



ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE
63RD WYOMING LEGISLATURE



Goals for 2015 Session

- ❑ Grow and diversify the economy
- ❑ Promote excellence in Wyoming schools
- ❑ Balance investing and savings
- ❑ Control the growth of government
- ❑ Solve Wyoming problems with Wyoming solutions



Goals for 2015 Session

- ❑ Place Wyoming citizen needs at the center of policy.
- ❑ Expand Medicaid because it makes sense for Wyoming.
- ❑ Ensure that all Wyoming citizens enjoy equal opportunity free from discrimination.
- ❑ Build excellence in education for every child in Wyoming.
- ❑ Invest Wyoming taxpayer dollars to benefit the people and communities of Wyoming.



2015 Session Fast Facts



2015 Session Fast Facts

- ❑ **There are 60 Representatives in the House and 30 Senators in the Senate**
 - ❑ The House had 14 new members
 - ❑ The Senate had 3 new members
- ❑ **The 2015 Legislative Session lasted 37 days**
- ❑ **There were 410 bills numbered this session**
 - ❑ The House passed 157 third reading House Bills
 - ❑ The Senate passed 103 third reading Senate Files
- ❑ **There were 166 supplemental budget amendments**
 - ❑ The House passed 35 of the amendments
 - ❑ The Senate passed 33 of the amendments
- ❑ **The Governor vetoed 1 bill addressing asset forfeiture**

Education





Education

❑ **Hathaway**

- ❑ In conjunction with UW and Wyoming community colleges modified eligibility for scholarships

❑ **State education accountability and assessment**

- ❑ This expands the accountability and student assessment programs within the educational system of Wyoming, creates and extends several committees and task forces

❑ **Next Generation Science Standards**

- ❑ The footnote was rewritten and now calls for the State Board of Education to provide science standards that promote excellence.

❑ **State Writing Assessment Elimination**

- ❑ HB 159 eliminated the Student Assessment of Writing Skills (SAWS) effective immediately



Education

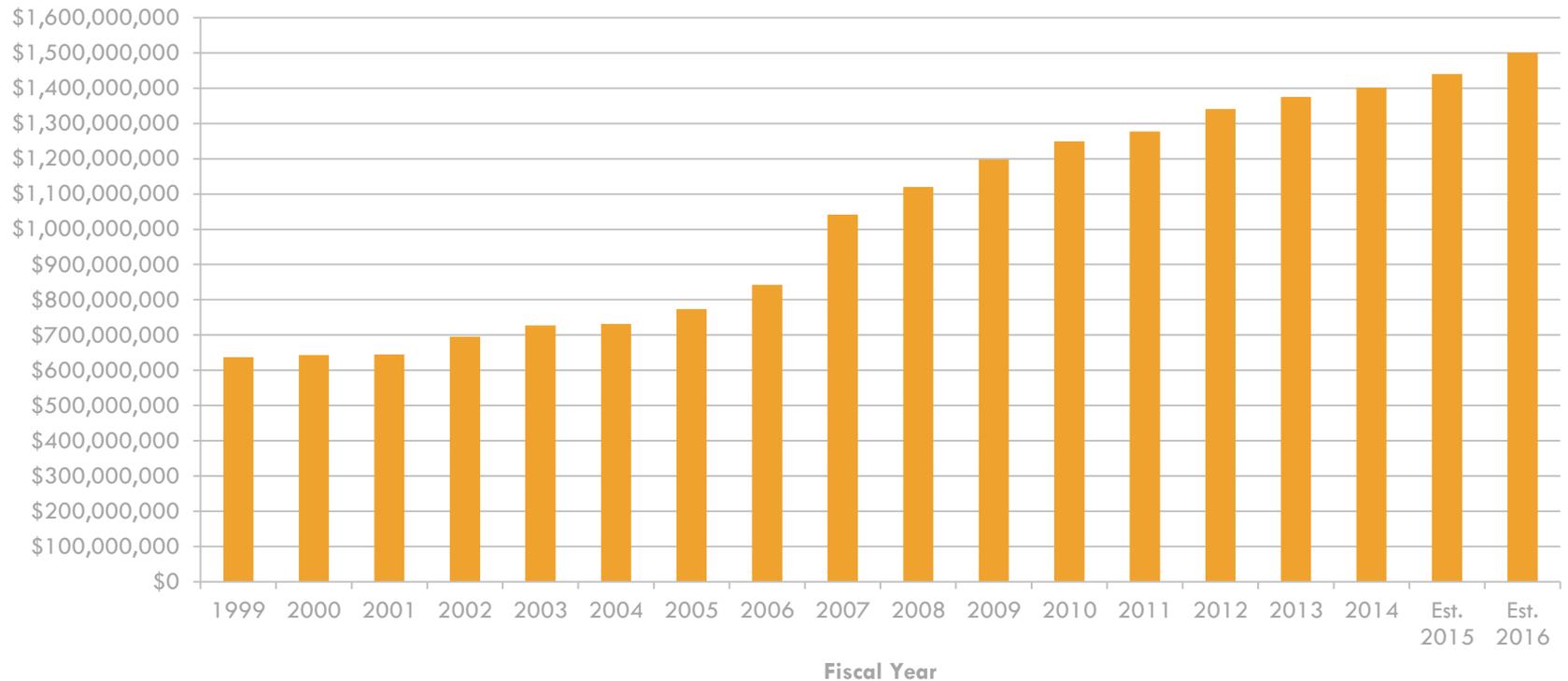
- The 2015 Legislature enacted an increase to the education resource block grant model (Funding Model) and associated categorical grants through an external cost adjustment (ECA).

