

FINAL REPORT

Of the 61st

Wyoming Legislature



WYOMING HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2011



MEMO FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members of the Wyoming Hospital Association:

For the third consecutive year, discussions of healthcare reform—both at the national and state level—dominated the healthcare debate at the Wyoming Legislature. As lawmakers in Washington and Wyoming continued to grapple with the implications of the federal reforms, the Wyoming Hospital Association successfully protected our state’s hospitals from measures that could have thwarted reforms that are still in their infancy.

At the same time, the WHA prevented the enactment of measures that would have complicated the operation and governance in our hospitals. From that perspective, the 61st Wyoming Legislature was a very successful session.

As you will see in this report, legislators worked to improve the management of key state programs such as Medicaid, while simultaneously fighting federal initiatives. Lawmakers considered, for example, bills that would have funded lawsuits filed against the federal government on behalf of the state, and that would have made it illegal to enforce provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Despite the relative health of the state budget, the Legislature decided against gubernatorial recommendations to increase funding for Medicaid, and they dramatically reduced funding for state-based reform programs, such as Healthy Frontiers. Aside from technical moves to increase the transparency of state Medicaid spending, legislators approved a \$256 million supplemental budget bill that left Medicaid essentially as they found it, and that left the specter of provider cuts on the table.

Nevertheless, key Medicaid-related items did pass, including studies of the program’s structure and costs. The WHA will play a key role in those interim studies and discussions to help ensure that whatever emerges at the end of the summer is mindful of the needs of hospitals and retains appropriate support for the services you provide.

In the following pages, you will find a summary of the Legislature’s work on healthcare-related issues of interest to Wyoming’s hospitals. Additionally, it includes a description of the topics that key committees will consider during the interim in preparation for the 2012 Budget Session. We hope you find it to be an informative, valuable tool.

Finally, we want to thank you for your engagement and support of our legislative efforts. Your voice—as always— is essential to our success in working with the Legislature.

Respectfully,

Dan Perdue
President
Wyoming Hospital Association



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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY—INTRODUCTION

The General Session of the 61st Wyoming Legislature convened on January 11 and ended on March 3. During the 37-day session, legislators introduced some 432 bills, passing 204 of them. Although legislative leaders said ‘social issues’ bills occupied only a small percentage of the total debate, bills relating to abortion and same-sex marriage dominated headlines throughout the session, and even garnered national attention from MSNBC. Beyond those and a number of healthcare-related items, the Legislature passed a \$256 million supplemental budget that will continue to fund state services in anticipation of next year’s 20-day budget session.



HEALTHCARE REFORM

Wyoming legislators continued in 2011 to try to push back against the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act with a number of pieces of legislation aimed at asserting the rights of Wyoming citizens. Most such bills ultimately failed, but the debate made clear that Wyoming’s Legislature—the most conservative in the country—will continue to resist federal efforts to reform the healthcare system.

HEALTHCARE CHOICE AND PROTECTION ACT

Perhaps the fullest assault on the Affordable Care Act came in the form of House Bill 35, a measure that would have made it illegal in Wyoming to enforce certain provisions of the federal reform law. Sponsored by a number of the Legislature’s more conservative members, the bill would have declared the PPACA unconstitutional, and it would have created criminal penalties for individuals and companies that implemented it. More specifically, the bill attempted to fight the federal mandate for individuals to purchase health insurance.

Opponents argued that firms have little choice but to prepare for and begin the implementation of the federal law. Others claimed that the Affordable Care Act includes provisions that will improve the healthcare landscape, including the very mandate that is intended to expand coverage. The bill passed the House of Representatives, but it failed in the Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee in the Senate.

HEALTH LITIGATION FUND

The Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee sponsored a similar bill, House Bill 39, that would have created a fund specifically to pay for lawsuits against the federal government. Initially, the bill included \$2 million to fight elements of the ACA, but that amount was reduced to \$500,000. In the end, the bill passed the House, but failed on its first reading in the Senate.

HEALTH CARE FREEDOM—JOINT RESOLUTION

The most meaningful anti-reform effort came in the form of Senate Joint Resolution 2, a measure that will attempt to amend the Wyoming Constitution. Essentially, the resolution would add a section to the Constitution specifying that no federal or state law can compel any person, employer, or healthcare provider to participate in any healthcare system. This measure mirrored the general opposition to a federal mandate, and as a Constitutional amendment, has the potential to become quite significant and quite difficult to reverse.

The resolution passed the Legislature. It will now be formulated as a ballot measure for consideration by the voters in the 2012 elections. A two-thirds majority of voters will be required for the resolution to ultimately amend the Constitution. If voters do approve the measure, the state can no doubt expect additional arguments about the supremacy of federal law.

The debate made clear that Wyoming’s Legislature—the most conservative in the country—will continue to resist federal efforts to reform the healthcare system.

