



WYOMING
MEDICAL
SOCIETY

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



2026 BUDGET SESSION

Week One Recap

[2026 WMS Bill Tracker](#)

Wyoming's 68th Legislature convened the 2026 Legislative Budget Session in Cheyenne this week. The week closed with a total of 335 filed and numbered legislative proposals, 33 of which were flagged for directly impacting our state's healthcare delivery system. Because this is a budget session, non-budget bills must clear a higher bar to be introduced. As of Friday's start, six measures on the WMS bill tracker that potentially impact Wyoming healthcare were among the 27% of all legislative proposals that failed to advance.

Given the session's tight 20-day schedule, the legislative process is necessarily swift. Friday's deadline for all bills to have been introduced marks the first of many to come. You can see the entirety of this year's legislative schedule if you click [HERE](#).

Governor Mark Gordon opened the session with his [State of the State address](#) and urged lawmakers to reconsider major cuts that were made by the Joint Appropriations Committee to his recommended budget. He framed his 2027-28 biennial budget as a practical, conservative plan and urged legislators to prioritize savings and continued development of Wyoming's natural resources. He emphasized support for agriculture, rural healthcare, education, economic development, and an efficient workforce achieved through a focus on "the essentials." He called this current moment a "crossroads" for the Cowboy State, emphasizing that fiscal discipline means not only austerity, but also strategic investment and stewardship.

Healthcare Remains Primary Focus

Rural Health Transformation: federal dollars, state guardrails, and implementation

A major backdrop this session is Wyoming's federal Rural Health Transformation Program award (\$205 million in year one) and the package of initiatives Wyoming proposed to stabilize rural hospitals and providers. Legislative action is required to implement key parts of that plan, and a failure to act could jeopardize the state receiving the funds.

WMS will be watching closely for the details that matter to our members, including program design, administrative burden, workforce supports, and how the perpetuity fund approach will impact patient access and local viability.

Medicaid reimbursement and maternal care

The Governor's budget as well as a number of independent legislative proposals aimed to fund or increase Medicaid reimbursement to physicians and/or facilities. The status of those efforts is detailed below:

- HB 1 (State Budget) CAH OB physician reimbursement increase to 90% of Medicare (**stripped from JAC version of the budget**)
- HB 64 on enhanced Medicaid reimbursement for maternal services (**Failed Introduction**),
- HB 4 on Medicaid coverage for freestanding birthing centers (**Passed Committee**),
- SF 4 on increased reimbursement for EMS services (**Passed Committee**).

These proposals are landing in a moment when Wyoming continues to face real gaps in OB access and maternity service availability across rural/frontier communities.

Workforce: internationally trained physicians / provisional licensure concept

On the physician workforce front, HB 129: Expanding Physician Access Act would authorize the Board of Medicine to issue provisional medical licenses to internationally trained physicians under specified conditions and require related rulemaking. This is the

kind of proposal where the details matter — patient safety, supervision, and transition pathways, as well as how it might meaningfully help rural recruitment and retention.

MEMBERS SET WMS POLICY

the WIRE

The WMS Board of Trustees voted to significantly increase the role of members across the state in determining the association's advocacy positions and efforts. WMS will preserve precious and finite political capital and resources by reserving public advocacy efforts, including public testimony, to those issues that gain 20% of WMS member engagement on [theWIRE](#).



For all other bills being tracked by WMS, our advocacy team will represent the Board's Advisory Position in individual conversations and interactions as we work to educate and advise lawmakers on important health policy decisions impacting WY.

Instructions on how to login and use theWIRE are below. **Please remember that all members in good standing with WMS are invited to post their own proposal for member voting and comment on theWIRE.**



To cast your vote on WIRE proposals, [CLICK HERE](#) (or the link in the button below) to access THE WIRE. Members can also access THE WIRE from the WMS website at www.wyomed.org

How to use The Wire:

- Log on - <https://thewire.wyomed.org/>
 - The Wire uses the same username and password as you use to login to the WMS website to manage your membership. If you have forgotten your username or password, you can use the forget password feature on The Wire to reset it.
 - To view proposals - select "Proposal Feedback" at the top of the screen
- Click on "Pre-Board Feedback"
 - Click on the title link to vote/share your opinion on a topic

Members are also welcome to contact a member of the WMS staff for assistance in utilizing THE WIRE.

[Access theWire & VOTE](#)

PLEASE VOTE: PROPOSALS WAITING INPUT

HB3 - Autonomy for Pregnancy Crisis Centers

HB 3: WY Pregnancy Centers - Autonomy and Rights continues to need WMS member input. 53 of the required 200 votes have been cast for WMS to take a public position on this bill.

BILL STATUS

Passed *Second Reading in the House*

HOUSE BILL 3

Autonomy for Wyoming Pregnancy Centers

Advocacy Threshold:
20% of membership (200 votes)

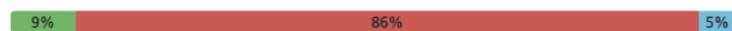
Votes Required:

200

Votes Cast So Far:

53

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



5 | 45 | 3

HB13 - Ivermectin OTC

HB 13: Ivermectin no prescription required

continues to need WMS member input. 68 of the required 200 votes have been cast for WMS to take a public position on this measure.