Model Category	FY 2015		FY 2016		Total
	ECA %	ECA \$	ECA %	ECA \$	BY 15-16
Professional Staff	1.045%	\$6,296,590	2.675%	\$23,668,202	\$29,964,792
Non-Professional Staff	0.995%	\$1,174,140	2.375%	\$4,006,812	\$5,180,952
Educational Materials	0.750%	\$1,137,951	2.930%	\$5,615,668	\$6,753,619
Energy	-0.530%	(\$181,771)	4.770%	\$1,445,498	\$1,263,727
Estimated Total Cost		\$8,426,910		\$34,736,181	\$43,163,091



Education

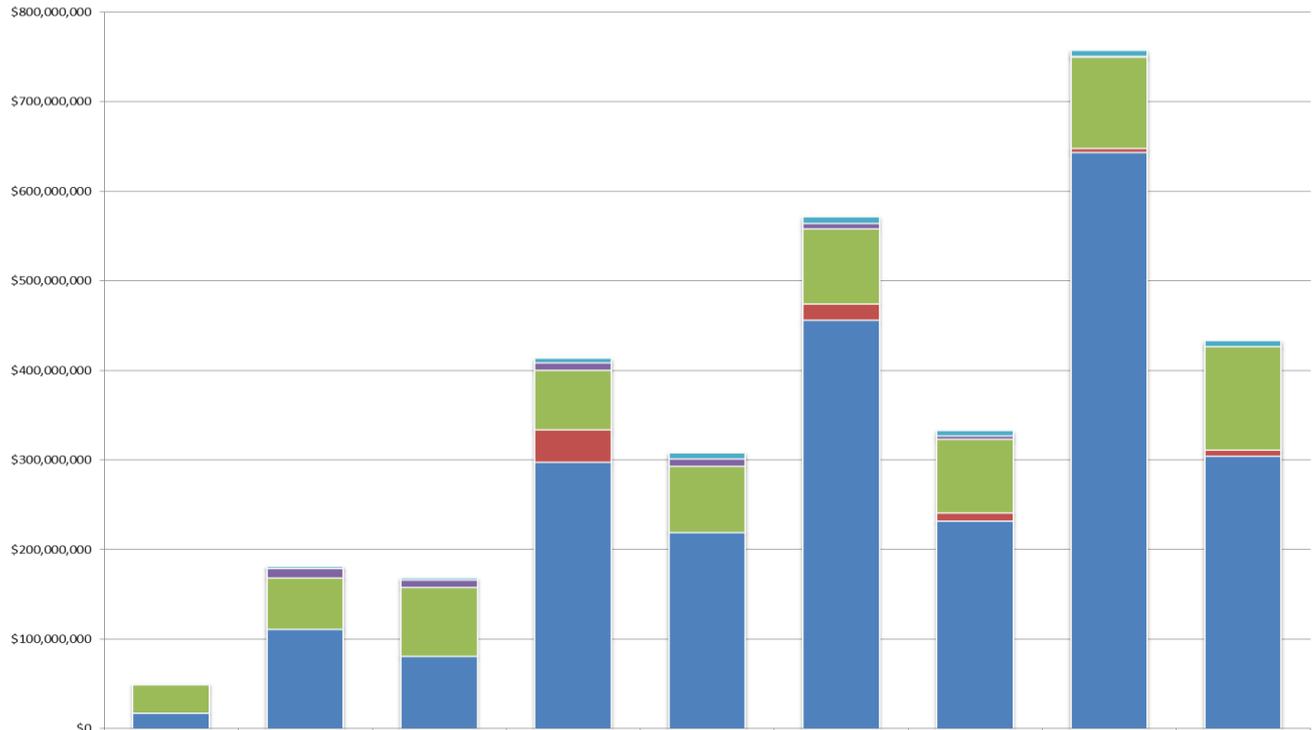
**Historical Wyoming K-12 Education Funding
(Funding Model Guarantee and Off-Model Appropriations)
FY 1999 to Est. FY 2016**





Education

**Summary of School Capital Construction Account Appropriations
BY 1999-2000 to BY 2015-2016**



	1999-2000	2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006	2007-2008	2009-2010	2011-2012	2013-2014	2015-2016
■ SFD/SFC Operations	\$275,800	\$1,900,000	\$2,335,799	\$5,588,272	\$7,352,199	\$7,935,499	\$6,271,601	\$6,747,452	\$7,002,992
■ Mill Levy Supplement		\$10,860,000	\$7,750,000	\$7,750,000	\$7,750,000	\$5,750,000	\$3,750,000	\$1,250,000	\$0
■ Major Maintenance	\$31,594,756	\$57,332,995	\$77,222,156	\$66,400,000	\$74,200,000	\$84,243,184	\$82,000,000	\$101,741,513	\$115,400,000
■ Minor CapCon/Component Level				\$36,194,644		\$18,000,000	\$9,246,000	\$4,597,300	\$6,210,346
■ Capital Construction	\$17,278,498	\$110,867,562	\$80,611,067	\$297,499,398	\$218,711,438	\$455,562,476	\$231,419,472	\$642,878,790	\$304,368,217

Agriculture





Agriculture

❑ **Omnibus water bill-construction**

- ❑ Contains the annual authorization for the construction of water projects which have previously completed the Level I and Level II planning and design

❑ **Food Freedom Act**

- ❑ This bill allows food not certified or inspected by major entities to be sold in farmers markets and similar venues

Health





Health

❑ Medicaid Expansion

- ❑ Two different proposals to expand Wyoming's Medicaid system were presented in the Senate this legislative session.
 - ❑ Senator Von Flatern presented an approach to expansion, which was supported by Governor Mead and the Wyoming Department of Health. This plan was defeated in the Senate because of concerns about the sustainability of the program.
 - ❑ An alternative plan utilizing Health Saving Accounts was also debated extensively by the Senate.
- ❑ Both Medicaid expansion bills would have accepted large Federal subsidies to cover the costs of adding a projected 17,000 new enrollees to the Medicaid program.
- ❑ Because both plans failed, Wyoming will remain among the 22 states who have not expanded their Medicaid programs.



Health

❑ Hospital Uncompensated Care

- ❑ Assist the poorest hospitals in order to cover some of their uncompensated care costs.

