

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0103

Merit career-technical scholarships.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hunt, Allen and Berger and
Senator(s) Driskill and Wasserburger

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to career-technical education; providing
2 for a task force to study and prepare plans for
3 implementation of a career-technical education student
4 scholarship program; providing an appropriation; and
5 providing for effective dates.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9

Section 1.

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11 (a) There is created a task force on merit career-
12 technical education scholarships to consist of two (2)
13 members of the Wyoming house of representatives, appointed
14 by the speaker of the house, and two (2) members of the
15 Wyoming senate, appointed by the president of the senate,

1 together with the following members appointed by the
2 governor:

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4 (i) One (1) representative of community
5 colleges;

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7 (ii) Two (2) representatives from business and
8 industry;

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10 (iii) One (1) representative of the public at-
11 large;

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13 (iv) One (1) representative from the Wyoming
14 public schools career-technical education community;

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16 (v) One (1) representative from the Wyoming
17 department of education career-technical education program;

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19 (vi) One (1) member of the state board of
20 education.

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22 (b) The task force shall study the establishment of a
23 student merit career-technical education scholarship

1 program. The goal of the task force shall be to make
2 recommendations to the Wyoming legislature for future
3 legislation necessary for a student merit career-technical
4 education scholarship program to make career-technical
5 education post secondary programs in Wyoming as free as
6 possible to Wyoming high school graduates. The task force
7 shall consider and make recommendations as to the
8 following:

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10 (i) The amount of tuition, fees and other
11 education related payments which can be sustained from
12 anticipated earnings from the merit career-technical
13 education student scholarship account;

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15 (ii) Career-technical institutions to be
16 eligible for student scholarships awarded under this act,
17 including public and private institutions, with
18 consideration given to any constitutional limitations
19 governing the expenditure of public funds for scholarship
20 purposes;

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22 (iii) Scholarship qualification requirements and
23 requirements to maintain a scholarship including

1 consideration of high school course completion
2 requirements, performance levels on high school assessments
3 and post secondary entry examinations, and academic
4 progress requirements for scholarship eligibility
5 maintenance;

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7 (iv) Reentry requirements for students failing
8 to maintain eligibility requirements of post secondary
9 institutions;

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11 (v) Waiver provisions, if any, regarding any of
12 the entry or continuing scholarship requirements;

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14 (vi) Administrative oversight of the program;

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16 (vii) An implementation date for the program;

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18 (viii) Funding for the program.

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20 (c) In addition to subsection (b) of this section,
21 the recommendation of the task force shall include a
22 requirement that the department of education collect such
23 information from school districts, Wyoming community

1 colleges and technical schools operating in this state, as
2 determined necessary by the department of work force
3 services to evaluate the impacts of the scholarship program
4 on state employment and wages. The recommendations shall
5 include a request for evaluation by the department of work
6 force services based upon studied control groups of program
7 participants and nonparticipants and shall include a
8 recommendation to annually report to the joint
9 appropriations and education interim committees. The report
10 shall also include recommendations to identify the return
11 on investment of the scholarship program, improve student
12 career counseling and incorporate representative employer
13 assessment of the skills competency of program and control
14 participants.

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16 (d) The task force shall be staffed by the
17 legislative service office. State agencies shall provide
18 information to the task force as requested in order to
19 fulfill its duties. The legislative members of the task
20 force shall receive compensation, per diem and travel
21 expenses in the manner and amount prescribed by W.S.
22 28-5-101. Task force members who are not legislators and
23 are not state employees shall not receive salaries, but

1 shall receive the per diem and mileage paid members of the
2 Wyoming legislature under W.S. 28-5-101 for each day of
3 actual task force meetings and travel to those meetings.

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5 (e) The task force shall report its initial findings
6 and recommendations to the governor, the joint
7 appropriations and education interim committees by November
8 1, 2015.

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10 (f) This task force shall cease to exist on March 31,
11 2016.

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13 **Section 2.** There is appropriated from the general
14 fund to the legislative service office twenty thousand
15 dollars (\$20,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
16 fund the merit career-technical education student
17 scholarship task force in carrying out its duties under
18 this act.

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1 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

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(END)