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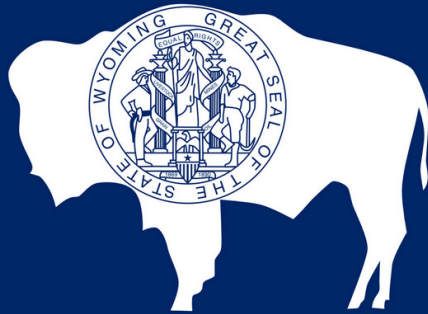
**8<sup>th</sup>  
EDITION**

**2022**

# Ratings *of* Wyoming

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[CPAC.ORG/RATINGS](https://cpac.org/ratings)





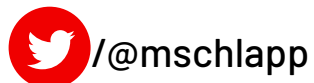
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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**MATT SCHLAPP**  
CHAIRMAN, CPAC



The CPAC Foundation's Center for Legislative Accountability is proud to present our Ratings of the States. Like our Ratings of Congress, CPAC's Foundation's Ratings of the States are meant to reflect how elected officials view the role of government in an individual's life. We begin with our philosophy (conservatism is the political philosophy that sovereignty resides in the person) and then apply the proper role of government (its essential role is to defend Life, Liberty and Property).

The Left has stormed our nation's corridors of power to take control over the lives of every American. Now, they have set their sights on the states, freedom's last line of defense.

President Lincoln once said, "America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves." The Left's agenda dismantles the vision of our founders when they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

We hope these Ratings will empower each and every American to hold their officials accountable and to rally behind the conservative champions who defend our freedoms in statehouses around the country.

Sincerely,

Matt Schlapp  
Chairman, CPAC



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# SELECTING THE VOTES

The Center for Legislative Accountability (CLA), an initiative of the CPAC Foundation, is the premier organization for holding lawmakers accountable. The CLA produces the longest-running conservative congressional scorecard and our state program is the only one in the nation that scores all 8,000 lawmakers in the 50 states across every policy area.

In 1971, ACUF launched its Ratings of Congress to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the voting records of every Member of Congress. The Ratings quickly became considered the “gold standard” and over the following decades have been utilized by activists, voters, academics and elected officials to determine which lawmakers best adhere to conservative principles.

In 2011, these Ratings were expanded into state legislatures as part of a five-state pilot program. By 2015, Ratings of the States grew to include all 50 states and all 99 legislative chambers. Today, the CLA annually analyzes over 105,000 pieces of legislation to issue scores for all of America’s federal and state lawmakers and presents awards to lawmakers who score 80% or better in recognition of their conservative voting records.

In order to depict how closely a lawmaker adheres to conservative principles, the CLA selects from the full spectrum of issues relating to the economy, culture, national security and government integrity. Some key areas include taxation, spending, education, labor, licensure, regulation, environment, life, free speech, Second Amendment rights, foreign aid, defense priorities and global organizations, including the United Nations. All congressional and state analyses are conducted after the adjournment of a legislative session to ensure that no issue is neglected.

To determine legislative rankings, the CLA annually evaluates over 105,000 bills that were introduced in Congress and every convening state legislature running from January 1 to December 31.

Of those bills, the CLA ultimately selects roughly 2,000 pieces of legislation that best illustrate how elected officials view the role of government in an individual’s life. The CLA calculates individual scores for a total of nearly 8,000 federal and state lawmakers based on over 157,000 votes cast on the 2,000 bills selected.

## Center for Legislative Accountability

**Thomas R. Bradbury**  
*Director of Policy*

**Larry Hart**  
*Senior Policy Fellow*

**Coleman Martinis**  
*Policy Fellow*

**James Winner**  
*Policy Associate*

20  
22



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90-100% - AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE EXCELLENCE

Senate

Bo Biteman

Lynn Hutchings

John Kolb

House

Chuck Gray\*

Rachel Rodriguez-Williams\*

Jeremy Haroldson

\*Perfect 100%

Mark Jennings

Pepper Ottman

Clarence Styvar



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80-89% - AWARD FOR CONSERVATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Senate