MEDICAID REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT

At the state level, controlling Medicaid costs was a key focus for both the Legislature and Gov. Matt Mead. The state Medicaid office projected a deficit of more than \$20 million in the Medicaid budget, and that forecast drove lawmakers to look for ways to improve planning and control costs. At least three bills attempted to do that in different ways.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REORGANIZATION

In an effort to get a handle on Medicaid budget issues, the Legislature passed a bill that allows the Governor to appoint the State Medicaid Agent. Historically, this position has been housed in the Department of Health and has served at the pleasure of the Director of the Department of Health. Gov. Mead and a number of legislators believed this move would provide the Governor with greater control over Medicaid forecasting, budgeting, and spending. Although this portion of the bill survived, a proposal to move the Department's Chief Financial Officer into the Governor's office did not pass.

The bill also authorizes the Department of Health to develop a plan for the reorganization of the Department and all programs that provide Medicaid servicers. If the plan will require legislation, it is to be presented to the Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee by November 15, 2011, for consideration during the 2012 Budget Session.

HB215—Key Features

- ◇ *Creates a State Medicaid Agent who will be appointed by the Governor*
- ◇ *Authorizes the Department of Health to create a plan for reorganization of the Department*
- ◇ *Requires a report by November in the event that legislation will be required for the reorganization*
- ◇ *Appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund to hire a consultant to conduct the reorganization study*

MEDICAID OPTIONS AND COST STUDIES

In keeping with the theme of controlling Medicaid costs, the Legislature approved two bills that will study the structure and costs of the program to identify opportunities for improvement. The first bill, Senate File 50, will create an oversight committee to study the cost of redesigning the current Medicaid program, as well as costs mandated by federal healthcare reform. The law specifically requires the study of certain alternatives, including innovative delivery systems, limitations of benefits, cost-sharing, alternative financing, private insurance, managed care, and Medicaid waiver programs. Although there is little support for opting out of the federal Medicaid program, the bill nevertheless specifies that the study should be used to help decide whether to continue the state program under federal reforms, as well as to help prepare cost estimates for reconfiguring the program.

The second bill, Senate File 102, requires a study of the cost of expanding Medicaid eligibility as mandated by federal healthcare reform. The study will consider cost-sharing scenarios, as well as the effect on costs of changing utilization rates, the effect of cost controls, the impact of people who intentionally reduce their income to become Medicaid eligible, and the effect of benefit changes for those who are currently eligible, among others. The study is to be completed by September 2012 and reported to the Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee before the 2013 General Session.

MEDICAID RATE FREEZE AMENDMENT DIES

Among the Medicaid-related efforts that did not survive the session was a budget amendment that would have lifted the freeze on Medicaid rates. The amendment was carried by two key members of the House leadership, Rep. Tom Lubnau, R-Gillette, and Rep. Ed Buchanan, R-Torrington.

Simply, the amendment would have removed the prohibition on rate increases, and would therefore have allowed the Department of Health to consider raising Medicaid rates. Sponsored as it was by two members of the House leadership, it passed the House of Representatives during the debate on a flurry of budget amendments. The issue failed in the Senate, however, where senators worried that it would create a long-term obligation in Medicaid that could not currently be known. Senators simply did not find that palatable at a time when so much effort was being expended to control Medicaid spending.

Although the amendment failed, its introduction provided a platform for discussion about the need to reconsider Medicaid rates, and it signaled an understanding on the part of legislators that these rates are an important part of improving healthcare in Wyoming when a significant payor—the state—underpays for the services it receives. Medicaid rates will also be part of interim studies of the structure and cost of the Medicaid program.

MEDICAID REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT

MEDICAID FRAUD RECOVERY BILL FAILS

Still another Medicaid-related bill attempted to create the Medicaid False Claims Act, which would have allowed the state to sue to recover money for falsely filed Medicaid claims. Again, in an attempt to control Medicaid spending, legislators believed that more aggressive fraud policies could help control costs. The bill was adamantly opposed by a number of organizations, including Pharma, the Wyoming Medical Society, and the Wyoming Hospital Association, among others, largely because it appeared to create a potential bonanza for lawyers seeking to sue under the newly created Act. The bill passed the Senate, but it failed in the House Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee.

HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

In addition to its efforts related to healthcare reform and Medicaid, the Legislature also considered a number of measures that would impact the ways in which Wyoming’s hospitals—and other entities—are managed. Some of those bills sought, ostensibly, to create greater transparency in the ways that public entities operate, while others fell into the much-debated ‘social issues’ category.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS BILLS DEFEATED

Driven largely by the Wyoming Press Association, the Legislature debated two separate but companion bills that were intended to require increased transparency among governmental entities. House Bill 120 would have added new requirements regarding the announcement of public meetings, and, more importantly, would have required the boards of governmental entities to record their executive sessions. If an executive session were challenged, a judge would have reviewed the recording in private to determine if any part of the meeting had violated current open meetings law. House Bill 121 would have required public entities to fulfill requests for public records within three to seven days, and it would have prohibited those entities from charging for the production of public records.



The Wyoming Hospital Association opposed both bills for a number of reasons. The WHA argued that the Open Meetings bill created a presumption of guilt for public boards and would have made it even more difficult to find qualified, willing people to serve on those boards. Moreover, the bill would have had a chilling effect on important board discussions that are appropriately held in private. The Public Records bill, the WHA argued, would have allowed for open-ended fishing expeditions that could be very time consuming and expensive. The WHA was joined in its opposition by the Wyoming Association of Municipalities, the Quality Health Care Foundation of Wyoming, the County Commissioners Association, the Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees, and others.