❑ Nursing Education Programs

- ❑ New loan options to nursing students pursuing a Master's or Doctorate program at the University of Wyoming.

❑ Pharmacy Act Amendments

- ❑ Modernizes and adjusts current laws relating to the Wyoming State Board of Pharmacy.



Health

- ❑ **Interstate Medical Licensure Compact**
 - ❑ An improved licensure system that will help doctors transfer their licenses from state to state more easily.
- ❑ **Small Employer Group Health Insurance**
 - ❑ Offering coverage to an employee's dependents is now optional for small businesses.
- ❑ **Worker's Compensation**
 - ❑ The legislature passed several bills improving statutes and extending coverage to the worker's compensation program.

Public Safety





Public Safety

❑ Sexual Assault Protection

- ❑ Enhances legal protections for victims of sexual assault.

❑ Emergency Vehicles

- ❑ Tow trucks and wreckers are now defined as emergency vehicles.



Public Safety

❑ **Electronic Citations**

- ❑ Establishes an electronic citation system for law enforcement, so tickets may be issued electronically.

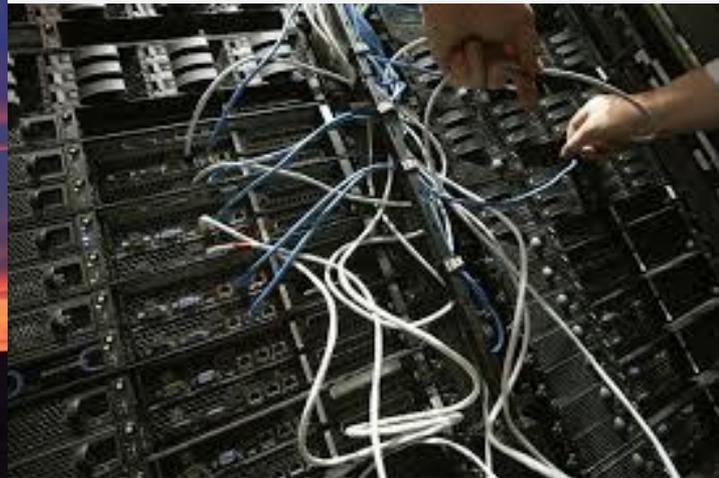
❑ **Drones**

- ❑ A proposition to require warrants for drone use failed in Senate committee.

❑ **Motor Vehicles Passing Bikes**

- ❑ When passing, drivers must allow at least three feet between the vehicle and the cyclist.

Business and Technology





Business and Technology

- ❑ **Continuation of the Digital Information Privacy Task Force**
- ❑ **Wyoming Infrastructure Authority Amendments**
 - ❑ Allows the State of Wyoming to bond for projects it has an interest in that may be outside the state, and changes the bonding authorities limit from one billion dollars to three billion dollars in order to facilitate the export of Wyoming's energy resources.
- ❑ **Challenge Loan Interest Rate**
 - ❑ Amends the challenge loan program to allow for loans to Wyoming businesses of one million dollars if state backed and two million dollars if federally backed, as well as reducing the interest rate from 4 to 3 percent to make it competitive again.



Business and Technology

- ❑ **Commercial Drivers License Exemptions**
 - ❑ Provides an exemption for family members and employees under the age of 18 to operate equipment formerly requiring a class “C” license when being used for agriculture.
- ❑ **Wyoming Materials Preference**
- ❑ **Microbreweries-Minimum Barrel Requirements**
 - ❑ Adjusts the minimum qualifications for a microbrewery from 100 barrels to 50 barrels.

Natural Resources and State Lands





Natural Resources and State Lands

❑ **Quebec #1 Historic Site- 3**

- ❑ Accepts the transfer of the Quebec 1 missile alert facility as a seasonal state historical site.

❑ **Interstate Mining Compact Commission Membership**

- ❑ Allows the state of Wyoming to transition from a partial member to a full fledged member of the IMCC which now provides our state with voting rights within the commission.

❑ **Minerals to Value Added Products Program**

- ❑ Provides authority for the state of Wyoming to enter into a contract with a business to provide up to 20% mineral of the mineral feedstock to that businesses facility following its construction; mainly designed to incentivize construction of such a facility.



Natural Resources and State Lands

❑ Landfill Remediation Priority List

- ❑ Provides the committee with an updated priority list for landfill remediation and releases already appropriated funds to help local governments remediate landfills.

❑ Task Force on Mineral Taxes

- ❑ Creates and appropriates \$45,000 to fund a task force assigned with studying and making recommendations for a fair, viable and simplified system of valuation and taxation for minerals.

❑ NRC Agreement State Authorization

- ❑ Authorizes the governor to engage in negotiations with the Nuclear Regulation Commission to allow for state control for permitting and licensing which was the preference of industry.



Natural Resources and State Lands

❑ State Park Fees

- ❑ Amends current statute allowing state park revenues to be more broadly used by the parks, for projects such as maintenance

❑ Study on the Transfer of Public Lands

- ❑ Authorized a study of the costs and benefits of State Management of certain Federal Lands, requires the state to recognize current uses and protect public access.