Anthony Bouchard Troy McKeown

Dan Dockstader Tim Salazar

Tim French Cheri Steinmetz

Tom James

House

John Bear Bill Fortner

Christopher Knapp Jim Blackburn

Chip Neiman Mark Baker

John Winter



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# WYOMING SENATE STATISTICS

OVERALL AVERAGE  
**71%**

REPUBLICAN AVERAGE

**73%**



DEMOCRAT AVERAGE

**32%**



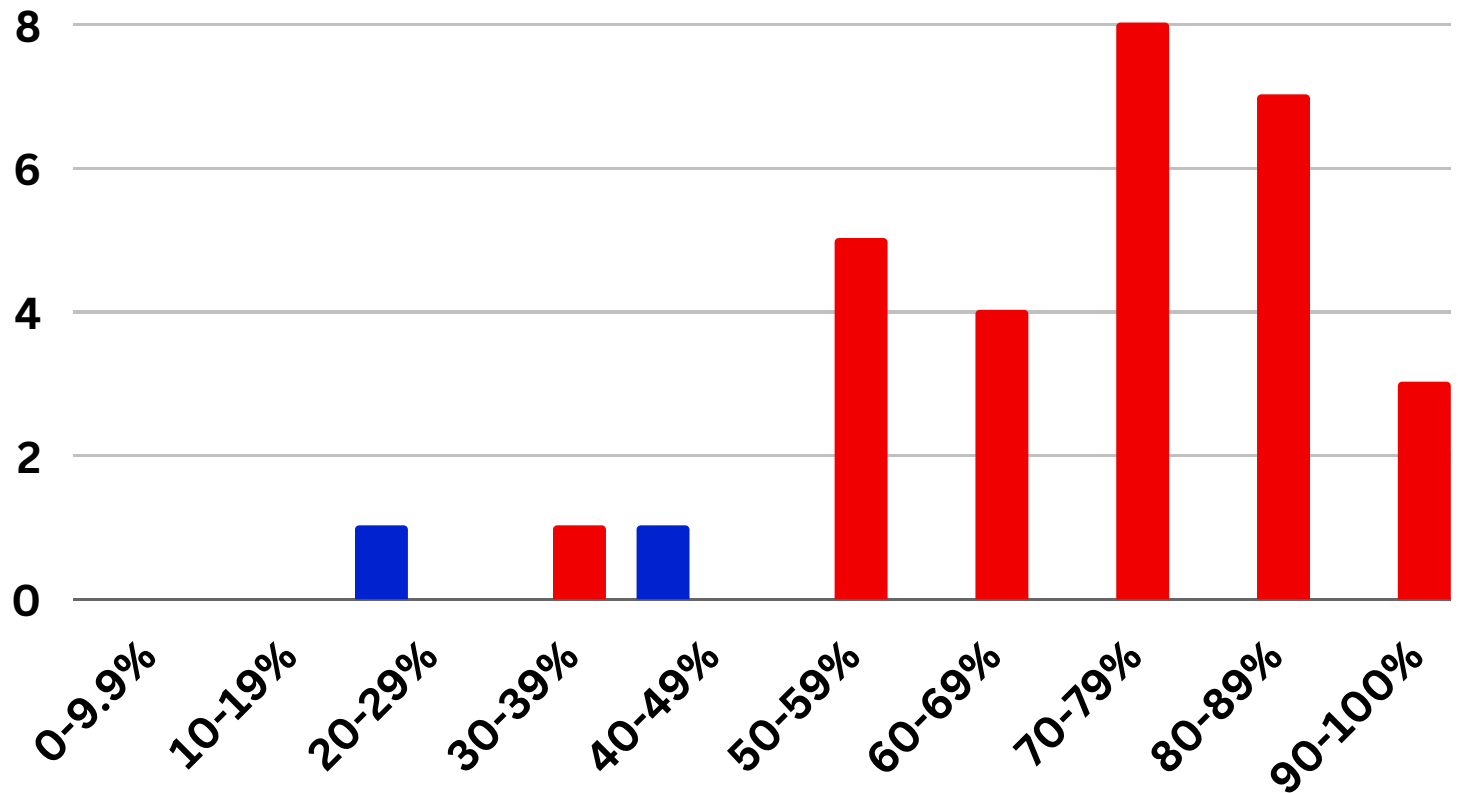
LOWEST REPUBLICAN  
CALE CASE  
**35%**



HIGHEST DEMOCRAT  
MIKE GIERAU  
**41%**



■ Democrat (2 Members)    ■ Republican (28 Members)





