

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0094

Environmental health study.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health and Social Services
Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to health care; authorizing a study of
2 environmental health risks and dangers confronting the
3 citizens of Wyoming; specifying duties of the department of
4 health in conducting the study; requiring the cooperation
5 of state agencies as specified; requiring reports and
6 recommendations; providing an appropriation; and providing
7 for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.**

12

13 (a) The department of health shall conduct a study of
14 natural and man-made environmental threats to the public
15 health and safety of the citizens of Wyoming. The study
16 shall include a catalog of environmental health issues

1 currently identified, the state and federal agencies to
2 whom those issues are currently assigned, those
3 environmental health threats identified but not clearly
4 assigned to a particular state agency and those
5 environmental health issues that are reasonably expected to
6 become more significant public health threats in the
7 foreseeable future.

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9 (b) The study shall examine any problems created for
10 citizens, businesses and governmental entities by
11 overlapping governmental jurisdiction and jurisdictional
12 gaps in environmental health matters and, to the extent
13 needed, shall recommend solutions to these problems.

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15 (c) In conducting the study, the department of health
16 shall consult with and have the cooperation of the
17 department of agriculture, the department of environmental
18 quality and any other state agency as appropriate, and
19 shall consult with public and private stakeholders as
20 appropriate.

21

22 (d) The department shall produce a comprehensive plan
23 to coordinate and clarify agency responsibility for
24 environmental health issues. The report of the study and

1 plan with recommendations for any initial legislation shall
2 be submitted to the joint labor, health and social services
3 interim committee by October 15, 2005.

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5 (e) The department may contract with a consultant to
6 act as facilitator of the study described in subsection (a)
7 of this section. The department shall widely disseminate
8 requests, including through electronic media, for the
9 active participation of private groups and organizations in
10 the development of the plan. Before submitting the final
11 plan to the joint labor, health and social services interim
12 committee, the department shall issue a draft of the plan
13 for public review and hold at least one (1) public meeting
14 in a central location in the state to receive public
15 comments on each plan.

16

17 (f) In addition to the appropriation contained in
18 subsection (g) of this section, the department of health
19 may utilize existing resources and apply for any federal or
20 private grants that may be available to augment funding for
21 the study and plan required under this act.

22

1 (g) There is appropriated from the general fund to
2 the department of health fifty thousand dollars
3 (\$50,000.00) to implement the purposes of this act.

4

5 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
6 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
7 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
8 Constitution.

9

10

(END)