

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0028

Workforce training appropriation.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to workforce training and development;
2 appropriating funds for start-up costs of workforce
3 training programs; establishing an advisory council
4 appointed by the governor and comprised of industry
5 representatives to assist the community college commission
6 in distributing funds to eligible programs; defining
7 training and prescribing eligibility criteria parameters;
8 granting rulemaking authority; providing an administrative
9 appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.**

14

15 (a) For the period commencing July 1, 2008, and
16 ending June 30, 2009, fifteen million dollars
17 (\$15,000,000.00) is appropriated from the general fund to

1 the Wyoming community college commission to fund start-up
2 costs of workforce training and development programs
3 pursuant to this section. Programs eligible for funding
4 under this section shall be based upon recommendations of
5 the workforce training and development advisory council
6 created by this section and approved by the commission in
7 accordance with criteria established by the commission.

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9 (b) As used in this section, "workforce training"
10 means training that meets current, projected or emerging
11 shortages in the Wyoming economy, with consideration given
12 to the goal of diversification.

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14 (c) The Wyoming workforce training and development
15 advisory council is created to prioritize and recommend
16 workforce training and development projects to the Wyoming
17 community college commission for funding under this
18 section. Not later than June 1, 2008, the governor shall
19 appoint seven (7) members to the council from among
20 representatives of the major industries in Wyoming,
21 including mining and minerals, agriculture, manufacturing,
22 tourism and small business. Members of the council shall
23 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed by the
24 community college commission for travel and per diem

1 expenses in the manner and amount provided by law for state
2 employees, as necessary to carry out duties imposed under
3 this section.

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5 (d) Subject to subsection (e) of this section, the
6 Wyoming community college commission shall by rule and
7 regulation on or before July 1, 2008, establish criteria
8 for funding under this section that limits funding
9 eligibility to jobs requiring specialized training, paying
10 a sustainable wage and that are listed among the high
11 demand, fastest growing jobs in Wyoming as determined by
12 the Wyoming department of workforce services and the
13 department of employment. Eligibility criteria shall also
14 be based in part upon the occupational information network
15 data for Wyoming. Training should be provided for those
16 jobs that comprise industry sectors meeting established
17 criteria for priority workforce training identified as
18 emerging within Wyoming or that explore and exploit
19 emerging industry sectors. The commission may consult with
20 members of the advisory council before final adoption of
21 rules under this subsection.

22

23 (e) In addition to subsection (d) of this section,
24 funding under this section shall be confined to projects

1 that connect academic and technical curriculum grounded in
2 academic and industry standards.

3

4 (f) In addition to subsection (d) of this section,
5 the community college commission shall by rule and
6 regulation on or before July 1, 2008, establish an
7 application and review process for funding under this
8 section that:

9

10 (i) Enables applicants to submit to the
11 commission requests for funding of workforce training and
12 development programs under this section commencing
13 immediately after the adoption of criteria under subsection
14 (d) of this section and the establishment by rule of an
15 application and review process under this subsection;

16

17 (ii) Provides for application review and
18 prioritization by members of the advisory council appointed
19 under subsection (c) of this section;

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21 (iii) Requires applications to be of sufficient
22 scope to enable the collection of information necessary to
23 prioritize funding requests in accordance with criteria
24 established under subsections (d) and (e) of this section;

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2 (iv) Specifies collaboration between the
3 commission and the advisory council in finalizing funding
4 recommendations and securing commission approval.

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6 (g) Distribution of amounts appropriated under
7 subsection (a) of this section shall be for facilities,
8 equipment and instructor training and curriculum
9 development costs of the prioritized training project only.
10 No amount appropriated under this section shall be
11 distributed or expended for student housing facilities or
12 for recurring costs of workforce training.

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14 (h) In consultation with the advisory council and on
15 or before September 15, 2008, the community college
16 commission shall subject to subsections (e) and (g) of this
17 section, commence distribution of amounts appropriated
18 under this section to qualified applicants under this
19 section as prioritized in accordance with criteria
20 specified under subsection (d) of this section. Program
21 recipients under this section shall be reported to the
22 legislature prior to commencement of the 2009 general
23 session. In addition, the commission shall require each
24 applicant to report to the commission by July 1, 2009, on

1 the expenditure of amounts appropriated under this section,
2 together with additional information the commission deems
3 appropriate. The commission shall compile the reports and
4 present the reports to the governor and to members of the
5 joint appropriations interim committee and the joint
6 education interim committee prior to convening of the 2010
7 budget session.

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9 (j) In addition to subsection (a) of this section,
10 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is appropriated from
11 the general fund to the Wyoming community college
12 commission to fund expenses associated with the Wyoming
13 workforce training and development advisory council created
14 under subsection (c) of this section and other costs
15 incurred by the commission in administering this section.
16 This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with
17 the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2009.

18

19 **Section 2.**

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21 (a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this
22 section, this act is effective immediately upon completion
23 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided
24 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

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2 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
3 Section 1(a) of this act is effective July 1, 2008.

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(END)