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# WYOMING HOUSE STATISTICS

OVERALL AVERAGE  
**53%**

## REPUBLICAN AVERAGE

**59%**

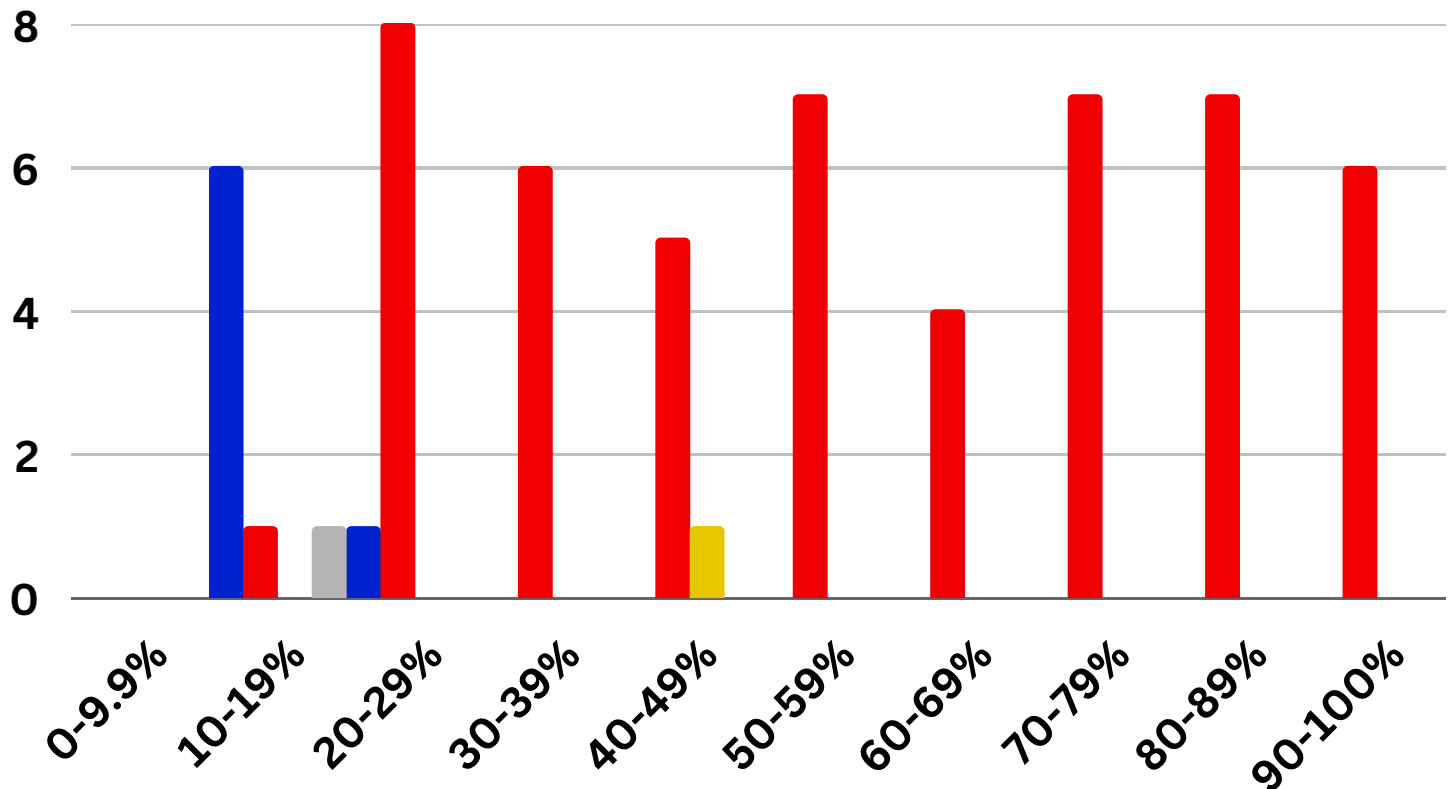


## DEMOCRAT AVERAGE

**14%**



- Democrat (7 Members)
- Republican (51 Members)
- Libertarian (1 Member)
- Independent (1 Member)



