

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0295

Western states energy and environment symposium.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Simpson, Buchanan, Lubnau,
Meyer and Stubson and Senator(s) Bebout,
Burns, Coe and Schiffer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the western states energy and
2 environment symposium; authorizing a western states energy
3 and environment symposium as specified; establishing a
4 steering committee to develop plans and funding for the
5 symposium; providing that the University of Wyoming school
6 of energy resources shall conduct the symposium at the
7 direction of the steering committee; authorizing
8 legislative participation in the planning as specified;
9 requiring a report after the symposium; providing
10 appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

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

13

14 **Section 1.**

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1 (a) A symposium steering committee is hereby created
2 consisting of one (1) member of the Wyoming house of
3 representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, one
4 (1) member of the Wyoming senate appointed by the president
5 of the senate, one (1) member representing energy
6 producers, one (1) member representing energy consumers and
7 one (1) member representing general business. The last
8 three (3) members shall be appointed jointly by the
9 president of the senate and the speaker of the house. The
10 steering committee shall develop plans and funding for a
11 western states energy and environment symposium to be held
12 by November 1, 2010. The symposium shall be conducted by
13 the University of Wyoming school of energy resources at the
14 direction of the steering committee. The steering
15 committee shall:

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17 (i) Develop plans and funding for the western
18 states energy and environment symposium;

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20 (ii) Solicit public and private funding to
21 supplement public funding appropriated under this act for
22 the western states energy and environment symposium;

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1 (iii) Invite the following persons or
2 representatives to attend and participate in the western
3 states energy and environment symposium:

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5 (A) Select legislators and executive branch
6 members from the governments of the thirteen (13) western
7 states that are members of the council of state
8 governments-west;

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10 (B) Experts from all key energy industries;

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12 (C) Experts from conservation,
13 environmental and other concerned interest groups;

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15 (D) Top experts in the field of energy
16 development, energy use, environment and economics;

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18 (E) A representative from state or regional
19 chambers of commerce and business roundtables;

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21 (F) A representative from county government
22 and a representative from municipal government from the
23 thirteen (13) western states that are members of the
24 council of state governments-west;

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(G) Any other persons and representatives of entities or organizations the steering committee may determine have an interest in contributing to or participating in the western states energy and environment symposium, including members of the general public.

(iv) Solicit advice and opinions from experts and technical resources on energy development and use, and environmental protection consistent with the purposes of the symposium;

(v) Solicit participation by national and regional organizations and think tanks, including but not limited to the energy council, the interstate oil and gas compact commission, the energy foundation, the national conference of state legislatures, the council of state governments-west and the western governors association;

(vi) Work to establish a cooperative agreement among the participants to develop a high level cost/benefit economic analysis assessing the challenges of energy development, production, marketing, use and environmental

1 protection within the western states, including an analysis
2 of:

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4 (A) Renewable energy development,
5 production and use;

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7 (B) Fossil fuel development, production and
8 use;

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10 (C) Nuclear energy development, extraction
11 and use;

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13 (D) Carbon management and impacts on cost
14 of energy development, production, use and environmental
15 protection;

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17 (E) Air quality in the context of energy
18 development, production and use;

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20 (F) Projected demands and costs of energy.

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22 (vii) Submit a report no later than forty-five
23 (45) days after the symposium adjourns to the legislatures,

1 governors and congressional delegations of participating
2 states and to all participants in the conference.

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4 (b) Legislative members assisting the school of
5 energy resources under subsection (a) of this section shall
6 receive salary and reimbursement for per diem and travel
7 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, as
8 provided in W.S. 28-5-101.

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10 (c) The school of energy resources may contract with
11 consultants as necessary to facilitate the western states
12 energy and environment symposium and its purposes.

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14 (d) The western states energy and environment
15 symposium may be held within Wyoming or in any other state
16 that may be participating in the symposium.

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18 **Section 2.**

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20 (a) There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand
21 dollars (\$250,000.00) from the general fund to the
22 University of Wyoming school of energy resources. This
23 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the
24 effective date of this act and ending December 31, 2010.

1 This appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose
2 of providing the staffing, technical support, including
3 contracting with consultants as necessary, and costs of
4 planning, conducting and reporting on the western states
5 energy and environment symposium authorized under section 1
6 of this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
7 this appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for
8 any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
9 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided
10 by law on December 31, 2010.

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12 (b) There is appropriated two hundred thousand
13 dollars (\$200,000.00) from the general fund to the
14 legislative service office. This appropriation shall be
15 for the period beginning with the effective date of this
16 act and ending December 31, 2010. Notwithstanding any
17 other provision of law, this appropriation shall not be
18 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
19 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this
20 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on December
21 31, 2010. This appropriation shall be used for:

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1 (i) Salary and per diem expenses of legislative
2 members appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this
3 section for the performance of their duties under this act;

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5 (ii) Payment of the actual expenses of Wyoming
6 legislators who attend the western states energy and
7 environment symposium;

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9 (iii) The award of scholarships, fellowships or
10 other financial aid or honoraria to provide for the
11 attendance of select legislators and executive branch
12 members from the other thirteen (13) western states at the
13 symposium. At the direction of the steering committee, the
14 legislative service office shall transfer funds from this
15 appropriation to the University of Wyoming as necessary so
16 that the university may award the scholarships, fellowships
17 or other financial aid or honoraria as provided under this
18 paragraph.

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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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(END)