

# Appropriations Committee

## 2021 Interim Planning – Proposed Interim Topics

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### **N/A-Topic requested by legislator**

**Proposed Interim Topic: Unfunded State Employee Leave Liabilities**

**Contact Person:**

Representative Larsen

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

The Committee will review (i) unfunded leave liabilities and (ii) expenditure of vacancy savings. Specific items of consideration include the state's approach to funding unfunded state employee vacation and sick leave liabilities, including a review of leave policies, funding obligations and expenditures. The Committee will consider various funding strategies and the advantages and barriers of those strategies. The Committee will also consider the uses of vacancy savings or vacant position compensation. The Committee will work with the Department of Administration and Information on this topic.

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in legislation.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

**Proposed Interim Topic: Wyoming Retirement System**

**Contact Person:**

Senator Hicks

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

The Committee will review and examine the Wyoming Retirement System's retirement funds accounts, investment authorities and fiduciary responsibilities. The Committee will review the manner of investing funds, specifically the benefits, cost and structure and explore coordinating investment efforts in conjunction with or through the Investment Funds Committee. The Committee will work with the Wyoming Retirement System.

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in legislation.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

# Appropriations Committee

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**Proposed Interim Topic: Postsecondary Education Governance**

**Contact Person:**

Chairman Nicholas

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

The Committee will study postsecondary governance, both the University of Wyoming and Community Colleges. The Joint Education Interim Committee is to oversee the University of Wyoming’s governance study authorized by 2020 Senate File 1, Section 337 (Budget Bill). The Committee will coordinate with the Select Committee on Community College Governance and Funding within this topic. The Committee anticipates this topic will be a two-year study as is contemplated in the Budget Bill. Further, the Committee requests Management Council authorization to proceed in contracting with the appropriate expertise to assist the Committee in this work. Under this topic, the Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of the Wyoming Works and Community College Bachelor of Applied Science programs that were implemented during the 2019 General Session.

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in Legislation

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

**Proposed Interim Topic: Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)**

**Contact Person:**

Chairman Nicholas

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

The Committee will continue its systematic and comprehensive review of the structure, delivery of specialized applications and support services by ETS, cost, and prioritization of information technology (IT) budget requests to provide solutions to state agencies’ IT needs. The Committee will also review the processes and decisions of ETS and state agencies that lead to the evaluation and justification for proposed IT projects, expenses, funding options, and prioritization. To the extent possible, the Committee will encourage and provide legislative support for ETS to produce solutions meeting the demands of various state agencies in addition to implementing large, integrated and complex IT projects efficiently (e.g.,: Revenue Information System for the Wyoming Department of Transportation, EPICS (DFS); WyCAPs (DFS); and Offender Case Management System (DOC)). This topic may result in legislation or revisions to appropriations. The Committee will send any legislation developed on this topic to the Management Audit Committee for review.

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in legislation.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

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---

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

**Proposed Interim Topic: Public Works Contracting**

**Contact Person:**

Chairman Nicholas

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

Rework and enhance language started in SF 0006.

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in legislation

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

**Proposed Interim Topic: ARPA Funds**

**Contact Person:**

Chairman Nicholas

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

Consistent and fair distribution of ARPA money

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may require legislation

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

**Proposed Interim Topic: Per Diem for JAC members**

**Contact Person:**

Rep Walters

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

Request to have daily pay and per diem paid for all members of JAC to attend the Treasurers conference

**Expected goal or result:**

This topic may result in legislation.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

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**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

### Senator Hicks

**Proposed Interim Topic: Budget Simplification and Transparency - (Review of Accounts and Spending Policies)**

**Contact Person:**

Erica Legerski  
Governor's Office  
erica.legerski@wyo.gov  
3077775774

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

Chairman Perkins and Senator Hicks are both aware of this request. Select Committee on Capital Finance was recommend, but that was not an option in the drop down menu. Take a holistic look at the budgeting process to continue to increase the simplification and transparency. Reduce the amount of state accounts to simplify the tracking, investing and budgeting process. Potential actions could include eliminating the Budget Reserve Account (BRA) and the Strategic Investment and Projects Account (SIPA). Have a review of the spending policies for best practices.

**Expected goal or result:**

The goal is to simplify the budgeting process. The proposal is to eliminate the Budget Reserve Account (BRA) and the Strategic Investment and Projects Account (SIPA) and take a look at the spending policies. Simplification of the budgeting process. Eliminate accounts and transfers that are no longer necessary. Simplification of the spending policies - as of now, to implement the policies one has to look at current legislation, recently passed legislation and the budget bill to determine transfers.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

I am not sure how much time this will take, but I would recommend at least 3 meetings.

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

I would recommend reviewing any previous studies on this matter .

### Representative Schwartz

**Proposed Interim Topic: Community College Sustainable Funding**

**Contact Person:**

Erin Taylor  
Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees  
erin@wacct.org  
3076315677

# Appropriations Committee

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**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

Sustainable Funding is the priority for the colleges. The community Colleges need a mechanism through which all 23 Wyoming counties who benefit from the state’s community colleges to provide financial support for these institutions through a statewide mill levy. This is the first step that allows the conversation to move forward to consider other funding mechanisms as outlined in the sustainable funding recommendations provided to the Joint Appropriations Committee and the Select Committee on Community College Funding.

**Expected goal or result:**

sustainable funding for the community colleges. Statewide mill levy and associated issues with funding, annexation, and statutory allocation model.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

Likely several days.

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

All the work of the 2020/02021 Select Committee on Community College Funding and Governance. and the Joint Appropriations Committee.

### Senator Hicks

**Proposed Interim Topic: SF0121 (study provision)**

**Contact Person:**

Senator Hicks

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

to public funds; modifying spending policies and other investment and revenue distribution provisions; repealing the strategic investments and projects account; repealing subaccounts within the strategic investments and projects account; repealing the legislative deficit control account funded from the strategic investments and projects account; revising account distributions as specified; providing for the transfer from and reversion of funds to the repealed accounts; redistributing certain severance taxes; transferring funds as specified; repealing obsolete and inconsistent provisions; providing for a study

**Expected goal or result:**

This should be assigned to CapFin

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

6-8 hours

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

SF0121 this should be assigned to CapFin

### Representative Stith

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**Proposed Interim Topic:** Pre-Qualification of contractors on public works projects, consideration of adoption of substance of federal acquisition regulations regarding unbalanced bids and schedules of values

**Contact Person:**

Clark Stith

n/a

clark.stith@wyoleg.gov

307-389-7735

**Related to 2021 legislation:**

No

**Recommended priorities Committee should consider:**

uniform prequalification requirements prohibiting unbalanced bidding and schedule of values examining sole source supplier clauses

**Expected goal or result:**

to reconsider SF6 and make appropriate amendments thereto.

**Estimated Committee time for topic:**

3 hours

**Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:**

input from state construction department, school districts, county commissioners, WAM, Wyoming AGC