LOWEST REPUBLICAN  
**PAT SWEENEY**  
**18%**



HIGHEST DEMOCRAT  
**CHAD BANKS**  
**29%**





# WYOMING SENATE SCORES

	Party	2022%	2021%	Lifetime%	HB 46	HB 92	HB 96	HB 105	SF 1 Amd. 2008	SF 9	SF 51	SF 54	SF 55	SF 62	SF 69	SF 83	SF 96	SF 98	SF 102	SF 103	SF 104
James Lee Anderson	R	75%	74%	65%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+
Fred Baldwin	R	59%	67%	62%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
Bo Biteman	R	94%	89%	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Brian Boner	R	76%	77%	77%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Anthony Bouchard	R	88%	87%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Cale Case	R	35%	43%	56%	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Ed Cooper	R	65%	71%	68%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Dan Dockstader	R	88%	84%	76%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ogden Driskill	R	76%	76%	71%	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Affie Ellis	R	73%	70%	61%	-	-	-	+	-	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+
Tim French	R	88%	90%	89%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Dan Furphy	R	56%	71%	54%	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	X	+	+	+
Mike Gierau	D	41%	48%	39%	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-
Larry Hicks	R	71%	74%	77%	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lynn Hutchings	R	93%	90%	86%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	-	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	+
Tom James	R	88%	90%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Dave Kinskey	R	71%	81%	74%	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-
John Kolb	R	94%	81%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
R. J. Kost	R	65%	71%	59%	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
Bill Landen	R	56%	67%	60%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	X	+	+	-
Troy McKeown	R	88%	87%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Tara Nethercott	R	75%	74%	69%	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	-
Stephen Pappas	R	50%	67%	55%	-	X	X	X	-	-	+	+	X	-	+	+	+	+	X	-	-
Drew Perkins	R	65%	72%	63%	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-
Chris Rothfuss	D	24%	29%	29%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-
Tim Salazar	R	88%	77%	78%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Wendy Schuler	R	71%	63%	60%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Charles Scott	R	59%	73%	67%	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Cheri Steinmetz	R	88%	90%	82%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jeff Wasserburger	R	65%	70%	54%	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+

(+) : Member voted with the conservative position (-) : Member voted liberal (x) : Member was absent for the vote (N/a) : Member did not vote on 2/3 of the scored votes and did not receive a score for the 2022 ratings.



## **HB 46 Burdening Taxpayers by Expanding the State Business Loan Program.**

This bill greatly increases the total maximum amount of loans that may be given to certain community and state development organizations under the state business loan program. CPAC believes that the government should only be a lender of last resort, opposes putting the taxpayer on the hook for these programs, and opposed this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 3, 2022 by a vote of 20-10 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 92 Limiting Abortion Procedures.**

This bill states that, following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, it will prohibit all abortion procedures in the state of Wyoming except for when certain conditions are met. For example, abortion will still be permitted when a woman's pregnancy occurs because of rape or incest or when such a procedure is necessary to prevent irreversible physical impairment to the woman's bodily functions. CPAC believes that abortion is always a tragedy, supports restrictions on the practice, and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 24-5 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 96 Increasing the Salaries of Certain State Officials.**

This bill increases the annual salary of the governor from \$105,000 to \$140,000 and the annual salary of other select officials like the secretary of state from \$92,500 to \$125,000. CPAC does not believe that there exists a shortage of people willing to become the governor of Wyoming large enough to necessitate a salary increase and questions the need for this change. CPAC, therefore, opposed this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 18-11 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 105 Pro Energy Tax Reduction.**

This bill decreases the severance tax rate for coal from 7 to 6.5%. CPAC supports reducing taxes that intentionally disadvantage certain industries and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 25-4 and the bill later became law.