Military





Military

- ❑ **Camp Guernsey - Range Management Fund**
 - ❑ Creates a fund from grazing fees on military land, to use in the maintenance of Camp Guernsey
 - ❑ Did fail on concurrence

- ❑ **Veterans In-State Tuition**
 - ❑ Extends veterans' in-state status to their spouses and children

Wildlife



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Wildlife

❑ Free-roaming Feral Horses

- ❑ A request for Congress, as well as state and local authorities, to curb the damage done to ranch land by wild horses

❑ Lifetime Archery Licenses

- ❑ Allows for the sale of lifetime archery licenses, in addition to annual licenses

❑ Hunters with Disabilities

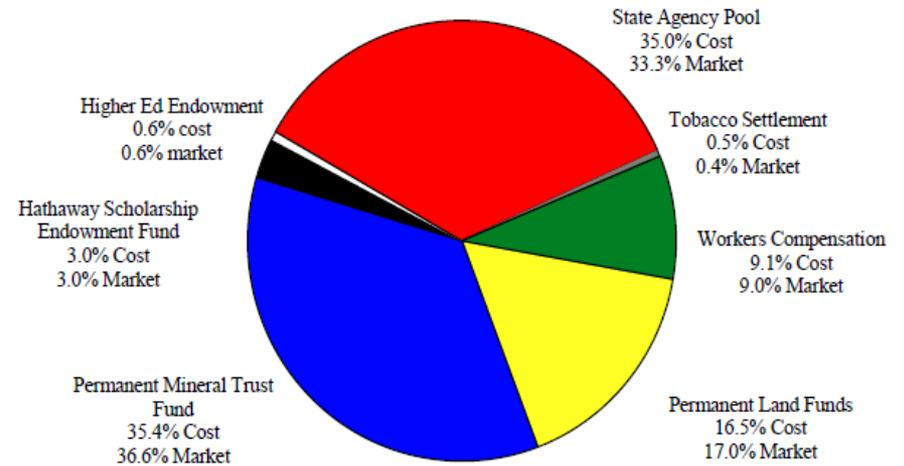
- ❑ A hunter who has a valid hunting license may donate that license to a hunter who uses a wheelchair.
- ❑ Other slight adjustments were made to existing statutes that assist disabled hunters



Wildlife

- ❑ **Big Horn Sheep relocation**
 - ❑ Directs Game and Fish to relocate or remove big horn sheep from the Bridger-Teton National Forest, should any federal action require it, and provides them with the funds.
- ❑ **Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust**
 - ❑ Will move over 3 million dollars for Large Project funding into the Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust.
- ❑ **Wildlife Trust Fund**
 - ❑ The Governor's full funding request for the Wildlife Trust Fund was not included in the final budget

Supplemental Budget





Budget

- Started session with \$203,000,000 shortfall, plus \$160,000,000 in requests from the Governor.
- Through fund transfers, the Legislature developed a balanced budget that both meets immediate needs and plans for the future.



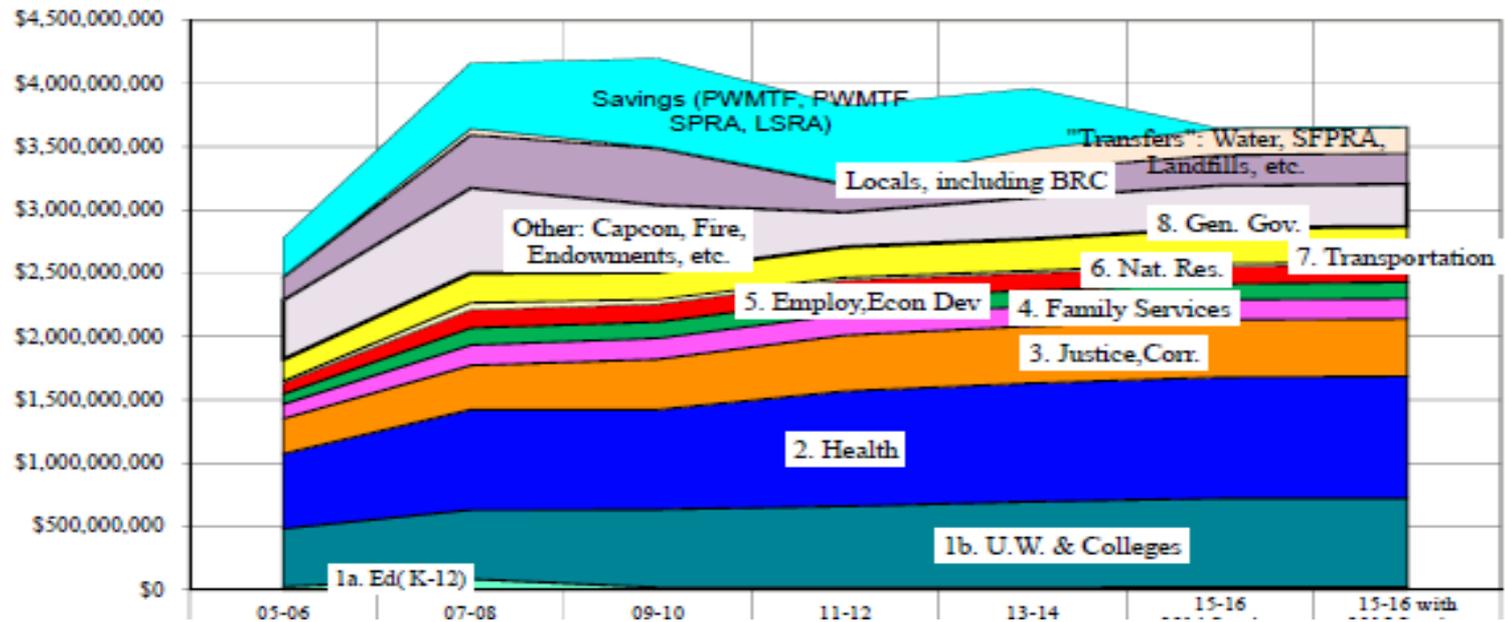
Budget

- ❑ The budget increases funding for:
 - ❑ Youth Crisis Beds
 - ❑ Nursing Home Rates
 - ❑ Developmental Disability Providers
- ❑ The budget matches funding for:
 - ❑ The University of Wyoming projects:
 - ❑ Unconventional oil and gas research
 - ❑ Literacy
 - ❑ High Altitude Training Center
 - ❑ Community College Endowments
 - ❑ TANF Funds for Job Training and Placement
- ❑ The budget provides savings for:
 - ❑ State Health Care facilities needs
 - ❑ UW Science Initiative
 - ❑ Development of a comprehensive industrial park