Ultimately, both bills died in the Senate. Both will be the subjects of an interim study by the Joint Judiciary Committee, and the WHA will closely monitor and participate in those discussions.

LEGISLATURE PASSES CONCEALED CARRY LAW



Sen. Kit Jennings, R-Casper

After significant debate in both houses, the Legislature passed Senate File 47, sponsored primarily by Sen. Kit Jennings, R-Casper, a bill that allows for the concealed carry of firearms without a permit. Naturally, lawmakers built many of their arguments on the freedoms guaranteed in the Second Amendment in claiming that the state should not limit a person’s right to carry a firearm. Though there are exceptions in state law regarding where any firearms can be carried, the new concealed carry law did not include any additional exceptions. As a result, there is no restriction on a person’s ability to carry a concealed gun into a hospital.

The Wyoming Hospital Association and others strongly opposed the measure, using well-known information about the nature of workplace violence in healthcare facilities, as well as pointing out the danger such a law might pose for healthcare workers in an emergency room environment. Indeed, an amendment that would have allowed hospitals to regulate concealed carry failed in the House. Nevertheless, the bill passed and was signed into law by the Governor.

HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

REMOVAL OF COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD TRUSTEES

With the passage of House Bill 211, trustees on county memorial hospital boards can be removed for just cause without a hearing. Those trustees are appointed by the County Commissioners, and they can now be removed by the County Commissioners. No hearing is necessary under the new law, unless the trustee being removed requests a hearing.

The measure was meant to create consistency in the powers of the County Commissioners: they have the ability to appoint trustees, but before the enactment of this law, they did not have the power to remove trustees. Additionally, the bill also creates consistency with other similar statutes.

ABORTION BILL FAILS—TWICE

A bill that generated considerable discussion—and filled the House gallery with lobbyists and onlookers—would have required physicians to let pregnant women know they have a right to see an ultrasound and hear the heartbeat before an abortion is performed. If the woman were more than 20 weeks pregnant, the bill would also have required the physician to provide her with information about fetal pain.

The bill failed in its first attempt. In a somewhat rare legislative action, the bill was adjusted slightly and introduced a second time for additional debate. Rather than being sent to the House Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee, it was referred to the House Education Committee, where it passed. Regardless, the bill failed in the House on its second attempt.

WHA DEFEATS ADMITTING PRIVILEGES BILL

The WHA argued successfully against a bill that would have extended hospital admitting privileges to advanced practice nurses. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Charles Scott, R-Casper, was introduced for the second consecutive year.

The 2011 version of the bill included provisions meant to alleviate concerns about the conditions of participation in Medicare, as well as hospitals' ability to govern privileging through their bylaws.

Despite efforts by a number of groups to develop a more palatable compromise bill, in the end, neither hospitals nor physicians were comfortable with legislation that seemed to mandate the expansion of admitting privileges.

OTHER HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

PRIMARY CARE SUPPORT PROGRAM

One effort to improve primary care was House Bill 49, a measure that sought to provide funding for capital construction and the start-up costs of community health centers and rural health clinics. Sponsored by the Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee, the bill originally included a \$10 million appropriation to match federal dollars in helping get the centers and clinics up and running. Through the course of the legislative process, however, that amount was reduced to \$1 million.

Grants from the Primary Care Support Program will be administered by the Department of Health, and in order to receive a grant, requesters must have an operating plan that integrates with other community health services and promotes access to care. The grant application must be approved by the county commissioners before it is submitted to the Department. A 25 percent local match is required, and grant recipients must serve low-income people in an underserved area.

HEALTHY FRONTIERS PROGRAM EXTENDED

A state-based healthcare reform project that was first approved in 2010 was extended during this year's legislative session, with some modifications. The Healthy Frontiers program is designed to provide preventive healthcare, health savings accounts, and health insurance to a limited number of low-income, working families in Wyoming.

Senate File 139, extends a \$750,000 appropriation for the program through June 2012, and it includes provisions for educating enrollees about the program, as well as a provision for forfeiture of personal savings accounts if enrollees leave the program within four months of enrolling.

NURSE FOR A DAY PROGRAM

THANKS TO OUR NURSE FOR A DAY VOLUNTEERS

The Legislative Session occurs at the height of cold and flu season, and legislators, staffers, and visitors are therefore quite thankful for the WHA's Nurse for a Day Program. Since 1980, volunteer nurses have provided high-quality nursing care in the Capitol building. The WHA is proud that our nurses are introduced on the floor of the Senate and House each day, and we appreciate the contribution of their time and skills during the session.

We would like to thank the nurses and their employers for their participation in the program:

Lynne LaRose – St. John's Medical Center, Jackson

Karen Petrozella – St. John's Medical Center, Jackson

Toma Nisbet – Cheyenne

Samantha English – Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Deanna Hedlund – Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Connie Jacobson – Casper

Ann Davin – Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Penny Iekel – Sheridan VA

Parry Davison – South Lincoln Medical Center, Kemmerer

Annette Cantlin – Wyoming State Hospital, Evanston

Lauri Morgan – Wyoming State Hospital, Evanston

Betsy Hartman – Cheyenne

Anne Raga – Campbell County Memorial Hospital, Gillette

Heidi Loucks – Casper College

Linda Clamp – Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Deb Lane – Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Jamie Mathews – Northwest Community College, Powell

GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

A hospital CEO's voice is critical to the success of any of WHA's lobbying efforts, and we truly appreciate your time and effort in reaching out to legislators during the session to help them understand the impact of the bills they were debating.

