

	2022 Wyoming Budget Session Legislative Recap
1	Stalking Amendments – <u>SF0100</u> - Supported This bill adds the following as part of the acts to charge stalking when a person uses: "any electronic, digital or global positioning system device or other electronic means to place another person under surveillance or to surveil another person's internet or wireless activity without authorization from the other person" This language is added to the already existing stalking statute that is clear these acts must be proved with an "intent to harass" and is part of a "course of conduct". Governor signed 3/21/2022, effective 7/1/2022.
2	2nd Amendment Protection Act - SF0102 - Opposed, then monitored Primarily this bill creates a new statute, W.S. 9-14-203: "This state and all political subdivisions of this state are prohibited from using any personnel or funds appropriated by the legislature of the state of Wyoming or any other source of funds that originated within the state of Wyoming to enforce, administer or cooperate with any unconstitutional act, law, treaty, executive order, rule or regulation of the United States government that infringes on or impedes the free exercise of individual rights guaranteed under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States." The word "unconstitutional" underlined above was amended in to address current federal laws that have been deemed constitutional – particularly the Violence Against Women Act firearm prohibitions enacted in 1994 where one can not possess a firearm if 1) one is subject to a protection order with an intimate partner or 2) one has been convicted of a crime of domestic assault on an intimate partner. The Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP) supported SF0102 as it clarified that law enforcement officers would be able to assist federal authorities in their work. The bill's sponsors and WASCOP were clear the VAWA federal firearm prohibitions would be enforceable with SF0102. Governor signed 3/21/2022, effective July 1, 2022.
3	Human Trafficking: Commercial Vehicle Driver Disqualification - <u>HB0007</u> – Supported This bill will disqualify a person from driving a commercial motor vehicle for life when they use the commercial motor vehicle in the commission of any felony involving human trafficking under W.S. 6-2-702 or 6-2-703. Wyoming's Trucker Association and Dept. of Transportation support it. Governor signed 3/9/2022, effective July 1, 2022.
4	Name change – duration of residency requirement - SF0077 – Supported This bill changes the duration of having to live within a Wyoming county from 24 months to 6 months. The bill also removes the requirement one must stay in the same county. As long as the resident is in the state, in any county, they can file for a name change within 6 months. Governor signed 3/9/2022, effective immediately.
5	Name change notice publication of minors amendment <u>HB0088</u> - Supported Waives requirement to publish notice of the name change for minors. Governor signed 3/9/2022, effective July 1, 2022.

Juvenile Justice Data Reporting - HB0037 - Supported

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Transfers responsibility for the data system to the department of family services; requiring them to standardize the collection of information. The budget reinstated funding for a juvenile justice data collection effort. We have followed to join the emphasis on collecting data in Wyoming.

Governor signed 3/8/2022, effective immediately except for rulemaking to adopt uniform information collection standards, methodologies and best practices. (Sounds so good!)

Abortion Prohibition Supreme Court Decisions - HB0092 - Opposed

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According to proponents of this bill, "This is, perhaps, the most important pro-life legislation of the year. It anticipates the Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade. If it does, HB 92 will return Wyoming's abortion statutes to protect 'every member of the human race,' in keeping with Article I, Section 2 of Wyoming's Constitution."

If Roe v. Wade is deemed "overturned", abortions will be illegal in Wyoming except when necessary to preserve the woman from "a serious risk of death or of substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function, not including any psychological or emotional conditions". A last minute amendment created the ability for an abortion in cases of rape and incest. This bill will delete from state law the ability for Medicaid dollars to help rape and incest victims with terminating pregnancies.

Governor signed 3/15/2022, effective after Governor and Attorney General certify Roe v. Wade is "overturned".

8

Military department-annual report on sexual harassment, discrimination and sexual assault matters within the military department – SF0045 Monitored

Mandates an annual report from the adjutant general who shall report to the governor and the joint transportation, highways and military affairs interim committee on sexual harassment, discrimination and sexual assault matters within the military department which includes state and federal employees, civilian and military employees, full and part-time army national guard members.

Governor signed 3/8/2022, effective July 1, 2022.

9

Military department-discrimination or harassment grievances.- <u>HB0053</u> Monitored

Any member of the Wyoming national guard who believes the member has been wronged by a commanding officer, and who, upon due application to that commanding officer, is refused redress may complain to any superior commissioned officer. The superior commissioned officer shall forward the complaint to the adjutant general.

Discrimination and harassment grievances involving the Wyoming national guard or military department now provide an option to report to the Wyoming department of workforce services. Agreements between the military department and the department of workforce services are now required specifying duties and powers of the department of workforce services and adjutant general. The bill authorizes a position to provide expertise on these complaints with the military.

Governor signed 3/15/2022, effective July 1, 2022.

10 & 11

Tribal Inclusion.- HB0009 & HB0010 Monitored

HB0009 (7 pages) clarified and added definitions of "cooperative tribal governing body" and added Eastern Shoshone or Northern Arapaho tribe in government entities to list of communities in statutes. HB0010 (21 pages) defined, corrected, clarified, modified, and standardized references to the tribes, the cooperative tribal governing body, world languages, and the Wind River Indian Reservation throughout Wyoming Statutes.

For more information, a presentation to your local community, or any questions, please contact WCADVSA public policy director, Tara Muir, JD, at tmuir@wyomingdvsa.org or 402-871-4979. Updated 5.10.2022