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## **SF 1 (Amd. 2008) Wasting Taxpayer Funds on Non-Essential Functions.**

The Landen (CPAC Lifetime Rating 60%) amendment to the Wyoming General Appropriations bill increases the amount of funds allotted by the government to certain artistic, historic, and cultural resources from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000. CPAC opposes the use of taxpayer funds for non-essential government purposes and opposed this amendment. The Senate defeated the amendment on February 23, 2022 by a vote of 10-20.

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## **SF 9 Issuing Unnecessary Government Bonds.**

This bill authorizes the Wyoming business council to issue \$50,000,000 of revenue bonds to agricultural processing projects. CPAC opposes both risking taxpayer funds on revenue bonds and creating government-favored industries and opposed this bill. The Senate passed the bill in its final form on March 8, 2022 by a vote of 17-13 and the bill later became law.

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## **SF 51 Protecting Women's Sports.**

This bill prohibits members of the male sex from competing on women's public school sports teams. CPAC supports the creation of a fair and safe environment of play in school sports teams and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 2, 2022 by a vote of 24-5 but failed by roll call vote in the House.

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## **SF 54 Recognizing Out-Of-State Licensed Counselors.**

This bill enters Wyoming into a multi-state licensure compact that allows licensed counselors from one compact state to practice in other compact states. CPAC supports the easing of complex occupational licensing regimes and supported this bill as a step in the right direction. The Senate voted to introduce this bill on February 18, 2022 by a vote of 20-9 but the bill later stalled in a Senate committee.

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## **SF 55 Establishing a Regulatory Sandbox in the Insurance Industry.**

This bill creates a regulatory sandbox for insurance providers. For the space of up to 24 months, selected insurance firms may sell novel products without many of the normal regulations that would be otherwise attendant to this process. CPAC supports the regulatory sandbox approach and supported this bill. The Senate passed the final version of the bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 26-3 but the bill was vetoed by the governor.

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## **SF 62 School Curriculum Transparency.**

This bill, known as the Civics Transparency Act, forces each school district to publish their school's learning materials and the policies and procedures that govern the approval of such materials on their website. CPAC supports requirements that give parents a knowledge of what their child is being taught in school and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on February 28, 2022 by a vote of 18-12 but the bill died in a House committee.

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## **SF 69 Creating Property Tax Limits.**

This bill prohibits the taxable value of any real or personal property of a particular class from increasing by more than 5% of the taxable value that was determined in the prior year. CPAC supports appropriate efforts to alleviate tax burdens whenever possible and supported this bill. The Senate voted to introduce this bill on February 18, 2022 by a vote of 23-6 but the bill later died in a Senate committee.

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## **SF 83 Prohibiting Dangerous Chemical Abortion Drugs.**

This bill prohibits the sale or purchase of chemical abortion drugs for the purpose of procuring or performing an abortion. CPAC believes abortion is always a human tragedy and further recognizes the heightened health risk to mothers posed by chemical abortion drugs. CPAC further supports restrictions on the practice of abortion and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on March 2, 2022 by a vote of 20-9 but the bill was not taken up in the House.

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### **SF 96 Prohibition on Ballot Harvesting.**

This bill prohibits the act of soliciting, gathering, or submitting completed absentee ballots from qualified electors save under a few limited conditions. This prevents interested organizations from “ballot harvesting,” an activity in which agenda-driven groups strategically collect ballots from voters in a manner that leads to their political gain. CPAC supports efforts to preserve free and fair elections and supported this bill. The Senate voted to introduce this bill on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 27-3 but the bill stalled in a Senate committee.

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### **SF 98 Preventing the Misuse of Taxpayer Money.**

This bill limits the expenditure of COVID-19 relief funds by certain state authorities, moving up the sunset date for a number of emergency programs. CPAC supports the prudent use of taxpayer funds and supported this bill. The Senate passed the bill on March 7, 2022 by a vote of 26-0 and the bill later became law.

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### **SF 102 Upholding Second Amendment Rights.**

This bill, known as the Second Amendment Protection Act, prohibits state personnel from enforcing unconstitutional federal regulations targeting firearms, firearm accessories, magazines, and ammunition. CPAC recognizes that the ATF and other government entities are not above the constitution and trusts in the founders’ faith in the Second Amendment and supported this bill. The Senate passed the final version of this bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 22-7 and the bill later became law.

