



2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



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Fiscal Responsibility

Supports:

- * An annual legislative review of all state spending.
- * Biennial budgets with no supplemental budget requests or appropriations during the general session.
- * Budget cuts in local, county & state departments/entities.
- * Inviolate integrity of the PMTF and using the interest generated to provide a renewable tax base.
- * Using severance taxes to develop surface & underground water and rehabilitate existing irrigation infrastructure.
- * Amending taxing authority statutes to require a majority vote of all registered voters in a district and requiring issues to go before the registered voters every four years.

Opposes:

- * Further increases in taxes, fees and charges.
- * A statewide mill levy for community colleges.
- * Systems that would increase the costs of establishing & operating special taxing districts.
- * Income tax and amendments to the income tax provisions in the Wyoming constitution.
- * Recognition of crypto currency as a legal tender and its removal from the Wyoming Money Transmitter Act.

Private Property Rights

Supports:

- * Protection of private property rights.
- * *No net gains* of state lands measured and implemented on a county by county basis.
- * Requiring analysis of proposed legislation and regulation for impacts on private property.
- * Continual gubernatorial and legislative involvement in issues involving natural resource management & States rights.
- * Reduction in risks associated with industrial projects on private property.
- * Strengthening criminal trespass laws including legislation to prohibit corner crossing between federal lands.

Eminent Domain

Supports:

- * Amending Wyoming's eminent domain statutes to provide greater protection for agricultural use owners during condemnation cases.
- * Rights-of-way obtained by condemnation should be for right of easement only, not for right of ownership.
- * Two-thirds of landowners must be signed to agreements before eminent domain use is possible.

Education

Supports:

- * Local control of schools.
- * Vocational education programs in all schools for grades 7-12.
- * Requiring consideration of the means of the State for education costs and school capital construction costs.
- * Only necessary buildings should be updated or replaced.
- * Revision of teacher tenure. Every third year a panel of teachers, parents, and board members should evaluate teachers; so that quality teachers are recognized and rewarded based on performance.
- * The use of school vouchers to provide students with the best available education.
- * Local school boards should control their school lunch program.
- * Equal access for students to all educational opportunities that districts provide.
- * Resisting efforts to incorporate Critical Race Theory in Wyoming public schools.
- * Election of University of Wyoming Board of Trustees

Water

Supports:

- * Including historic time of use as a criterion for change of use situations.
- * Comprehensive underground water management plans made with local input and county meetings.
- * Notification of water right holders and local hearings on possibly damaging applications.
- * Continual gubernatorial and legislative involvement on issues of States rights.
- * Funding for emergency irrigation infrastructure repairs.
- * Water rights holders should be notified when water rights are regulated.
- * Transfer of title from Bureau of Reclamation to local districts once the districts pay the costs off.

Opposes:

- * The gift, sale or lease of water outside the state or for instream flow.
- * Permitting private instream flow. Changes in *temporary* use & the concept of *salvage* water.
- * The federal government obtaining water rights.
- * Delegation of authority for pursuing instream flow applications from the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.
- * Developing underground water before availability assessments have been conducted.
- * Developing Hydrogen power from Water.

Wildlife

Supports:

- * State management of the wolf and grizzly bear.
- * Increasing the predatory animal control program due to wildlife, crop & livestock losses.
- * Increasing damage payments for standing & stored forage.
- * Managing wildlife based on how much forage is available for wildlife.
- * Appointment of Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioners.
- * Conducting cost analysis on Migration Corridors.
- * Base Landowner Coupon Payments on Specie Harvested

Opposes:

- * Wyoming Game and Fish Commission being able to set license fees.
- * Migration Corridors encroaching on private property rights.

Livestock

Supports:

- * Efforts to retain our Brucellosis class free status outside the current Designated Surveillance Area (DSA).
- * Funding for voluntary Brucellosis testing outside of the DSA.
- * Legal recognition of Vet Tech degrees.

Opposes:

- * Mandatory animal ID beyond existing requirements.
- * Any increase in the beef check-off program.
- * A state beef check-off program.

General

Supports:

- * State agencies performing a consistency review to comply with county land use plans when proposing new rules.
- * Special district elections being held in conjunction with general elections.
- * Legislative review of federal actions for constitutionality.

Opposes:

- * Granting additional rights to any special groups.
- * Legalization or decriminalization of marijuana.
- * Make America Beautiful Executive Order signed by President Biden.
- * Switching parties for the primary election at the polling place.
- * Utilization of Environment, Social, Governance (ESG) scores.