Thank you for your engagement. Our successes simply would not have happened without it.

The WHA appreciates the contribution of time and skills that our Nurse For A Day volunteers make during the Legislative Session.

INTERIM COMMITTEE TOPICS

Near the end of each Legislative session, each committee meets to determine its priorities for study during the interim period. The Joint Health, Labor, and Social Services Committee typically deals with issues of interest to the WHA, though others, including the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Joint Judiciary Committee, are expected to consider healthcare-related topics.

Following are the prioritized topics that the Joint Labor, Health, and Social Service Committee expects to study:

PRIORITY 1—RESPONSE TO FEDERAL INITIATIVES

The committee's jurisdiction includes areas that require state response to federal legislative or regulatory initiatives. Such areas include healthcare reform, Medicaid studies, health insurance exchanges, mental health parity, and healthcare provider recruitment. The committee will monitor and respond as needed to federal initiatives. The committee will also study Medicaid entitlements and programs in order to better understand the program, federally mandated changes, and Medicaid options and alternatives.

PRIORITY 2—ASSIGNMENTS FROM 2011 LEGISLATION

The committee is assigned to follow up on new legislation, including the Department of Employment/Workforce Services merger, the Department of Health reorganization study, Insurance Commission interstate compacts, at-will state executive employees, and long-term care choices.

PRIORITY 3—COST CONTAINMENT EFFORTS

The committee will investigate cost containment efforts through all of the programs under its jurisdiction, including Medicaid oversight, fraud prevention and eligibility processes; the Healthy Frontiers Program review; public health nursing funding; eldercare; economic analysis of state institutions; and technology implementation in telemedicine/telehealth, electronic patient records, and dissemination of health studies and resource information.

PRIORITY 4—OVERSIGHT HEARINGS

The committee will conduct general oversight hearings regarding the Department of Health and customer satisfaction feedback, funding for critical access hospitals, the Board of Medicine's implementation of physician licensure improvements, and the Wyoming Cancer Control Act.

INTERIM COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

The Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee will meet three times during the interim to study and discuss the topics outlined above. Following is the committee's tentative interim meeting schedule:

- ◇ **May 9 and 10**
Evanston, WY
- ◇ **October 10—October 12**
Casper, WY
- ◇ **December 7—December 9**
Cheyenne, WY

Specific locations and meeting agendas will be available at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us> as the meeting dates approach.

WYOMING HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2010-2011**

Chairman

Eric Boley, Chief Executive Officer, South Lincoln Medical Center, 711 Onyx Street, Kemmerer, WY 83101

Chairman-Elect

Vickie Diamond, Chief Executive Officer, Wyoming Medical Center, 1233 East Second Street, Casper, WY 82601

Secretary-Treasurer

Mike McCafferty, Chief Executive Officer, Sheridan Memorial Hospital, 1401 West 5th Street, Sheridan, WY 82801

Past Chairman

Tom Nordwick, Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Hospital of Converse County, P.O. Box 1450, Douglas, WY 82633

Directors

Bob Brummond, Chief Executive Officer, Niobrara Health & Life Center, 921 S. Ballencee, Lusk, WY 82225

Robert Morasko, Chief Executive Officer, Campbell County Memorial Hospital, P.O. Box 3011, Gillette, WY 82717

Rick Schroeder, Chief Executive Officer, North Big Horn Hospital, 1115 Lane 12, Lovell, WY 82431

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Tom Nordwick, AHA Delegate, Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Hospital of Converse County, P.O. Box 1450, Douglas, WY 82633

Vickie Diamond, AHA Alternate Delegate, Chief Executive Officer, Wyoming Medical Center, 1233 East Second Street, Casper, WY 82601

Dan Perdue, President, Wyoming Hospital Association, 2005 Warren Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82001

WYOMING HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
2011****CHAIRMAN:**

Vickie Diamond, Chief Executive Officer, Wyoming Medical Center, 1233 East Second Street, Casper, WY 82601

MEMBERS:

Pam Maples, Chief Executive Officer, St. John's Medical Center, P.O. Box 428, Jackson, WY 83001

Steve Perry, Chief Executive Officer, Star Valley Medical Center, P.O. Box 579, Afton, WY 83110

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Margie Molitor, Chief Executive Officer, Washakie Medical Center, P.O. Box 700, Worland, WY 82401

Eric McVicker, Chief Executive Officer, Platte County Memorial Hospital, P.O. Box 848, Wheatland, WY 82201

Chris Smolik, Chief Executive Officer, Riverton Memorial Hospital, 2100 W. Sunset Drive, Riverton, WY 82501

Doris Brown, Chief Executive Officer, Crook County Hospital District, P.O. Box 517, Sundance, WY 82729

Doug McMillan, Chief Executive Officer, West Park Hospital, 707 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY 82414