Budget

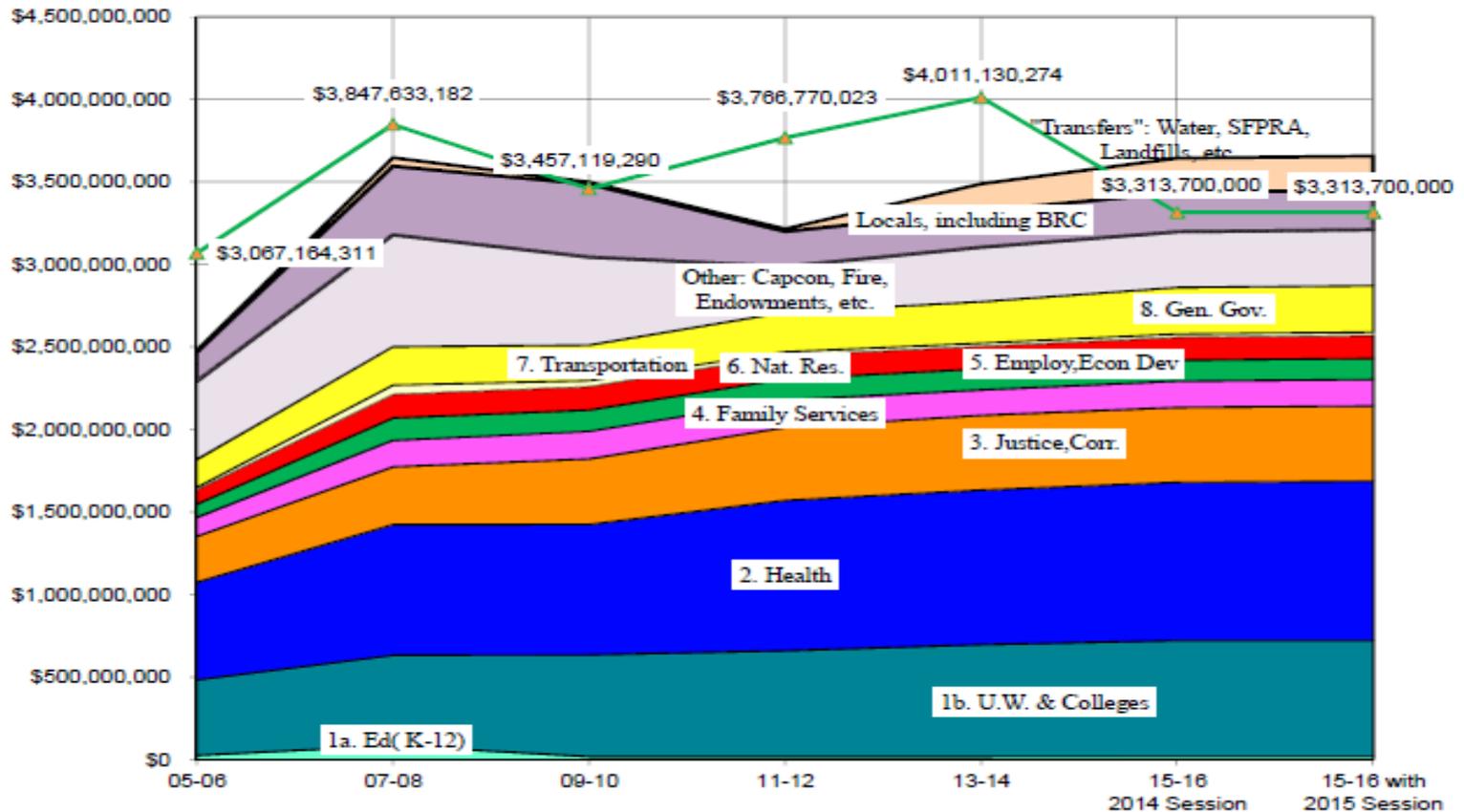
Appropriations from General Fund, SIPA & Reserves - with savings and transfers, as of March 4, 2015 fiscal profile





Budget

Appropriations through 15-16 from GF, SIPA & Reserves, as of March 4, 2015
by Category with GF & BRA Revenues (Jan. 2015 CREG)

