

# News Release

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## WYOMING SENATE DISTRICT 3

FOR RELEASE                      Immediately  
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### **Legislative Recap of the 2025 General Session of the Wyoming Legislature**

**Senator Cheri Steinmetz**

#### ***Dedicated to My Uncle Russell***

*I would like to dedicate this legislative recap to my uncle Russell, who has endured health struggles while I have been away. He has played an instrumental role in helping me think through issues and articulate positions, particularly the values that define our family, our friends, and our independent rural way of life. His unwavering commitment to hard work, integrity, and respect - along with his dedication to the protection and stewardship of our water and land - has been passed down through the generations in our family.*

*We as a family face Russell's recovery together as we have always faced challenges, together. We as a state and country must face our recovery as a nation, together.*

Those of us who united to see President Trump elected to lead America and conservatives across the state to lead Wyoming, must now stand strong and face trying times with boldness, courage and tenacity. We will not let disruptors, detractors or divisions define this important era. As we see those who would attempt to unravel the fabric of our communities and cause grievances among neighbors push to the forefront and demand recognition and reaction, we must hold fast, remain strong and ban together to protect all that we cherish. Those who value principles, commitment to country and faith in God will prevail in the end, however, it will come at a price. Stay the course, we have only just begun.

As one of the most conservative areas in the state, we have an opportunity to unite and serve on behalf of the people who elected us as their representatives. The people of Wyoming and America have sent a clear message: they want a return to conservative Republican values in governance. Sometimes, that demand for change creates discomfort as long-established systems are questioned and laws are reformed. However, we must remember that we are stewards of an elected constitutional republic. As stated in Article 1, Section 1 of the Wyoming Constitution:

“All power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety and happiness; for the advancement of these ends they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or abolish the government in such manner as they may think proper.”

**A recap of the bills I sponsored:**

- **SF0064 Wyoming Opposes Mandatory Electronic ID Devices in Livestock** passed and signed by governor.
- **SF0084 Country of Origin Label USA Beef** passed and signed by the governor.
- **SF0103 Terminating and Defunding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** was vetoed by the governor.
- **SF0125 Defining Healthcare and Protecting the People’s Welfare** vetoed by the governor.

Unfortunately, I am not surprised the governor chose to veto two of my bills. I guess I am just more conservative than he is. Actions speak louder than words.

**Actions by the governor as of 3/17/25:**

**The governor allowed the following enrolled acts to go into law without his signature. Click on the bill for the governor's letter:**

|                         |                        |  |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| <a href="#">SEA0013</a> | <a href="#">SF0096</a> | <a href="#">Wyoming Gold Act</a>                                   |
| <a href="#">SEA0016</a> | <a href="#">SF0120</a> | <a href="#">Wyoming PRIME act.</a>                                 |
| <a href="#">SEA0020</a> | <a href="#">SF0006</a> | <a href="#">Residential property-removal of unlawful occupant.</a> |
| <a href="#">HEA0024</a> | <a href="#">HB0172</a> | <a href="#">Repeal gun free zones and preemption amendments.</a>   |
| <a href="#">SEA0021</a> | <a href="#">SF0168</a> | <a href="#">Budget reserve account-repeal.</a>                     |
| <a href="#">SEA0023</a> | <a href="#">SF0077</a> | <a href="#">Compelled speech is not free speech.</a>               |
| <a href="#">HEA0033</a> | <a href="#">HB0116</a> | <a href="#">Driver's licenses-unauthorized alien restrictions.</a> |
| <a href="#">SEA0050</a> | <a href="#">SF0195</a> | <a href="#">Small business emergency bridge loan program.</a>      |

**The governor vetoed the following enrolled acts. Click on the bill for the governor's letter:**

|                         |                        |  |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| <a href="#">HEA0035</a> | <a href="#">HB0064</a> | <a href="#">Chemical abortions-ultrasound requirement. <span style="color: red;">Legislative override</span></a> |
| <a href="#">HEA0045</a> | <a href="#">HB0036</a> | <a href="#">Hathaway scholarship-amendments. <span style="color: red;">Legislative override</span></a>           |
| <a href="#">HEA0047</a> | <a href="#">HB0094</a> | <a href="#">Charter school authorizations-amendments. <span style="color: red;">Legislative override</span></a>  |

HEA0055 HB0079 Bond elections-voter threshold requirement.  
 SEA0058 SF0132 Protecting critical infrastructure and systems from drones.  
 SEA0059 SF0127 Administrative rules-legislative review.  
 SEA0061 SF0103 Terminating and defunding diversity, equity and inclusion.  
 SEA0092 SF0125 Defining Health Care and Protecting the People's Welfare

The governor exercised his line-item veto authority on the following enrolled acts:

HEA0056 HB0117 Omnibus water bill-construction.