**Senate Members of the 61st Wyoming Legislature
26 Republicans, 4 Democrats**

Senator	Party	District	County
<u>Jim Anderson</u>	R	S02	Converse/Platte
<u>Paul Barnard</u>	R	S15	Uinta
<u>Eli Bebout</u>	R	S26	Fremont
<u>Bruce Burns</u>	R	S21	Sheridan
<u>Cale Case</u>	R	S25	Fremont
<u>Leland Christensen</u>	R	S17	Teton/Fremont
<u>Henry H.R. "Hank" Coe</u>	R	S18	Park
<u>Stan Cooper</u>	R	S14	Lincoln/Sublette/Sweetwater/Uinta
<u>Dan Dockstader</u>	R	S16	Lincoln/Sublette/Teton
<u>Ogden Driskill</u>	R	S01	Crook/Weston/E Converse/Niobrara/NE Goshen
<u>Fred Emerich</u>	R	S05	Laramie
<u>Floyd Esquibel</u>	D	S08	Laramie
<u>Gerald Geis</u>	R	S20	S Big Horn/Hot Springs/SE Park/Washakie
<u>John Hastert</u>	D	S13	Sweetwater
<u>Larry Hicks</u>	R	S11	Albany/Carbon
<u>John Hines</u>	R	S23	Campbell
<u>Kit Jennings</u>	R	S28	Natrona
<u>Wayne Johnson</u>	R	S06	Laramie
<u>Bill Landen</u>	R	S27	Natrona
<u>Marty Martin</u>	D	S12	Sweetwater/Fremont
<u>Curt Meier</u>	R	S03	Goshen/Platte
<u>Phil Nicholas</u>	R	S10	Albany
<u>Leslie Nutting</u>	R	S07	Laramie
<u>Drew Perkins</u>	R	S29	Natrona
<u>R. Ray Peterson</u>	R	S19	Big Horn/E Park
<u>Tony Ross</u>	R	S04	Laramie
<u>Chris Rothfuss</u>	D	S09	Albany
<u>John Schiffer</u>	R	S22	Sheridan/Johnson
<u>Charles Scott</u>	R	S30	Natrona
<u>Michael Von Flatern</u>	R	S24	Campbell

*House Members of the 61st Wyoming Legislature
50 Republicans, 10 Democrats*

Representative	Party	District	County
<u>Joseph Barbuto</u>	D	H48	SW Fremont/Sweetwater
<u>Rosie Berger</u>	R	H51	Sheridan
<u>Stan Blake</u>	D	H39	Sweetwater
<u>Gregg Blikre</u>	R	H53	Campbell
<u>Dave Bonner</u>	R	H25	Park
<u>Jonathan Botten</u>	R	H30	Sheridan
<u>Bob Brechtel</u>	R	H38	Natrona
<u>Kermit Brown</u>	R	H14	Albany
<u>Edward Buchanan</u>	R	H04	Goshen
<u>Donald Burkhardt, Jr</u>	R	H15	Carbon
<u>James Byrd</u>	D	H44	Laramie
<u>Rita Campbell</u>	R	H34	Fremont
<u>Richard Cannady</u>	R	H06	Converse
<u>Pat Childers</u>	R	H50	Park
<u>Cathy Connolly</u>	D	H13	Albany
<u>Bernadine Craft</u>	D	H17	Sweetwater
<u>Kathy Davison</u>	R	H20	Lincoln/Sublette/Sweetwater
<u>Amy Edmonds</u>	R	H12	Laramie
<u>John Eklund</u>	R	H10	Laramie
<u>Ken Esquibel</u>	D	H41	Laramie
<u>John Freeman</u>	D	H60	Sweetwater
<u>Gerald Gay</u>	R	H36	Natrona
<u>Keith Gingery</u>	R	H23	Fremont/Teton
<u>W. Patrick Goggles</u>	D	H33	Fremont
<u>Mike Greear</u>	R	H27	Washakie
<u>Matthias Greene</u>	R	H45	Albany
<u>Steve Harshman</u>	R	H37	Natrona
<u>Elaine Harvey</u>	R	H26	Big Horn/Park
<u>Hans Hunt</u>	R	H02	Niobrara/Weston/Converse/Goshen

Representative	Party	District	County
<u>Peter S. "Pete" Illoway</u>	R	H42	Laramie
<u>Allen Jaggi</u>	R	H18	Uinta/Sweetwater
<u>Norine Kasperik</u>	R	H32	Campbell
<u>Kendell Kroeker</u>	R	H35	Natrona
<u>Samuel Krone</u>	R	H24	Park
<u>Thomas Lockhart</u>	R	H57	Natrona
<u>Bunky Loucks</u>	R	H59	Natrona
<u>Thomas Lubnau</u>	R	H31	Campbell
<u>Michael Madden</u>	R	H40	Johnson/Sheridan
<u>Robert McKim</u>	R	H21	Lincoln
<u>Del McOmie</u>	R	H54	Fremont
<u>David Miller</u>	R	H55	Fremont
<u>Glenn Moniz</u>	R	H46	Albany
<u>Bob Nicholas</u>	R	H08	Laramie
<u>John Patton</u>	R	H29	Sheridan
<u>Frank Peasley</u>	R	H03	Converse/Platte
<u>Bryan Pedersen</u>	R	H07	Laramie
<u>Owen Petersen</u>	R	H19	Uinta
<u>Ruth Petroff</u>	R	H16	Teton
<u>Lorraine Quarberg</u>	R	H28	S Big Horn/Hot Springs/SE Park
<u>Jim Roscoe</u>	D	H22	Lincoln/Sublette/Teton
<u>Mark Semlek</u>	R	H01	Crook/Weston
<u>Lisa Shepperson</u>	R	H58	Natrona
<u>William "Jeb" Steward</u>	R	H47	Carbon/Albany
<u>Tim Stubson</u>	R	H56	Natrona
<u>Matt Teeters</u>	R	H05	Goshen/Platte
<u>Mary Throne</u>	D	H11	Laramie
<u>Clarence Vranish</u>	R	H49	Uinta
<u>Sue Wallis</u>	R	H52	Campbell
<u>Dan Zwonitzer</u>	R	H43	Laramie
<u>David Zwonitzer</u>	R	H09	Laramie