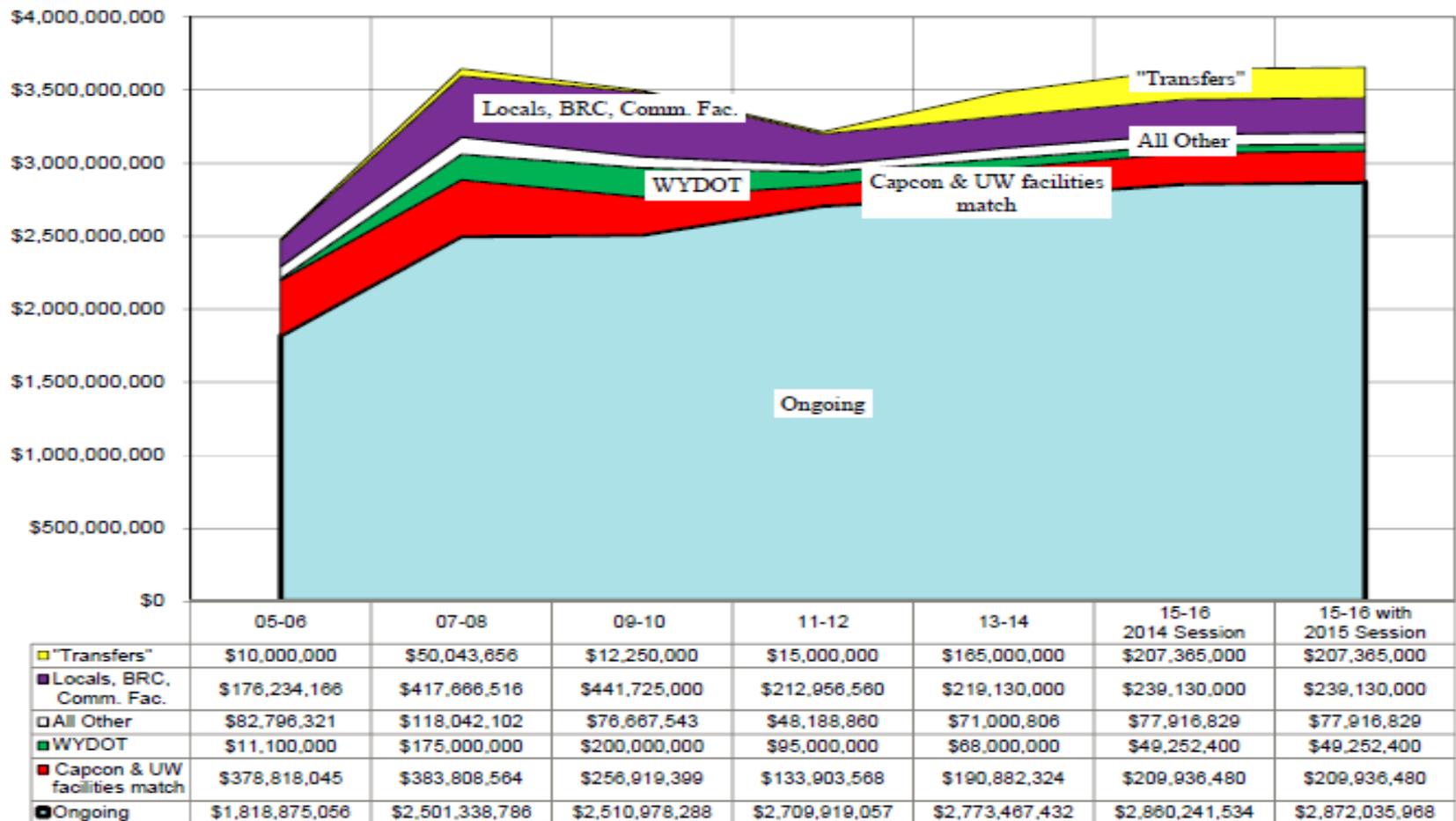


Note: 2015-16 includes appropriations from SIPA using revenue earned in FY2013, directed to SIPA.



Budget

05-06 thru 15-16 Appropriations from GF, SIPA & Reserves, as of March 4, 2015 fiscal profile ongoing and other by major category



Source: LSO Budget/Fiscal Division

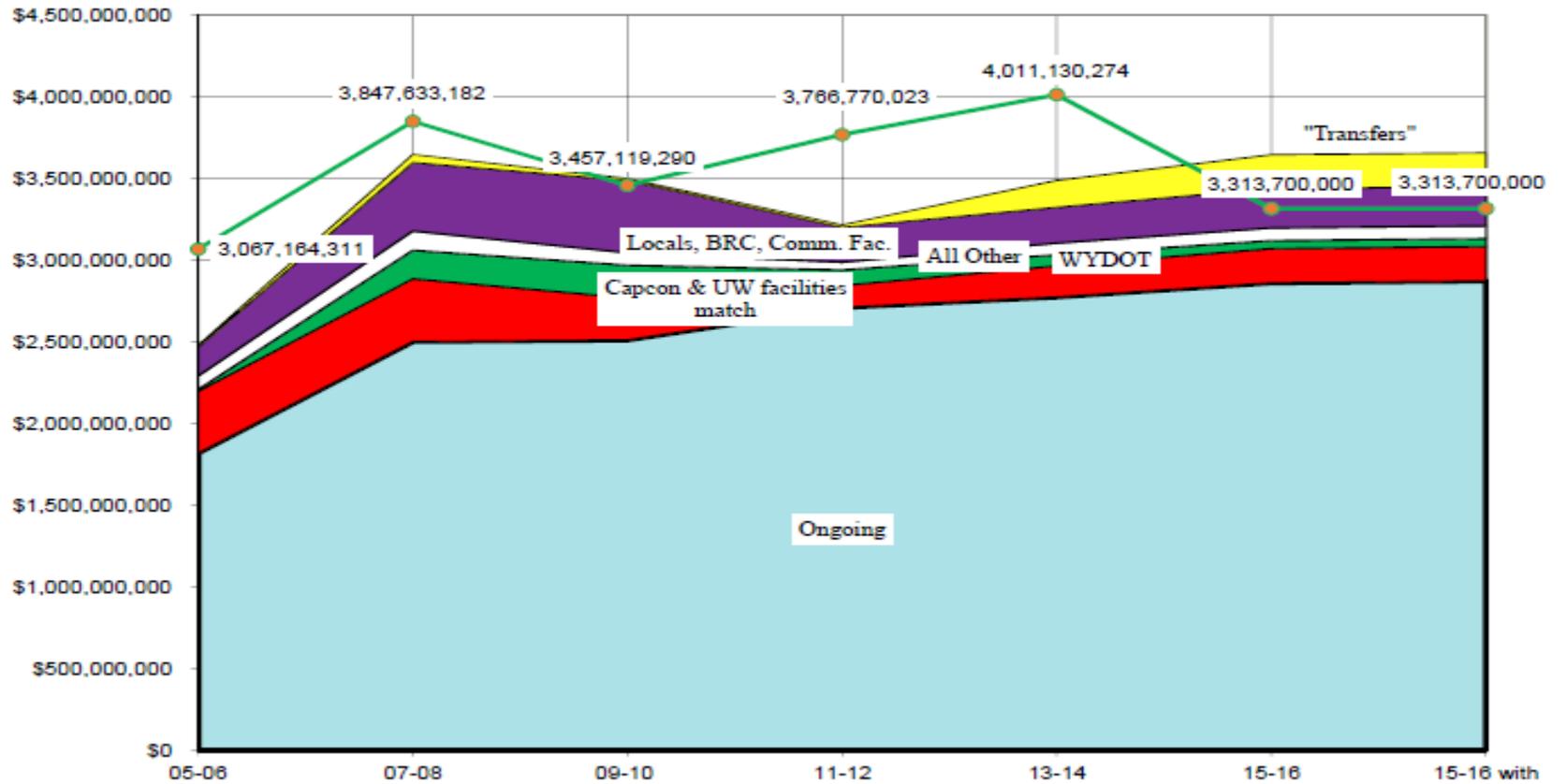
Note: Does not include FY2015 or FY2016 contingent revenue, if available.