SEA0062 SF0152 Wildfire management-amendments.

HEA0073 HB 0032 What is a Woman Act

Governor Mark Gordon has signed the following enrolled acts into law. The full text of all bills from the 2025 session may be found on the [Wyoming Legislature's website](#):

HEA0001 HB0025 Vehicle accident reporting-amendments.  
 HEA0002 HB0027 Disabled parking windshield placards-revisions.  
 HEA0003 HB0092 Wyoming livestock board-memorandums of understanding.  
 HEA0004 HB0014 Solid waste municipal cease and transfer funding.  
 HEA0005 HB0022 Water and wastewater operator-emergency response.  
 HEA0006 HB0030 Driver's licenses and IDs-revisions.  
 HEA0007 HB0041 Environmental quality-irrevocable letters of credit.  
 HEA0008 HB0061 State land lease preference amendments.  
 HEA0009 HB0069 Foreign adversary ownership or control of business entities.  
 HEA0010 HB0073 Recreation safety-rock climbing.  
 HEA0011 HB0075 Coal severance tax rate.  
 HEA0012 HB0082 Provider enrollment-standards.  
 HEA0013 HB0004 Snowmobile registration and user fees.  
 HEA0014 HB0023 Surrender driver's license-repeal.  
 HEA0015 HB0045 Removing otters as protected animals.

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| HEA0016  | HB0054 | Chancery court judges-district and circuit court assistance. |
| HEA0017  | HB0086 | Public property and buildings-amendments.                    |
| HEA0018  | HB0166 | State auditor payment transparency.                          |
| HEA0019  | HB0214 | Local government payments-electronic payments.               |
| HEA0020  | HB0040 | Sales and use tax revisions.                                 |
| HEA0021  | HB0017 | Career technical education equipment grants amendments.      |
| HEA0022  | HB0132 | Annual permits for specified commercial loads.               |
| HEJR0001 | HJ0001 | Amending Wyoming's act of admission for earnings.            |
| HEA0023  | HB0038 | Ad valorem taxation-payment and credit of penalties.         |
| HEA0025  | HB0264 | Central bank digital currencies-prohibitions.                |
| HEA0026  | HB0042 | Regulation of surgical abortions.                            |
| HEA0027  | HB0181 | Funeral contracts-investment and bonding requirements.       |
| HEA0028  | HB0046 | Homeschool freedom act.                                      |
| HEA0029  | HB0039 | Property tax refund program-revisions.                       |
| HEA0030  | HB0226 | License plate-search and rescue council.                     |
| HEA0031  | HB0005 | Fishing outfitters and guides-registration of fishing boats. |
| HEA0032  | HB0097 | Property conveyances near critical infrastructure.           |
| HEA0034  | HB0242 | Manufacturers and dealers of new trailers-changes.           |
| HEA0036  | HB0211 | Hunting wildlife from vehicles.                              |
| HEA0037  | HB0188 | Two families-one nanny.                                      |
| HEA0038  | HB0129 | School finance-dates for fund transfers.                     |
| HEA0039  | HB0125 | Repeal-unauthorized use of vehicle crime.                    |
| HEA0040  | HB0103 | Columbarium regulation.                                      |
| HEA0041  | HB0020 | K-12 school facility leasing.                                |
| HEA0042  | HB0028 | Commercial driver's licenses-revisions.                      |
| HEA0043  | HB0011 | Manufacturing sales and use tax exemption-amendments.        |
| HEA0044  | HB0033 | Vehicle sales and use tax distribution-highway fund.         |