2011 General Session - Successful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
HB0002 Enrolled Act No. 11	Wyoming health insurance pool - sunset An act relating to health insurance; extending sunset date for Wyoming Health Insurance Pool Act; and providing for an effective date.	Joint Corporations, Elections and Political Subdivisions Interim Committee
HB0020 Enrolled Act No. 91	Medicaid - reimbursement of services An act relating to Medicaid; authorizing payment to relatives of persons with developmental disabilities or acquired brain injuries as specified; amending a definition; creating a definition; and providing for an effective date.	Select Committee on Developmental/Intellectual Programs
HB0036 Enrolled Act No. 49	Cancer Control Act amendments An act relating to the Wyoming Cancer Control Act; authorizing follow-up colorectal cancer screening tests when medically indicated; clarifying eligibility language; and providing for an effective date.	Reps. Esquibel, K., Bonner, Botten, Childers, Goggles, Pedersen, and Sens. Dockstader, Landen, Martin, Nutting and Peterson
HB0049 Enrolled Act No. 65	Primary Care support program An act relating to public health; creating the primary care support program; authorizing grants as specified; providing for a local match as specified; requiring reports; providing appropriations; providing a repeal date; and providing for an effective date.	Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee
HB0050 Enrolled Act No. 102	Health insurance exchanges An act relating to the administration of government and the 2010 federal health care reform; providing for a study of whether the state should establish and operate a Wyoming health insurance exchange or participate in a regional exchange; requiring a report and specifying report requirements; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.	Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee
HB0095 Enrolled Act No. 25	Involuntary Commitment Examiners An act relating to hospitalization of mentally ill persons; amending the definition of examiner for purposes of involuntary detention; providing that involuntary detention and involuntary hospitalization hearings not be combined under specified circumstances; and providing for an effective date	Reps. Harvey, Craft, Petersen and Shepperson and Sens. Landen and Scott
HB0099 Enrolled Act No. 36	Substance Abuse Treatment Funding Awards An act relating to the treatment of substance abuse; restructuring specified programs authorized by the 2005 methamphetamine initiative; specifying the manner in which the department of health shall determine substance abuse funding awards; repealing certain noncodified provisions; and providing for an effective date	Rep. Gingery and Sen. Von Flatern

2011 General Session - Successful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
HB0103 Enrolled Act No. 95	WICHE - Repayment Program An act relating to the Western Regional Higher Education Compact; imposing a repayment provision on specified students; defining the requirements of the loan or service repayment program; and providing for an effective date	Reps. McKin, Connolly, Freeman, Jaggi and McOmie and Sens. Dockstader, Jennings and Landen
HB0193 Enrolled Act No. 54	Nursing Care Facility Assessment An act relating to welfare; establishing the nursing care facility assessment as specified; establishing an account; providing definitions; providing regulatory authority; providing penalties; and providing for an effective date	Reps. Childers, Buchanan and Pedersen and Sens. Bebout, Coe, Hines and Meier
HB0206 Enrolled Act No. 73	Emergency Response-Incidents An act relating to the Wyoming Emergency Response Act; including clandestine laboratory investigations in the definition of emergency responses; providing for representation on the state emergency response team; providing for declaration of contamination by emergency response teams as specified; providing for transfer of liability as specified; and providing for an effective date	Reps. Throne, Byrd, Illoway and Nicholas, B. and Sens. Emerich and Esquible, F.
HB0209 Enrolled Act No. 85	Emergency Medical Review Organizations An act relating to public health and safety; providing for a limitation of liability for emergency medical review organizations and the department of health as specified; and providing for an effective date	Reps. Greene, Harvey and Lubnau and Sens. Coe and Von Flatern
HB0211 Enrolled Act No. 89	County Memorial Hospital Board Members-Removal An act relating to county memorial hospitals; authorizing county commissioners to remove members of a hospital board of trustees; providing for the filling of vacancies on the board of trustees; and providing for an effective date	Rep. Throne
HB0215 Enrolled Act No. 90	Department of Health Reorganization An act relating to administration of government; providing for a study of the reorganization of the department of health; providing for a reorganization plan; creating the position within the governor's office of chief financial officer for the department of health; specifying duties; authorizing restriction of department expenditures as specified; providing for contingent reports; transferring a corresponding position and funds from the department of health; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date	Reps. Lubnau, Harshman and Harvey and Sen. Scott

