

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0248

Physician assistant school.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman and Senator(s)
Barrasso

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating education; establishing a task force to
2 review the possibility of opening a physician assistant
3 school in Wyoming; reappropriating funds; providing for a
4 report; and providing for an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.**

9

10 (a) There is created a physician assistant training
11 program task force consisting of the following members, who
12 shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman:

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14 (i) Two (2) members from the University of
15 Wyoming appointed by the president of the University of
16 Wyoming;

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2 (ii) Two (2) members of the state board of
3 medicine, one (1) of whom shall be physician assistant;

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5 (iii) Two (2) members appointed by the chairman
6 of the Wyoming community college commission;

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8 (iv) Two (2) members appointed by the governor
9 with distinguished credentials and experience in medicine or
10 academics;

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12 (v) Two (2) members shall be members of the
13 legislature, one (1) appointed by the speaker of the house
14 of representatives and one (1) appointed by the president of
15 the senate.

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17 (b) The task force shall:

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19 (i) Study the feasibility of a joint venture
20 between the University of Wyoming and a Wyoming community
21 college to develop an accredited physician assistant
22 training program in Wyoming;

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1 (ii) Develop a plan for the content of the
2 physician assistant training program, which shall include
3 the mission, academic program and financial plan;
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5 (iii) Identify opportunities to establish
6 relationships with other nationally recognized medical
7 schools for the operation of the physician assistant
8 training program, including collaborating with a higher
9 education institution that currently offers an accredited
10 physician assistant program to offer as much of the program
11 as possible or to periodically offer the program to a
12 cohort of students;
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14 (iv) Develop a business plan for determining the
15 appropriate tuition levels, with the ability to offer
16 resident incentives;
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18 (v) Determine the need for facilities to
19 implement the plans for the physician assistant training
20 program located in Wyoming, including maximizing existing
21 facilities for health care professional training programs
22 and if necessary, acquiring new facilities to accommodate
23 the program; and
24

1 (vi) Develop a proposed budget for implementing
2 its recommendations.

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4 (c) The physician assistant training program task
5 force shall report its plan for the physician assistant
6 training program together with any recommendations for
7 additional legislation necessary to implement the plan to
8 the joint labor, health and social services interim
9 committee, the joint appropriations interim committee and
10 the governor no later than December 1, 2007.

11

12 (d) The task force shall be staffed by the governor's
13 office. The task force may contract for administrative and
14 research services to aid in preparation of the task force
15 report. The governor's office shall convene the task force
16 no later than May 1, 2007.

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18 (e) The task force shall exist until December 1, 2007.
19 Members of the task force who are not legislators shall not
20 receive a salary but shall receive reimbursement for
21 necessary travel and per diem expenses in the manner and
22 amount provided for state employees under W.S. 9-3-102 and
23 9-3-103. Members of the task force who are legislators
24 shall be paid salary, per diem and travel expenses as

1 provided in W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as
2 members of the task force.

3
4 **Section 2.** For purposes of this act for the fiscal
5 biennium ending June 30, 2008, there is appropriated one-
6 half (1/2) of all unexpended funds previously appropriated
7 to the legislative service office by 2005 Session Laws,
8 Chapter 190, Section 6. Of this amount, ten thousand
9 dollars (\$10,000.00) is appropriated to the legislative
10 service office to fund the salaries, per diem and travel
11 expenses of the state legislative members of the task force
12 pursuant to section 1 of this act. The remainder is
13 appropriated to the governor's office to fund the meetings
14 and activities of the task force and to contract with
15 appropriate professionals as necessary to complete the
16 duties assigned to the task force in section 1 of this act.

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

22
23 (END)