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### **SF 103 Stopping the Teaching of Critical Race Theory in Public Schools.**

This bill requires grade schools to conduct their teaching in accordance with basic certain valuable principles. These principles include those that dictate that no person is inherently racist because of their race and that state that meritocracy is fundamental to the right to pursue happiness. CPAC supports measures to eliminate racist curricula in schools and supported this bill. The Senate passed this bill on February 23, 2022 by a vote of 25-4 but the bill died in committee in the House.

---

### **SF 104 Improving Legislative Oversight of Federal Funds.**

This bill requires that the approval of the legislature be obtained if federal funds are to be spent in excess of that apportioned by any legislative appropriations act. CPAC supports this as sound fiscal policy and supported this bill. The Senate voted against introducing this bill on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 18-12 (a 2/3 vote was needed for it to be introduced).

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# WYOMING HOUSE SCORES

	Party	2022%	2021%	Lifetime%	HB1 Amd. 2011	HB1 Amd. 2043	HB1 Amd. 3043.01	HB 35	HB 40	HB 46	HB 48	HB 92	HB 93	HB 96	HB 97	HB 105	HB 135	SF 9	SF 51	SF 98	SF 102
Ocean Andrew	R	76%	90%	83%	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Mark Baker	R	81%	81%	77%	+	+	x	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Chad Banks	D	29%	39%	34%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Eric Barlow	R	35%	71%	60%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
John Bear	R	88%	81%	85%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jim Blackburn	R	82%	81%	78%	x	x	x	+	+	x	+	+	+	x	+	x	+	-	+	-	+
Landon Brown	R	46%	71%	52%	-	-	+	x	+	-	x	+	-	-	x	-	x	+	-	+	+
Donald Burkhardt, Jr	R	71%	68%	65%	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Marshall Burt	L	53%	81%	67%	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+
Aaron Clausen	R	69%	74%	70%	+	+	-	+	-	x	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+
Cathy Connolly	D	12%	23%	29%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Barry Crago	R	59%	65%	62%	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Shelly Duncan	R	47%	74%	52%	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
John Eklund	R	53%	77%	60%	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Danny Eyre	R	35%	63%	59%	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
Jamie Flitner	R	35%	68%	58%	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Bill Fortner	R	82%	83%	83%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-
Chuck Gray	R	100%	90%	89%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mike Greear	R	54%	69%	59%	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	x	x	x	x
Tim Hallinan	R	76%	65%	70%	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Jeremy Haroldson	R	94%	90%	92%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Steve Harshman	R	29%	56%	52%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Scott Heiner	R	71%	71%	71%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
Bill Henderson	R	41%	65%	49%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Mark Jennings	R	94%	83%	84%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
Mark Kinner	R	35%	65%	48%	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
Christopher Knapp	R	88%	77%	83%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
Lloyd Larsen	R	47%	68%	58%	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+
Dan Laursen	R	71%	81%	77%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-
Andi LeBeau	D	12%	23%	19%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

(+) : Member voted with the conservative position (-) : Member voted liberal (x) : Member was absent for the vote (N/a) : Member did not vote on 2/3 of the scored votes and did not receive a score for the 2022 ratings.



