

News Release



WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE

FOR RELEASE Immediately

CONTACT Wendy Madsen, Legislative Information Officer
or Anthony Sara, Associate Legislative Information Officer

TO REACH (307) 777-7881

2012 BUDGET SESSION REACHES BILL CROSSOVER PERIOD

CHEYENNE – After convening just a few short weeks ago, the Wyoming Legislature has reached the halfway point of the 2012 Budget Session. Tuesday marked the crossover period for the body, meaning it was the last day for third reading in the house of origin. Any legislation that did not successfully pass third reading in the primary house Tuesday will not go on for further consideration in the opposite chamber.

At the start of the session on Feb. 13, a total of 244 bills were numbered for introduction. With less than two weeks remaining in this year's session, 138 bills remain active at the crossover period. The Senate introduced 97 pieces of legislation and 71 of those bills have moved to the House for consideration. The House introduced 82 bills and passed 67 bills on to the Senate for deliberation. Sixty-five bills were not considered for introduction.

Both the House and Senate have addressed a broad range of issues affecting Wyoming residents thus far, and now the second house will get a chance to make changes and pass or vote down those bills sent from the house of origin. Although these bills have passed in their primary house, the legislation still must gain the approval of the second house and be sent to the Governor's Office for consideration before becoming state law.

Friday will be the last day for bills to be reported out of committee in the second house and Monday will mark the last day for Committee of the Whole on bills in the second house. March 7 will be the last day for third reading on bills in the second house. Lawmakers hope to wrap up the 2012 Budget Session March 9.

In addition to the bills currently being considered, legislators are also finishing up work on the State's two-year budget. Both bodies took up third and final reading of the bill Monday. In the coming days the bodies will work on reconciling the differences between the final House and Senate versions of the budget bill through a joint conference committee. After each Chamber votes to concur on the conference committee's action, the bill will be sent to the Governor for his consideration.

The Wyoming Legislature encourages the public to continue to actively participate in the legislative process. For a complete list of all the bills that are still active and to track their progress as the session continues, please visit the Legislature's Website at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/>. – **End** –