

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0053

Special districts task force.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections & Political
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the administration of government;
2 creating a task force on special districts; providing for a
3 study of special districts and their operation; 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.**

10

11 (a) There is created a task force on special
12 districts consisting of the following members:

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14 (i) Two (2) members of the Wyoming senate
15 appointed by the president of the senate;

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2 (ii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming house
3 appointed by the speaker of the house;

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5 (iii) One (1) representative from the Wyoming
6 secretary of state's office;

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8 (iv) One (1) representative from the Wyoming
9 county commissioner's association;

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11 (v) One (1) representative from the Wyoming
12 county clerk's association;

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14 (vi) One (1) representative for the special
15 districts;

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17 (vii) One (1) representative for the Wyoming
18 taxpayers.

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20 (b) The task force shall select from among its
21 members a chairman and a vice-chairman.

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1 (c) The task force shall be staffed by the
2 legislative service office. State agencies shall provide
3 information and assistance to the task force as requested
4 by the task force.

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6 (d) The task force shall identify, study and make
7 recommendations concerning:

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9 (i) The primary issues which impact the
10 formation, functionality, efficiency, accountability and
11 continued operation of special districts. In considering
12 these issues, the task force shall receive public comment
13 and attempt to identify the causes of the primary issues
14 that negatively impact the formation, functionality,
15 efficiency, accountability and continued operation of
16 special districts in Wyoming. If the task force determines
17 that it lacks the resources to properly consider all the
18 issues identified pursuant to this paragraph, the task
19 force may limit its consideration to only issues which can
20 be properly studied, giving preference to issues that have
21 the largest impact on the public and on special districts
22 and for which a solution might be reasonably available;

23

1 (ii) Specific changes to Wyoming law which might
2 address the negative impacts identified pursuant to
3 paragraph (i) of this subsection. The task force shall
4 encourage the submission of proposed changes from
5 interested parties and stake holders and shall consider any
6 proposals made. In making any recommendations, the task
7 force shall rank any recommended changes in order of
8 importance. The task force also shall provide a plan and
9 time line for the implementation of each recommended change
10 into law, giving due preference to the early implementation
11 of changes that will have the greatest impact and changes
12 which reasonably can be accomplished with available
13 resources;

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15 (iii) The dissolution and termination of special
16 districts that are no longer necessary or viable and the
17 adoption of streamlined procedures for the termination of
18 special districts after prescribed time periods.

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20 (e) The task force shall submit a report summarizing
21 its studies, findings and recommendations to the joint
22 corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim
23 committee on or before September 15, 2016. The joint

1 corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim
2 committee shall consider the recommendations and develop
3 any legislation it deems appropriate for consideration by
4 the legislature. If the recommendations made by the task
5 force suggest a multi-year approach to addressing special
6 district issues, the joint corporations, elections and
7 political subdivisions interim committee may consider
8 sponsoring legislation for the continuation of the task
9 force.

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11 (f) The task force shall exist until December 31,
12 2016. Members of the task force who are not state
13 employees or legislators shall not receive a salary but
14 shall receive reimbursement for mileage and per diem
15 expenses at a rate provided for legislators under W.S.
16 28-5-101. Members of the task force who are legislators
17 shall be paid salary, per diem and mileage, but no salary
18 for preparation, as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 for their
19 official duties as members of the task force.

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21 (g) There is appropriated from the general fund for
22 purposes of this act twenty-six thousand dollars

1 (\$26,000.00) to the legislative service office for the
2 payment of expenses for the task force.

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4 (h) Funds appropriated under subsection (g) of this
5 section shall be for the period beginning with the
6 effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2017 and
7 shall be expended only for the purpose of providing the
8 payments to task force members authorized in subsection (g)
9 of this section.

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

15

16

(END)