3/4/2015



Budget

Appropriations thru 15-16 from GF, SIPA & Reserves, as of March 4, 2015 fiscal profile
Ongoing and "other" by major category, with GF & BRA revenues (Jan. 2015 CREG)



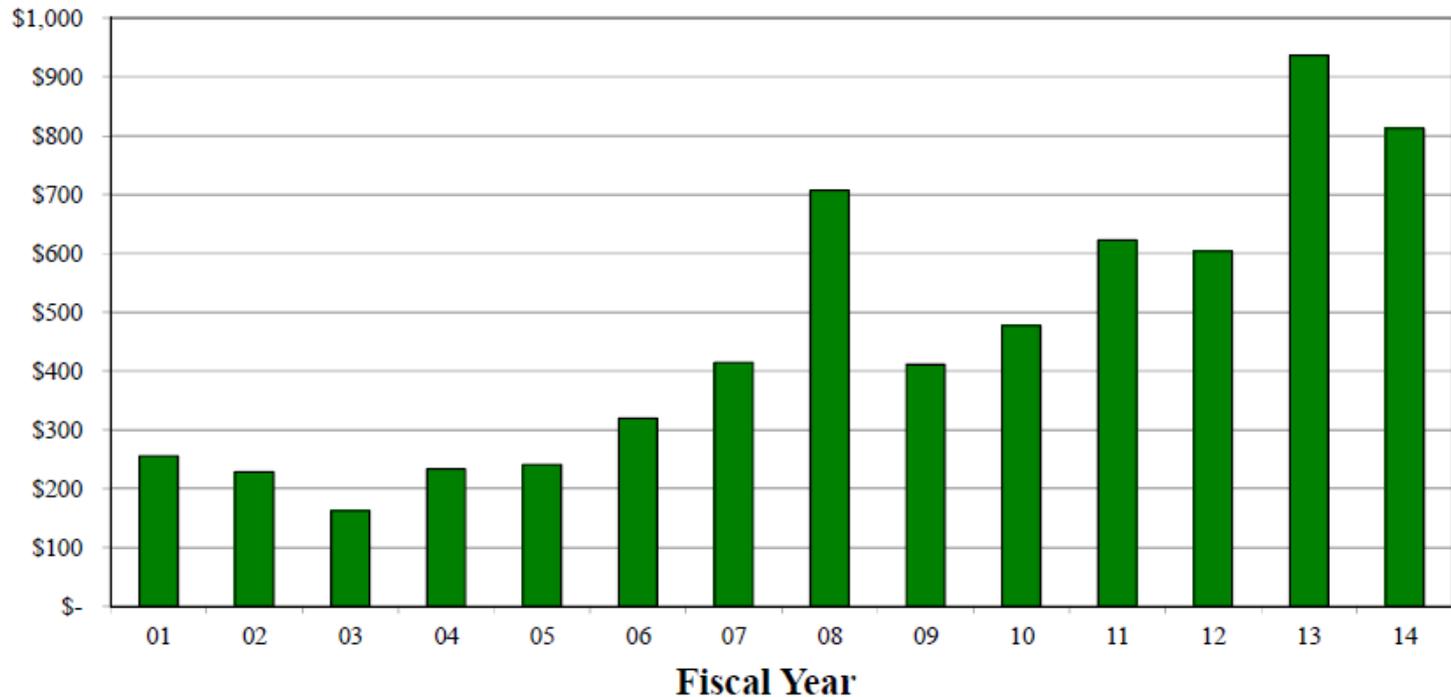
Note: 2015-16 includes appropriations from SIPA using revenue earned in FY2013, directed to SIPA.



Budget

INVESTMENT INCOME *

(\$ Millions)



*Includes; P.W.M.T.F., C.S.P.L.F., U.P.L.F., Remaining Permanent Land Funds, Hathaway Scholarship Endowment Fund, Higher Education Endowment Fund, Workers Compensation Fund, Tobacco Settlement Fund, State Agency Pool.



Budget

- ❑ **Constitutional Investment of State Funds Under SJ 02**
 - ❑ This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature and a majority of the voters at the next general election, would allow the Legislature to authorize the investment of nonpermanent state funds in the same manner as authorized for permanent funds and funds of the public employee pension plan.



Budget

As shown below, the Treasurer's investment portfolio grew across all funds on a cost basis during FY 14. The total portfolio was \$16.6 billion at the end of FY 13, increasing over \$1.4 billion to \$18.0 billion by June 30, 2014.

	<u>FY 14</u>		(\$ Millions)	<u>FY 13</u>	
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market</u>
Permanent Mineral Trust Fund	\$6,368.3	\$6,979.1	\$5,888.5	\$6,112.8	
Permanent Land Funds					
- Common School Perm Land Fund	2,782.3	3,046.5	2,533.4	2,630.6	
- University Permanent Land Fund	19.3	21.3	18.4	19.0	
- Remaining Permanent Land Funds	156.9	171.7	144.2	149.2	
Hathaway Scholarship Fund	533.4	575.7	518.6	533.1	
Higher Education Endowment Fund	112.2	121.1	110.9	113.9	
Workers Compensation Fund	1,628.0	1,719.5	1,527.5	1,548.6	
Tobacco Settlement Fund	81.6	82.0	70.5	69.0	
State Agency Pool	<u>6,294.4</u>	<u>6,336.4</u>	<u>5,750.7</u>	<u>5,664.6</u>	
Total	\$17,976.5	\$19,053.1	\$16,562.7	\$16,840.8	