2011 General Session - Successful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
HB0253 Enrolled Act No. 76	Wyoming Nurse Practice Act amendment An act relating to nursing; expanding the exemption from licensure for persons enrolled in nursing programs; and providing for an effective date.	Reps. Kasperik and Lubnau, and Sen. Nutting
SF0025 Enrolled Act No. 91	Long term services and support An act relating to the Wyoming Long Term Care Choices Act; authorizing a statewide network of aging and disability resource centers as specified; granting rulemaking authority; and providing for effective dates.	Sens. Martin, Hastert, Landen, Scott, Von Flatern, and Reps. Connolly, Craft and Davidson
SF0029 Enrolled Act No. 73	Developmental disability services An act relating to the Medicaid program; providing requirements for the reimbursement of home and community based waiver service providers; directing the department of health to provide enhanced reimbursement of certified behavioral specialists as specified; directing the department and the university, with the community college commission, to develop a training and certification program for behavioral specialists; specifying a basis for calculation of budget requests for home and community based waiver service providers; requiring reports; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.	Select Committee of Developmental/Intellectual Programs
SF0037 Enrolled Act No. 69	Health insurance definitions An act relating to insurance; amending the definition of "private health benefit plan"; providing exceptions to the definition of "disability insurance"; providing for applicability; and providing for an effective date.	Sens. Emerich and Scott
SF0038 Enrolled Act No. 97	School Athletics Safety An act relating to education; providing for training of coaches and trainers and education of students, parents and guardians regarding head injury and concussion resulting from athletic activities; granting rulemaking authority; and providing for an effective date	Sens. Landen, Coe and Scott and Reps. Bonner, Gay and Harvey
SF0047 Enrolled Act No. 70	Concealed Weapons An act relating to concealed weapons; authorizing the carrying of concealed weapons by persons without a concealed weapon permit as specified; amending a restriction on where a concealed firearm may be carried; and providing an effective date	Sen. Jennings and Rep. Jaggi

2011 General Session - Successful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
SF0050 Enrolled Act No. 92	<p>Medicaid options study An act relating to administration of government, Medicaid and the 2010 federal health care reform; providing for a study related to options for reconfiguring of the Medicaid program; requiring a report; providing report requirements; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.</p>	Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee
SF0090 Enrolled Act No. 79	<p>Wyoming Nurse Practice Act - Amendments An act relating to the Wyoming Nurse Practice Act; authorizing assessment of the cost of disciplinary proceedings as specified; amending grounds for discipline of licensees and certificate holders; and providing for an effective date</p>	Sen. Nutting and Rep. Kasperik
SF0093 Enrolled Act No. 74	<p>Dietetics Licensure An act relating to professions and occupations; creating the dietetics licensing board; specifying membership; specifying board duties, powers and immunity; providing for licensure of dietitians; specifying requirements for licensure; providing exceptions; granting rulemaking authority; providing definitions; specifying grounds for denial, suspension, revocation or restriction of license; providing for hearings and appeals; providing penalties; providing an appropriation; and providing for effective dates.</p>	Sens. Martin and Landen and Reps. Bonner, Craft and Pedersen
SF0094 Enrolled Act No. 37	<p>Liability for Emergency Equipment Donations An act relating to immunity; providing civil and criminal immunity as specified for the donation of emergency responder equipment; providing definitions; limiting the sale of donated equipment; specifying the applicability of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act; and providing for an effective date</p>	Sen. Johnson and Rep. McOmie
SF0102 Enrolled Act No. 93	<p>Medicaid Cost Study An act relating to the administration of government and the 2010 federal health care reform; providing for the development of cost estimates for the mandatory coverage expansion of the Medicaid program; requiring a report; providing report requirements and specifying its expected uses; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date</p>	Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Interim Committee

2011 General Session - Successful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
SF0139 Enrolled Act No. 84	Health Care Pilot Project Amendments An act relating to the healthy frontiers health care reform demonstration project; amending the membership of the benefit design committee; directing consideration of possible future eligibility changes; providing for education of enrollees concerning the project; amending enrollment eligibility as specified; providing for forfeiture of personal health accounts as specified; amending reporting requirements; providing appropriations; authorizing receipt of other funds as specified; and providing for an effective date	Sens. Scott, Dockstader and Schiffer and Reps. Bonner, Brown and Harvey
SJ0002 Enrolled Joint Resolution No. 2	Health care freedom A joint resolution proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution by creating a new section specifying that no federal or state law shall compel participation in any health care system by any person, employer or health care provider.	Sens. Nutting, Case, Driskell, Jennings, and Reps. Brechtel, Gay, Jaggi and Kroeker

