrocket due to continued federal intervention, lawmakers should instead work to eliminate and repeal existing regulatory barriers at the state level that harm access and quality of care. The Wyoming House passed the bill, 53-7, on March 22, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 29-0, on March 29, 2021.

# HJ9

# **GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF STOCKS** (CFGF OPPOSES)

This joint resolution amends the Wyoming Constitution to allow political subdivisions of the state (including cities, counties, townships, and school districts) to invest taxpayer funds in the stock of any corporation or association. Simply put, this is a terrible idea that all but ensures taxpayer money will go into the coffers of well-connected corporations and industries in abuse of Wyomingites hard-earned money. Additionally, infusing stocks with government money creates a massive conflict of interest for all parties involved. Furthermore, the broad authorizing language of this resolution fails to include any meaningful measures to mitigate corrupt practices. The Wyoming House passed this resolution, 46-13, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 25-5, on the same day.

# **SF 4**

## **NEW AIRPORT BUREAUCRACY**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new political subdivision of the state known as the airport district. This expansion of bureaucracy would allow counties and municipalities to create airport districts capable of imposing new taxes on constituents at 3 mils on the dollar. Creating new layers of government bureaucracy infused with taxation authority only increases the overall tax burden on Wyomingites at a time when the tax and regulatory burden should be lowered. The Wyoming House failed to pass this bill, 30-30, on April 1, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 18-12, on March 8, 2021.

# **SF 19**

# **COVID LEGAL LIABILITY REFORM** (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill extends liability protections for businesses against frivolous COVID-19-related lawsuits through March 31, 2022. Importantly, the legislation provides immunity to these

DESCRIPTIONS

**SNAPSHOT** 

entities unless gross negligence or willful misconduct can be proven. This is critical for ensuring that small businesses and healthcare providers that follow health code guidance can continue to operate, grow, and contribute to the economy without fear of reprisal from those seeking to profit off the pain inflicted by government mandates and the virus. The Wyoming House passed it, 38-22, on March 31, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 27-3, on April 1, 2021.

# **SF 38**

# APPROVING DECENTRALIZED ORGANIZATIONS AS LLCs

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill expands the definition of a limited liability corporation (LLC) in Wyoming to include so-called decentralized autonomous organizations (DAOs) that may be run in whole or in part by computer via algorithmic means. DAOs are generally entities connected with cryptocurrencies that have a decentralized organizational structure where decisions are

made from the bottom up. Incorporating DAOs in the state's definition of what constitutes an LLC is an important means of providing the opportunity for this emerging and innovative industry to grow. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 48-5, on April 7, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 30-0, on the same day.

# SF 62

# **EXTENDS OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

# (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill permanently eliminates the July 1, 2023 sunset date for the Office of the Consumer Advocate, thereby effectively making this office permanent. Lawmakers should not be restricting their own ability to monitor and review the necessity of government agencies. Holding executive agencies and offices accountable, specifically by periodically evaluating whether or not they should exist, is a fundamental responsibility of the legislative branch and a basic expectation of the citizens who elect state legislators. The Wyoming House

passed this bill, 56-4, on March 29, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 29-1, on March 11, 2021.

# **SF 76**

## **TAXPAYER-FUNDED BROADBAND**

## (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill extends the Wyoming Business Council's broadband development program to include socalled "middle-mile" project grants. The middlemile projects provide fiber optic infrastructure to connect to last-mile customers and users. The Broadband Development Subaccount had \$10 million allocated to it initially. Currently, over \$10.6 million in unexpended funds remain in the account. Expanding the scope of this taxpayerbacked grant program under the purview of "economic development" crowds out market development while rewarding well-connected grant applicants at the expense of the general citizenry. The Wyoming House passed this bill, 46-13, on April 2, 2021. The Wyoming Senate passed it, 22-7, on March 8, 2021.

# **Wyoming 2021 | House Vote Descriptions**

# **SF 157**

# PROPERTY RIGHTS-LIMITATION ON LOCAL **AUTHORITY**

# (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill limits affordable housing mandates imposed by cities and towns by prohibiting them from conditioning the connection of a municipal sewer system to a property on the inclusion of a deed restriction that requires the development or provision of affordable housing. This bill protects private property rights by limiting local government overreach on the development of private property. The House passed it 39-20 on April 2, 2021, while the Senate passed it 26-3 on the same day.