

## 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 budget  
10 surplus and there can be no greater investment made by the  
11 state of Wyoming than the investment in its young citizens.

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

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

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

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

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(END)