2011 General Session - Unsuccessful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
HB0035	<p>Health Care Choice and Protection Act An act relating to a Health Care Choice and Protection Act; establishing the Health Care Choice and Protection Act; providing that enforcement of specified federal laws in Wyoming is a criminal offense and prescribing penalties; authorizing the attorney general to defend specified actions and prescribing optional legal remedies; providing legislative findings and declarations; and providing for an effective date.</p>	Reps. Brechtel, Burkhart, Edmonds, Gay, Jaggi Kroeker, Peasley, Quarberg, Semlek, Teeters, and Sens. Jennings, Meier and Nutting
HB0039	<p>Health Litigation Fund An act relating to the administration of governmental and national health care reform; providing for a fund to litigate issues relating to federal health care enactments and their implementation; specifying uses of the fund; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.</p>	Joint Labor, Health, and Social Services Committee
HB0118	<p>Abortion-Available Information for Decision An act relating to public health and safety; requiring physicians to provide patients with specified information before certain nonemergency abortion procedures; providing definitions and amending a definition; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Brechtel, Davison, Eklund, Gingery, Jaggi, McKim and Peasley and Sens. Dockstader, Jennings, Meier and Nutting
HB0120	<p>Public Meetings An act relating to public meetings; providing notice requirements for special meetings; providing for audio recording of executive sessions; providing for proceedings to review executive sessions; providing for notice of executive sessions; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Edmonds, Blake, Buchanan, Gingery, Patton and Teeters and Sens. Dockstader and Martin
HB0121	<p>Public Records An act relating to public records; setting reasonable time for production of public records; clarifying reasonable fees for duplication of public records; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Edmonds, Blake, Bonner, Buchanan, Patton, Teeters and Wallis and Sens. Dockstader and Martin
HB0141	<p>Governmental Immunity-Waiver for Hospital Employees An act relating to governmental immunity; providing a waiver of governmental immunity for damages caused by a violation of whistleblower statutes for medical facilities; and providing for an effective day</p>	Reps. Connolly and Gingery and Sen. Hastert

2011 General Session - Unsuccessful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
HB0201	<p>Health Care Qualifications and Advertising An act relating to consumer protection; requiring the disclosure of specified information in health care advertising; prohibiting deceptive or misleading information; providing definitions; requiring the display of specified information at medical practices; providing fines and penalties; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Pedersen, Edmonds and Wallis and Sens. Emerich and Landen
HB0205	<p>Electronic Application Process for Board of Nursing An act relating to professions and occupations; providing for an upgrade to the board of nursing's administrative and licensing systems; providing an appropriation; directing the expenditure of the appropriation; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Buchanan, Craft, Esquibel, K., Harvey Lockhart and Lubnau and Sens. Martin, Meier and Scott
HB0207	<p>Protection of activities in private vehicles An act relating to employment; providing definitions; prohibiting certain persons from creating or enforcing a policy that prohibits the storage of firearms in a motor vehicle as specified; providing for a civil action; providing for remedies; providing exclusions; and providing for an effective date</p>	Reps. Krone, Bonner, Brechtel, Buchanan, Burkhart, Cannady, Childers, Gay, Gingery, Greear, Hunt, Kroeker, Loucks, Petroff, Quarberg and Vranish and Sens. Case, Coe and Jennings
HJ0003	<p>Resolution to Congress and the United States Supreme Court A Joint Resolution demanding Congress cease and desist from enacting mandates beyond the enumerated powers granted to the Congress by the United States Constitution; calling on Congress to amend the tenth amendment and the interstate commerce clause in article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution so as to restrict the egregious encroachment on states' rights through federal legislation and federal court decisions; and demanding that the United States Supreme Court refrain from issuing decisions which impermissibly expand federal power or restrict individual rights</p>	Reps. Childers, Buchanan, Jaggi, Krone, McOmie and Shepperson and Sens. Case, Coe and Jennings
SF00012	<p>County authority - smoking bans An act relating to county powers and authority; authorizing counties to prohibit smoking in public places; authorizing counties to delegate to local public health departments the authority to adopt regulations prohibiting smoking in public places; and providing an effective date.</p>	Sen. Scott and Reps. Harvey and Zwonitzer, Dn.

2011 General Session - Unsuccessful Legislation

Bill No.	Title & Summary	Sponsor
SF0051	<p>Safety Belt violations An act relating to motor vehicles; increasing the fine for failure to use safety belts when required; providing local authority to adopt safety belt exceptions as specified; removing restriction on stopping motor vehicles solely for safety belt violations; and providing for an effective date.</p>	Sens. Scott and Hastert, and Reps. Davison, Gingery and Harvey
SF0061	<p>Co-employee Immunity An act relating to workers' compensation; amending the standard for tort immunity for an injured workers' fellow employees; and providing for an effective date</p>	Sens. Bebout and Rep. Stubson
SF0084	<p>Hospital Services Collection Rates An act relating to consumer credit for hospital charges; limiting interest chargeable by a hospital for healthcare services as specified; providing definitions; and providing for an effective date</p>	Sens. Rothfuss, Nutting and Von Flatern and Reps. Craft and Harvey
SF0145	<p>Medicaid Fraud Recovery An act relating to Medicaid; creating the Wyoming Medicaid False Claims Act; authorizing civil recoveries for the state and persons reporting false claims as specified; prescribing duties of the attorney general; providing procedures; providing for a limitations period and applicability of the act; providing definitions; prescribing criminal penalties as specified for failure to maintain required records; and providing for an effective date</p>	Sens. Peterson, Dockstader, Meier and Perkins and Rep. Miller