BILL STATUS

Failed *the required 2/3 vote in the House*

HOUSE BILL 13

Availability of Ivermectin Over-the-Counter

Advocacy Threshold:
20% of membership (200 votes)

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Votes Required: | Votes Cast So Far: |
| 200 | 68 |

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



21 | 64 | 2

HB117 - Stop harm-empower women with informed consent

House Bill 117: Stop harm-empower women in informed consent continues to need WMS input. 46 of the required 200 votes have been cast for WMS to take a public position on this bill.

BILL STATUS
Introduced and referred to House Labor, Health and Social Services

HOUSE BILL 117

Stop harm-empower women with informed notices

Advocacy Threshold:
20% of membership (200 votes)

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Votes Required: | Votes Cast So Far: |
| 200 | 46 |

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



2 | 44 | 0

SF23 - Title 25 Final determination exams

SF23 - Outpatient examination and commitment length continues to need WMS input. 64 of the required 200 votes have been cast for WMS to take a public position on this bill.

BILL STATUS
Introduced and referred to the Senate Labor, Health Committee

SENATE FILE 23

Outpatient Examination & Commitment Length

Advocacy Threshold:
20% of membership (200 votes)

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Votes Required: | Votes Cast So Far: |
| 200 | 64 |

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)



39 | 20 | 5

SF48 - Stem Cell Freedom Act

SF48 - Stem Cell Freedom Act continues to need WMS input. 45 of the required 200 votes have been cast for WMS to take a public position on this bill.

BILL STATUS
Introduced and referred to the Senate Labor, Health Committee

SENATE FILE 48

Authorization of Stem Cell Therapy Not Yet FDA Approved

Advocacy Threshold:
20% of membership (200 votes)

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Votes Required: | Votes Cast So Far: |
| 200 | 45 |

[CLICK HERE TO VOTE](#)

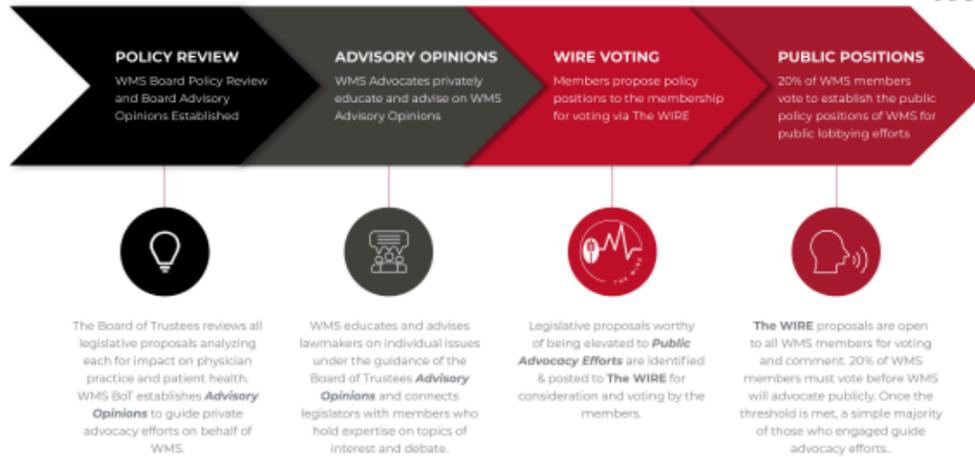


14 | 25 | 6

ADVOCACY PROCESS

WMS Advocacy Process

Board Advisory Opinions & Society Position Setting Via The WIRE



(click the image above to see a larger image)

WANT TO OPT OUT OF LEGISLATIVE UPDATES?

We get it. Not everyone wants blow-by-blow accounts of the legislative activity in Cheyenne. If this is you, we understand. Please don't unsubscribe from our mailing, but instead, let us know below by clicking the "**thumbs down**". We will assume that you are okay with receiving our less frequent and general membership updates but would like to be removed from the daily update list. We will do our best to get you removed so we don't clutter your inbox with information you don't want.

Click that "Thumbs Down" to be removed from the daily update email list this year.



DOC/PA OF THE DAY



2026 Doc of the Day

Thank you to Dr. Donald Kirk, Dr. Martha Hageman, and Dr. Thomas Radosevich for volunteering their time to serve as Doc of the Day during the first week of session.

The Wyoming Medical Society is needs more volunteers to serve during the the legislative session. Doc/PA of the Day volunteers have the opportunity to meet with state legislators, are introduced on the floor of the House and Senate Chambers, and help ensure legislators see that Wyoming physicians and PAs care!

You *must* be a WMS member to serve as Doc/PA of the Day. Please consider making time to volunteer this year!

To schedule your volunteer date email info@wyomed.org.

[VOLUNTEER CALENDAR/INFO](#)

THANK YOU FRIENDS OF WMS



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Wyoming Medical Society
Advocating for doctors and their patients since 1903

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