

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Probate task force.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the administration of government;
 2 creating a task force to study probate procedures in
 3 Wyoming; specifying membership and duties; requiring a
 4 report; providing an appropriation; and providing for an
 5 effective date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.**

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11 (a) There is created a task force on probate
 12 procedures.

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14 (b) The task force shall be comprised of:

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16 (i) Two (2) members of the Wyoming senate,
 17 appointed by the president of the senate. Not more than

1 one (1) member shall be of the same political party. The
2 president of the senate shall designate a cochairman of the
3 task force;

4
5 (ii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming house of
6 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house.
7 Not more than one (1) member shall be of the same political
8 party. The speaker of the house shall designate a
9 cochairman of the task force;

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11 (iii) The following, selected jointly by the
12 president of the senate and the speaker of the house:

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14 (A) Three (3) members of the Wyoming state
15 bar, practicing in probate law;

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17 (B) One (1) person licensed as a certified
18 public accountant, experienced in trust and estate tax
19 matters;

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21 (C) One (1) person who is employed as a
22 trust officer or fiduciary;

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24 (D) One (1) clerk of district court.

1

2 (c) The task force shall:

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4 (i) Meet no less than four (4) times;

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6 (ii) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the
7 current probate procedures in Wyoming, including any
8 applicable exemptions affecting probate, to identify
9 inefficiencies and unnecessary procedures that may
10 complicate probate matters for individuals, their
11 representatives, creditors and others affected by probate;

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13 (iii) Review the Uniform Probate Code published
14 by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform
15 State Laws;

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17 (iv) Develop a recommendation on whether Wyoming
18 should enact the Uniform Probate Code, or revise the
19 Wyoming Probate Code to simplify procedures and eliminate
20 inefficiencies, and submit draft legislation for
21 consideration by the joint judiciary interim committee;

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1 (v) Report its findings and recommendations to
2 the joint judiciary interim committee no later than
3 November 1, 2007.

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5 (d) Legislators serving on the task force shall be
6 paid salary, per diem and travel expenses as provided in
7 W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as members of the
8 task force. Nonlegislative members serving on the task
9 force shall receive travel and per diem expenses incurred
10 for their official duties as members of the task force in
11 the same amount as legislative members under W.S. 28-5-101.

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13 (e) The task force shall be staffed by the
14 legislative service office. State agencies, including the
15 University of Wyoming, shall assist the task force as
16 requested in conducting its duties under this act.

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18 **Section 2.** There is appropriated twenty-five thousand
19 dollars (\$25,000.00) from the general fund to the
20 legislative service office for purposes of this act.

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1 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

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6

(END)