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| HEA0046 | HB0275 | Treatment of animals.  |
| HEA0048 | HB0072 | Protecting privacy in public spaces act.                     |
| HEA0049 | HB0289 | Certificate of need repeal-3.                                |
| HEA0050 | HB0311 | Exemption for transported fuel and power sales-amendments.   |
| HEA0051 | HB0018 | Career technical education funding.                          |
| HEA0052 | HB0199 | Steamboat Legacy Scholarship Act.                            |
| HEA0053 | HB0122 | Senior citizen service districts-authorization and renewal.  |
| HEA0054 | HB0090 | Anthrax outbreak protocol.                                   |
| HEA0058 | HB0192 | Public utilities-wildfire mitigation and liability limits.   |
| HEA0059 | HB0219 | County and municipal roads on state lands-easements granted. |
| HEA0060 | HB0083 | Child custody-sex offense conviction presumption.            |
| HEA0061 | HB0337 | Prohibiting foreign funding of ballot measures.              |
| HEA0063 | HB0136 | Volunteer first responder health insurance-revisions.        |
| HEA0066 | HB0207 | Religious Freedom Restoration Act.                           |
| HEA0067 | HB0147 | Prohibition of institutional discrimination.                 |
| HEA0068 | HB0316 | School finance-model recalibration-2.                        |
| HEA0070 | HB0043 | Age verification for websites with harmful material.         |
| HEA0072 | HB0280 | Sex offender registration.                                   |
| HEA0075 | HB0259 | Supplemental K-12 school facilities appropriations-2.        |
| HEA0078 | HB0246 | Wyoming Wednesday.   |
| SEA0002 | SF0016 | Industrial siting-tribal notification.                       |
| SEA0003 | SF0020 | Oil and gas bonding-options and bonding pools.               |
| SEA0004 | SF0023 | Handicap placards-health care providers' approval.           |
| SEA0005 | SF0025 | Electronic lien and title system.                            |
| SEA0006 | SF0149 | Wildlife conservation license plates-amendments.             |
| SEA0007 | SF0042 | Resort hotel liquor licenses.                                |

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| SEA0008 | SF0049 | Tangible personal property-index and depreciation.            |
| SEA0009 | SF0013 | Reading assessment and intervention amendments.               |
| SEA0010 | SF0078 | Distribution of unsolicited absentee ballot request forms.    |
| SEA0011 | SF0080 | Abandonment of water rights-limitations.                      |
| SEA0012 | SF0131 | Charter school leasing.                                       |
| SEA0014 | SF0073 | Charter school funding-amendments.                            |
| SEA0015 | SF0081 | Tax exemption-property owned by the state.                    |
| SEA0017 | SF0088 | 2025 large project funding.                                   |
| SEA0018 | SF0063 | State lands-fencing-2.  |
| SEA0019 | SF0048 | Business property exemption.                                  |
| SEA0022 | SF0064 | Wyoming Opposes Mandatory Electronic ID<br>Devices-Livestock. |
| SEA0024 | SF0004 | State park peace officers-definition and scope of authority.  |
| SEA0025 | SF0061 | Pollution control property tax exemption-applicability.       |
| SEA0026 | SF0082 | Omnibus water bill-planning.                                  |
| SEA0027 | SF0130 | Emergency assistance immunity-mental health services.         |
| SEA0028 | SF0143 | Public monies-deposits in credit unions.                      |
| SEA0029 | SF0151 | Monthly ad valorem tax distribution-amendments.               |
| SEA0030 | SF0075 | Coroner investigations-disposition of decedent's property.    |
| SEA0031 | SF0114 | Missing persons-reporting requirement.                        |
| SEA0032 | SF0033 | Noncitizen driver's license and ID card-revisions.            |
| SEA0033 | SF0007 | Protection order amendments.                                  |
| SEA0034 | SF0008 | Protection orders-effective during appeal or review.          |
| SEA0035 | SF0079 | District courts-change of venue.                              |
| SEA0036 | SF0110 | Inclusion of crossing guards for governmental claims act.     |
| SEA0037 | SF0137 | School finance-cash reserves.                                 |
| SEA0038 | SF0179 | Sage grouse compensatory mitigation-amendments.               |
| SEA0039 | SF0181 | Eminent domain-energy collection systems-2.                   |

