

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0256

Illegal drug law enforcement initiative.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Quarberg, Gentile and
White and Senator(s) Fecht

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to illegal drugs; increasing funding for
2 law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys efforts to
3 prosecute illegal use of methamphetamine and other
4 controlled substances and to address associated problems;
5 providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective
6 date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.**

11

12 (a) There is appropriated two million dollars
13 (\$2,000,000.00) from the general fund to the office of the
14 attorney general for the period beginning with the
15 effective date of this act, to provide funding for the
16 purposes of purchasing law enforcement equipment, including

1 canines, employing law enforcement officers, public
2 defenders and prosecuting attorneys, or providing overtime
3 pay to current law enforcement officers to investigate and
4 assist in the prosecution of offenses related to the use,
5 sale or manufacture of methamphetamine or other controlled
6 substances. Funds appropriated under this section may also
7 be used to pay for tests for the use of illegal drugs and
8 controlled substances for persons who have been convicted
9 of a crime or adjudicated delinquents. Equipment purchased
10 pursuant to this subsection shall be limited to specialized
11 equipment relating directly to the enforcement and
12 investigation of offenses related to the use, sale or
13 manufacture of methamphetamine or other controlled
14 substances.

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16 (b) The attorney general shall establish criteria for
17 reviewing and awarding grants under this section that meet
18 the purposes set forth in subsection (a) of this section.
19 In addition, the attorney general shall establish a
20 reporting system requiring recipients of grants under this
21 section to report annually to him detailing the expenditure
22 of funds and specifically describing accomplishments and
23 quantifying results.

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1 (c) Local governments, the Wyoming division of
2 criminal investigation and the office of public defender
3 may apply for grants under this section. Grant requests
4 shall be reviewed by the attorney general's office who
5 shall make recommendations for funding to the governor's
6 advisory board on substance abuse and violent crime, which
7 board shall determine the grants to be awarded. Any funds
8 awarded under this section shall not be used to supplant
9 funds currently being used by the grantee.

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11 (d) There is appropriated from the general fund one
12 million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the period beginning
13 with the effective date of this act for competitive grants
14 to cities and counties for probation services for juveniles
15 sentenced to probation by circuit or municipal courts. In
16 awarding grants, the attorney general shall consider:

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18 (i) The adequacy of the system proposed for
19 identifying juveniles who are most at risk of progressing
20 to serious drug offenses if not placed on probation to
21 ensure that necessary treatment requirements are complied
22 with;

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1 (ii) The availability of treatment resources
2 which can treat the probationers; and

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4 (iii) The demonstrated need for financial
5 resources of the local government applying.

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7 (e) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-207(a), any funds that
8 are unobligated or unencumbered on June 30, 2008, shall not
9 revert to the general fund and shall remain available for
10 the attorney general to award as grants authorized under
11 this act.

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

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18

(END)