

WYOMING TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION



ACTION ALERT

WEEK TWO LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013

Week two of the 62nd Legislative session comes to an end with quite a bit of activity on tax issues. Perhaps the most monumental being the passage of HB 69 – Highway Funding. With a vote of 35-24-1, the bill passed 3rd reading in the House on Friday and now heads over to the Senate. All amendments were resisted except one that clarifies the constitutional direction of the funds to the highways specifically.

The Joint Appropriations Committee finalized mark-up on the supplemental budget bill. WTA will have a detailed summary of their recommendations next week.

BILLS OF INTEREST THIS WEEK

HB 69 – Highway Funding – Passing the House with a vote of 35-24-1, the bill now heads over to the Senate. The House resisted several amendments including one that targeted an increased impact towards diesel over gas; one that would have sunsetted the increase in six years; and one that would have phased the ten cent increase in over a period of 10 years, one cent at a time. **WTA continues to work with the Fuel Tax Coalition to support this bill.**

HB 78 Budget Review Process – Brings the WYDOT, Game & Fish under the standard budget review process. Would assume 5 more days for JAC to review the additional agencies. **The bill was amended in the House Appropriations Committee to entail a review of these two agencies and not fully bring them under the standard budget process. WTA testified in support of the bill.**

HB 170 – Streamlined Sales Tax – direct mail - The bill cleans up Wyoming's statutes as they pertain to taxation of direct mail and makes them compliant with the Streamlined Sales Tax Initiative. **WTA testified in support of the bill due to our long-time support of Wyoming's involvement in Streamlined.** The Committee agreed that it might be beneficial for Dan Noble with the Department of Revenue to give a detailed "101" on the Streamlined Sales Tax initiative during the interim.

SF 109 – Highway and Road Funding – Severance Taxes - This bill proposes to divert 50% of the current statutory severance tax distribution from the PMTF and distributed according to the current distribution for highway funding. Yield is approximately \$71M. **The bill is being held by the Senate Revenue Committee after this first hearing for the bill this week. At the time of discussion, HB 69 was still working its way through the House and the Committee decided to hold on to SF 109 in case HB 69 failed to come over to the Senate. Several folks noted that neither bill comes close to satisfying the needed \$134M/year that WYDOT needs to maintain the roads. Now that HB 69 is headed to the Senate, a more philosophical discussion how to fund highways and what option is best will ensue.**

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**WTA MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE – WTA WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MEETINGS EVERY  
MONDAY OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**WHERE:** 2120 CAREY AVE., CHEYENNE, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

**WHEN:** 2:00 PM

**WHY:** TO DISCUSS TIMELY LEGISLATIVE POLICY ISSUES, SUMMARY OF BILLS, AND MAKE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WTA POLICY DIRECTION.

**CALL:** 1-877-820-7831

**WYOMING'S LEADING TAX POLICY AND RESEARCH ORGANIZATION SINCE 1937.**

**PASS CODE: 6358761**

**ALL WTA MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

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2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SCHEDULE - TENTATIVE

Day 1 Tuesday, January 8 Session convenes.
 Day 12 Wednesday, January 23 Last day for Senate Files to be submitted to LSO for introduction. (noon)
 Day 15 Monday, January 28 Last day for House Bills to be submitted to LSO for introduction. (noon)
 Day 19 Friday, February 1 Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in house of origin.
 Day 20 Monday, February 4 Last day for Committee of the Whole in house of origin.
 Day 21 Tuesday, February 5 Last day for Second Reading in house of origin.
 Day 22 Wednesday, February 6 Last day for Third Reading on Bills in house of origin.
 Monday, February 18 President's Day Recess
 Day 32 Thursday, February 21 Last day for bills to be reported out of Committee in second house.
 Day 33 Friday, February 22 Last day for Committee of the Whole on bills in the second house.
 Day 34 Monday, February 25 Last day for Second Reading on bills in the second house.
 Day 35 Tuesday, February 26 Last day for Third Reading on bills in the second house.
 Day 36 Wednesday, February 27 Concurrence on Amendments/Joint Conference Committee Reports.
 Day 37 Thursday, February 28 Joint Conference Committee Reports; All JCC Reports due to Front Desk by 2:00 p.m.
 ADJOURN by Midnight.
 Friday, Monday, and Tuesday - March 1, 4 and 5 are available if necessary.