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| SEA0040 | SF0039 | Automatic transfer of automobile title upon death.        |
| SEA0041 | SF0119 | Expedited professional licensure for military members.    |
| SEA0042 | SF0146 | Consumer Rental Purchase Agreement Act-amendments.        |
| SEA0043 | SF0138 | Energy impact on Wyoming economy-study.                   |
| SEA0044 | SF0106 | Motor vehicle dealer and manufacturer warranty rates.     |
| SEA0045 | SF0005 | School district vehicles-flashing lights authorized.      |
| SEA0046 | SF0154 | Industrial, wind and solar projects-hearing deadline.     |
| SEA0047 | SF0121 | Rodeo license plate.                                      |
| SEA0048 | SF0113 | Braider opportunity act.                                  |
| SEA0049 | SF0056 | Providing false information to registered agents.         |
| SEA0051 | SF0084 | Country of origin label-USA beef.                         |
| SEA0052 | SF0009 | Restoration of rights amendments.                         |
| SEA0053 | SF0062 | Sex-designated facilities and public schools.             |
| SEA0054 | SF0046 | Water, irrigation and sewer districts-bid requirements.   |
| SEA0055 | SF0026 | Protection of military equipment.                         |
| SEA0056 | SF0145 | Local governments-investments in equities.                |
| SEA0057 | SF0147 | Service dogs-training and crimes.                         |
| SEA0060 | SF0069 | Homeowner property tax exemption.                         |
| SEA0064 | SF0050 | Insurance holding company regulations-amendments          |
| SEA0065 | SF0052 | Insurance amendments.                                     |
| SEA0066 | SF0097 | Trust code revisions.                                     |
| SEA0068 | SF0102 | Surviving parents of gold star veterans-exemptions.       |
| SEA0069 | SF0158 | Virtual credit cards and network leasing-dental services. |
| SEA0070 | SF0051 | Wyoming telecommunications act revisions.                 |
| SEA0071 | SF0043 | Temporary water use agreements amendments.                |
| SEA0072 | SF0086 | Alternative teaching certificate.                         |
| SEA0076 | SF0108 | Recreation safety-agritourism.                            |

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| SEA0080 | SF0010 | Settlement agreements for minors-parental authorization.    |
| SEA0083 | SF0022 | Ground for termination of parental rights-guardianship.     |
| SEA0091 | SF0091 | Petroglyph, pictograph and historic inscription protection. |
| SEA0094 | SF0044 | Fairness in sports-intercollegiate athletics.               |
| SEA0095 | SF0017 | Carbon dioxide-enhanced oil recovery stimulus.              |
| SEA0097 | SF0034 | School finance-routine and major maintenance calculations.  |
| SJ0001  | SJ0003 | Commemorating Nellie Tayloe Ross.                           |

### Additional Legislative Developments

The 2025 session also addressed property tax relief, election security, and education reform. A few notable developments include:

- **Property Tax Relief Bills (SF69):** Addressing tax burdens on families and seniors with a 25 percent property tax exemption.
- **Omnibus Water Bill:** Providing \$20 million for Goshen Irrigation Tunnel repairs and \$60 million for La Prele Dam reconstruction.
- **HB199 Wyoming Steamboat Legacy Scholarship:** Provides a \$7000 voucher for private education.

Wyoming's conservatives remain committed to upholding the Constitution, protecting individual liberties, and ensuring government accountability. As we move forward, I encourage all Wyoming citizens to stay informed, track bills, and engage with their legislators at [wyoleg.gov](http://wyoleg.gov).

### [Wyoming Republican Party Platform 2024](#)

*WE believe there are Timeless Truths that will always inform and direct our party and our country regardless of current events and circumstances, changing strategies, goals, and leadership. These Truths, put into action, maintain, protect, and defend our unalienable rights to Life, Liberty, Property and the Pursuit of Happiness.*

#### Life

1. All individuals are endowed by their Creator from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death with the rights to Life, Liberty, Property, and the Pursuit of Happiness. The only purpose of government is to protect these rights for all.

#### Equality



2. Every citizen is equal before, equally protected by, and equally subject to, the law.

### **Second Amendment**

3. The right of individuals to keep and bear Arms and ammunition shall not be infringed, restricted, or denied. Individuals must never be prevented from defending life, liberty, or property, and defending against tyranny.

### **Private Property Rights**

4. The pursuit by an individual to rightfully acquire, keep and enjoy his own property is foundational. Every individual has the right to develop his own potential, to use and enjoy his own property, tangible or intellectual, and pursue his own interests, free from restrictions of arbitrary force. Individuals are always presumed to be the best stewards of their property.

5. The Wyoming Republican Party supports the protection of private property from the use of eminent domain, civil asset forfeiture, amortization or inverse condemnation.

### **Religious Freedom**

6. The freedom to practice one's faith is a God given fundamental natural right, secured by both the Constitution of the United States and the Wyoming Constitution and shall never be infringed. The First Amendment does not require the expulsion of religion from public life. We must keep in mind the Judeo-Christian principles of the Founding Fathers when they wrote it; the practice of faith under this tradition encourages good moral behavior and the development of character that helps secure the other fundamental bases of our national citizenship. Freedom of religion, and the free exercise thereof, includes the right

to abstain from actions contrary to one's religious beliefs.

### **Family Values**

7. The Wyoming Republican Party believes in God's created order: that in His perfect design He created two sexes, male and female.