Capitol Square Project





Capitol Square Project - Highlights

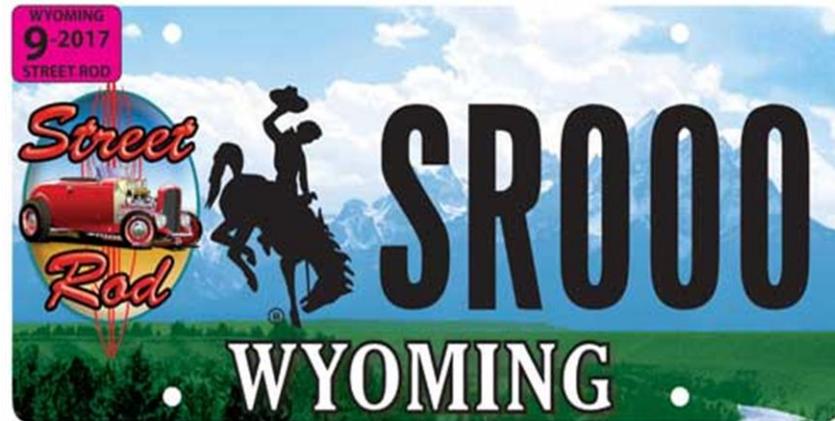
- ❑ Renovation being completed on Capitol to remedy:
 - ❑ Health and safety concerns with building
 - ❑ Building systems are deteriorating and expensive to maintain in current condition
 - ❑ Limited space for public participation
- ❑ Life expectancy of renovation is 30-50 years
- ❑ Secretary of State, Auditor, and Treasurer will have ceremonial offices in the Capitol and executive office suites in the Herschler Building



Capitol Square Project - Update

- ❑ Legislators packed up desks at the end of the 2015 session
- ❑ Jonah Financial Center has been chosen as the location for the Legislature in the interim,
- ❑ The Governor will be moving into the Idelman building
- ❑ The Secretary of State, Auditor, and Treasurer will be moving to the 2020 Carey Avenue building

Headline Bills





Headline Bills

❑ **Discrimination**

- ❑ An act that would have prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in the workplace with the exception of religious based entities. Failed in the House

❑ **Firefighters Collective Bargaining**

- ❑ A bill that would have removed binding arbitration from the Collective Bargaining process for Firefighters within the state. Failed in the Senate

❑ **Repeal Gun Free Zones**

- ❑ A bill that allows school districts to decide whether they will allow concealed carry permit holders to have firearms on campus. Failed in the Senate



Headline Bills

❑ **Minimum Wage**

- ❑ A bill that would have provided an increase in the overall minimum wage, along with an annual inflation adjustment also. Failed in Committee

❑ **Marijuana Bills**

- ❑ H.B. 29: Relating to Marijuana possession, this bill would have amended the penalties for possession, reducing the sentence of someone caught with up to an ounce of it. Failed in the House
- ❑ H.B. 32: An act that related to public health which allowed the medical supervision of hemp extract and lifting of prosecution for the possession or use of it. Failed in the House
- ❑ H.B. 227: A bill that related to Public Health that allowed the supervision cannabidiol and provided an exemption for possession or use of it. Failed in Committee



Bills that Made it Half-Way

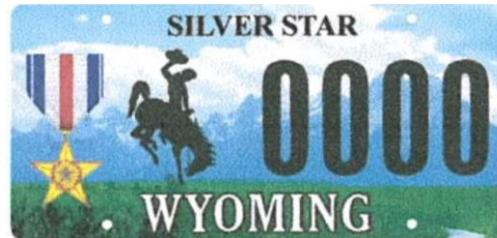


Bills That Made it Half-Way

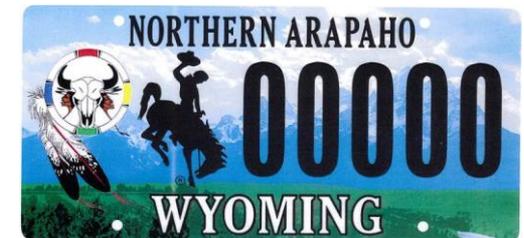
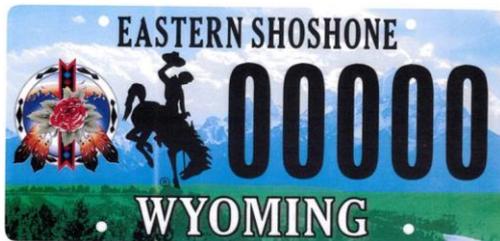
- ❑ HB 66 'State legendary critter.'
- ❑ HB 114 'Repeal Gun Free Zones Act'
- ❑ HB 123 'Juvenile records-expungement.'
- ❑ HB 209 'Federal Lands Transfer.'
- ❑ HJ 04 'Balanced Budget Amendment'
- ❑ HB 118 Education Community College Budget Request
- ❑ HB 216 Veterans Skilled Nursing Center
- ❑ SF 121 'Career and technical training grants.'
- ❑ SF 115 'Discrimination'
- ❑ SF 116 'Legislature Compensation'
- ❑ SF 103 'Bicycle Pathway'
- ❑ SF 138 'Small business innovation research.'



License Plates



- The Legislature changed laws on license plates by passing bills relating to disabled veterans and farm vehicles.



Interim Topics for 2016





Interim Topics

- ❑ Consider alternative distribution methods of revenue to cities, towns and counties
- ❑ Consider elevating the College of Education to the status of a preeminent college in professional educator preparation
- ❑ Enforcing the laws and seizure of private property pertaining to livestock rustling



Interim Topics

- ❑ Review of Election Law, a Securities Act update and Special Districts
- ❑ Review the gravel road condition matrix and study infrastructure issues
- ❑ Consider President's Clean Power Plan, Carbon sequestration and efforts to secure additional coal ports
- ❑ Study primary care, hospital organization & funding problems

Interim Topics

- Study asset forfeiture
- Review Juvenile Justice Data collection
- Juvenile Expungement
- Juvenile Confidentiality



Questions?



Disclaimer

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