

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0013

Education as free as possible.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman, Cohee and Wasserburger

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION to determine means of making higher
2 education in Wyoming as free as possible.

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4 WHEREAS, an estimated eighty percent (80%) of new jobs in
5 Wyoming are anticipated to require post-secondary
6 education;

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8 WHEREAS, Wyoming suffers from one of the highest high
9 school dropout rates in the country;

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11 WHEREAS, Wyoming suffers from one of the lowest rates of
12 high school graduates attending higher education
13 institutions;

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15 WHEREAS, Wyoming's population is aging as young citizens
16 leave the state;

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2 WHEREAS, reward for hard work is a recognized Wyoming
3 value;

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5 WHEREAS, the Wyoming Constitution Article 7, Section 16
6 mandates that instruction at the University of Wyoming
7 should be furnished as nearly free as possible; and

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9 WHEREAS, the state of Wyoming currently enjoys a forecast
10 budget surplus and there can be no greater investment made
11 by the state of Wyoming than the investment in its young
12 citizens.

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14 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
15 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

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17 The Wyoming legislature, University of Wyoming,
18 Wyoming community colleges and the department of education
19 should study student post-secondary education tuition
20 assistance and report the results of its study to the
21 legislature. The study should evaluate programs in other
22 states and develop recommendations for implementation of
23 student merit and need based tuition assistance in Wyoming.
24 Study recommendations should include programs designed and

1 structured to increase post-secondary education attendance
2 rates by Wyoming high school graduates and should identify
3 requirements to best achieve the desired result of making
4 higher education public instruction as free as possible to
5 Wyoming citizens.

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7 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
8 transmit copies of this resolution to the board of trustees
9 of the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Community College
10 Commission and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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(END)