8. Marriage is defined as the union of one man and one woman.

9. The traditional family, based on the foundation of marriage between one man and one woman, is the best institution and is the authority providing children with education and training.

### **Liberty**

10. No medical procedure, modality, or treatment should ever be mandated under any circumstances.

11. Liberty is indivisible from economic freedom. The free-market economy is the economic system most compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government. Government's undue interference in the market, as well as the fiscal irresponsibility of government, results in economic inequity. There exists no fundamental right to the fruits of another person's labor.

### **Citizen Government by the Constitution**

12. The citizens of the United States are the ultimate authority. Governments possess powers derived only from the consent of the governed.

13. Our constitutional representative republic remains the best political system, derived from history and knowledge of human nature, to prohibit tyranny, assure equality of opportunity and protect our individual rights.

14. The Constitution of the United States established a more perfect union of sovereign states, not a group of subordinate subsidiaries. Neither the judiciary nor the executive may effectively change the document via decisions, judicial opinions, or executive actions. The Constitution of the United States may only be altered by the processes of amendment as provided therein. The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land. Under the Tenth Amendment, powers not enumerated in it are reserved to the States and the People. The most effective, responsible, and responsive government is the government that is closest to the People. Government that governs least governs best.

### **American Exceptionalism**

15. The United States must maintain and defend its national sovereignty free from foreign and domestic influences that would infringe on the rights of the American People guaranteed by the Constitution. Domestic foreign policies must serve the just interests of the legal residents of the United States.

### **Military**

16. It is incumbent on the federal government to maintain a strong military defense for the protection of our people, our interests, and our way of life. Those who serve our country honorably deserve our deepest gratitude, highest respect and unwavering support.

### **Taxes**

17. All taxes collected must be used for the constitutional purposes of government. It is irresponsible to run up debts that are passed on to our children and grandchildren. Taxes should never be more than necessary to meet the government's constitutional obligations.

### **Education**

18. The Wyoming Republican Party supports the teaching of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming, the Declaration of Independence, and

other United States founding documents as well as the factual history and heritage of the United States in Wyoming schools and the historical evidence of the role of faith and biblical principles in the founding of our nation.

### **Water and Land Rights**

19. The Wyoming Republican Party believes in the state's primacy over water, wildlife, minerals, and natural resources, and the lands within Wyoming that were unappropriated to the state on July 10, 1890, and supports any actions which assures Wyoming's primacy over its water; i.e. the doctrine of prior appropriations, and the land within its borders.

### **Right to Work**

20. The Wyoming Republican Party opposes the unionization of public employees and supports the Right to Work Law.

### **Civic Duty**

21. Our liberty and the continued success of our republican form of federal government demands continuous vigilance by "We the People."

### **Free Speech**

22. Freedom of speech is a fundamental right secured by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Wyoming. Freedom of speech includes the freedom of the individual to express his or her beliefs, ideas and opinions without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal sanction by government.

23. The integrity of our elections must be upheld. The Wyoming Republican Party opposes any federal takeover or interference of federal, state, or local elections.

Finally, having thus set forth our foundational principles and values, we invite all Wyoming citizens, who substantially agree with us, to offer their affirmation and support.

Passed: Wyoming Republican Party State Convention, 2024 April 20

### **The Wyoming Legislature and the Legislative Process:**

The Wyoming State Legislature is a citizen-run government body that meets annually to address state policy and budget matters. The legislature consists of a Senate with 31 members and a House of Representatives with 62 members, all dedicated to representing the interests of Wyoming's citizens.

Wyoming's legislative process is designed to ensure transparency, accountability, and public participation. The Legislature meets annually, with a 40-day general session held in even-numbered years and a 20-day budget session in odd-numbered years. Bills are introduced in either the Senate or House, each bill is assigned to a committee for detailed review and public testimony. Then the bill returns to the floor for debate and potential amendments. If passed in one chamber, it moves to the other chamber for the same process.

Once both chambers pass a bill, any differences are reconciled before the final version is sent to the Governor for approval, veto or going into law without his signature.

### **Stay Informed**

Wyoming citizens are encouraged to stay informed and engaged with the legislative process by tracking bills, contacting your legislators and watching live sessions at [wyoleg.gov](http://wyoleg.gov).

### **About Senator Cheri Steinmetz:**

Senator Cheri Steinmetz serves Senate District 3 and is committed to advocating for agriculture, water rights, and rural development issues. Senator Steinmetz represents Goshen, Niobrara and Weston Counties.

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