	Party	2022%	2021%	Lifetime%	HB 1 Amd. 2011	HB 1 Amd. 2043	HB 1 Amd. 3043.01	HB 35	HB 40	HB 46	HB 48	HB 92	HB 93	HB 96	HB 97	HB 105	HB 135	SF 9	SF 51	SF 98	SF 102
Joe MacGuire	R	29%	68%	52%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
Chip Neiman	R	88%	77%	83%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
Sandy Newsome	R	35%	69%	46%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
Bob Nicholas	R	24%	55%	43%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+
Ember Oakley	R	65%	65%	65%	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Jerry Obermueller	R	25%	61%	49%	-	-	-	+	-	X	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Kevin O'Hearn	R	33%	61%	47%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	+	+	+	X	X	X	X
Jared Olsen	R	65%	68%	65%	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Pepper Ottman	R	94%	86%	90%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jerry Paxton	R	29%	65%	50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Karlee Provenza	D	12%	29%	20%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Rachel Rodriguez-Williams	R	100%	81%	91%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
John Romero-Martinez	R	53%	68%	60%	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Jim Roscoe	I	18%	39%	28%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
Andy Schwartz	D	12%	35%	29%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Trey Sherwood	D	13%	29%	21%	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Evan Simpson	R	53%	77%	56%	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+
Albert Sommers	R	24%	61%	48%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
Clark Stith	R	41%	61%	53%	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+
Clarence Styvar	R	94%	81%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
Pat Sweeney	R	18%	57%	40%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
Tom Walters	R	29%	71%	42%	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
Art Washut	R	65%	73%	70%	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Cyrus Western	R	59%	71%	61%	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+
Robert Wharff	R	71%	81%	76%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-
J. D. Williams	R	76%	N/A	76%	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
Sue Wilson	R	53%	65%	62%	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-
John Winter	R	88%	84%	78%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
Mike Yin	D	12%	26%	25%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
Dan Zwonitzer	R	24%	55%	51%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+

(+) : Member voted with the conservative position (-) : Member voted liberal (x) : Member was absent for the vote (N/a) : Member did not vote on 2/3 of the scored votes and did not receive a score for the 2022 ratings.



## **HB1 (Amd. 2011) Wasting Taxpayer Funds on Non-Essential Functions.**

The Sommers Amendment (CPAC Lifetime Rating 48%) to the Wyoming General Appropriations bill increases the amount of funds allotted by the government to certain artistic, historic, and cultural resources from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000. CPAC opposes using taxpayer funds for non-essential government purposes and opposed this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on February 23, 2022 by a vote of 23-36.

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## **HB1 (Amd. 2043) Creating a School Voucher Pilot Program.**

The Laursen (CPAC Lifetime Rating 77%) amendment to the Wyoming General Appropriations bill provides funds to the state superintendent such that he/she may create a school voucher program. CPAC supports school choice and the competition that it introduces into the education landscape and supported this bill as a step in the right direction. The House defeated this amendment on February 23, 2022 by a vote of 25-34.

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## **HB 1 (Amd. 3043.01) Advancing Unnecessary Spending.**

The Nicholas (CPAC Lifetime 43%) amendment directs \$2,500,000 to the state fair. CPAC believes that promoting entertainment events is not an essential role of government, opposes the use of taxpayer funds for non-essential government functions, and opposed this amendment. The House defeated the amendment on February 25, 2022 by a vote of 28-30.

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## **HB 35 Allowing for a County Excise Tax.**

This bill allows counties, with the approval of voters, to impose a 1% excise tax on some sales of real estate. CPAC opposes opening more avenues for counties to raise taxes and opposed this bill. The House voted against introducing the bill on February 16, 2022 by a vote of 19-40.

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## **HB 40 Instituting Vague Housing Allowances.**

This bill allows certain justices in the state of Wyoming to receive housing assistance if the average cost of housing in the place they are residing is "significantly higher" than the statewide average. The language of this bill provides little specification regarding the amount of assistance that may be provided. CPAC opposes this type of vagueness in our laws and opposed this bill. The House voted against introducing the bill on February 15, 2022 by a vote of 37-23 (a 2/3 vote was needed for it to be introduced).

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## **HB 46 Burdening Taxpayers by Expanding the State Business Loan Program.**

This bill greatly increases the total maximum amount of loans that may be given to certain community and state development organizations under the state business loan program. CPAC believes that the government should only be a lender of last resort, opposes putting the taxpayer on the hook for these programs, and opposed this bill. The House passed this bill on February 21, 2022 by a vote of 44-12 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 48 Establishing Tourism Improvement Districts.**

This bill allows governing bodies within the state of Wyoming to establish so-called “tourism improvement districts,” the likes of which are created so as to implement and administer activities designed to foster tourism. This district would fund its functions by adopting “assessments” on businesses within its bounds. CPAC believes the free market, not the government, should direct the course of tourism promotion and opposed this bill. The House voted against introducing this bill on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 30-29 (a 2/3 vote was needed for it to be introduced).

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## **HB 92 Limiting Abortion Procedures.**

This bill states that, following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, it will prohibit all abortion procedures in the state of Wyoming except when certain conditions are met. For example, abortion will still be permitted when a woman’s pregnancy occurs because of rape or incest or when such a procedure is necessary to prevent irreversible physical impairment to the woman’s bodily functions. CPAC believes that abortion is always a tragedy, supports restrictions on the practice, and supported this bill. The House passed the final version of this bill on March 10, 2022 by a vote of 45-14 and the bill later became law when *Roe v. Wade* was overturned.

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## **HB 93 Instituting Money Rebates for Film Productions.**

This bill creates the Wyoming film production incentives program. This program provides qualifying cinematic productions in the state of Wyoming with total monetary rebates of up to 30% of their qualifying expenditures. CPAC does not believe that these programs are effective and opposed this bill. The House voted against introducing this bill on February 15, 2022 by a vote of 32-28 (a 2/3 vote was needed for it to be introduced).

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## **HB 96 Increasing the Salaries of Certain State Officials.**

This bill increases the annual salary of the governor from \$105,000 to \$140,000 and the annual salary of other select officials like the secretary of state from \$92,500 to \$125,000. CPAC does not believe that there exists a shortage of people willing to become the governor of Wyoming large enough to necessitate a salary increase and questions the need for this law. CPAC, therefore, opposed this bill. The House passed this bill on March 1, 2022 by a vote of 40-19 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 97 Banning the Teaching of Racist Principles in Public Schools.**

This bill bans the teaching of CRT-adjacent and other racist principles in schools to children. These principles include those that state that someone is inherently biased because of their race, that proclaim one's moral character is determined by their race, and that hold that meritocracy is racist. CPAC opposes the teaching of racist principles like these in public schools and supported this bill. The House voted against introducing this bill on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 35-24 (a 2/3 vote was needed for it to be introduced).

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## **HB 105 Pro Energy Tax Reduction.**

This bill decreases the severance tax rate for coal from 7 to 6.5%. CPAC supports reducing taxes that intentionally disadvantage certain industries and supported this bill. The House passed this bill on March 1, 2022 by a vote of 40-19 and the bill later became law.

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## **HB 135 Establishing a Regulatory Sandbox.**

This bill establishes a regulatory sandbox program that would allow some businesses to, for the space of 12 months, bring their product to market without being subject to some of the onerous rules and regulations normally attendant to such a process. CPAC supports the regulatory sandbox concept as a valuable model for other states to follow and supported this bill. The House voted to introduce the bill on February 17, 2022 by a vote of 41-18 but the bill later stalled in a House committee.

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## **SF 9 Issuing Government Bonds.**

This bill authorizes the Wyoming business council to issue \$50,000,000 of revenue bonds to agricultural processing projects. CPAC opposes both risking taxpayer funds on revenue bonds and creating government-favored industries and opposed this bill. The House passed the bill on March 7, 2022 by a vote of 44-14 and the bill later became law.

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## **SF 51 Protecting Women's Sports.**

This bill prohibits members of the male sex from competing on women's public school sports teams. CPAC supports the creation of a fair and safe environment of play in school sports teams and supported this bill. The House defeated this bill by a roll call vote on March 7, 2022 by a vote of 21-37.

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# WYOMING HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

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## **SF 98 Preventing the Misuse of Taxpayer Money.**

This bill limits the expenditure of COVID-19 relief funds by certain state authorities, moving up the sunset date for a number of emergency programs. CPAC supports the prudent use of taxpayer funds and supported this bill. The House passed this bill on March 7, 2022 by a vote of 45-13 and the bill later became law.

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## **SF 102 Upholding Second Amendment Rights.**

This bill, known as the Second Amendment Protection Act, prohibits state personnel from enforcing unconstitutional federal regulations targeting firearms, firearm accessories, magazines, and ammunition. CPAC recognizes that the ATF and other government entities are not above the constitution and trusts in the founders' faith in the Second Amendment and supported this bill. The House passed the final version of this bill on March 9, 2022 by a vote of 43-15 and the bill later became law.

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