



SENATE RESOLUTION #3021

TITLE: Resolution to Change the Wyoming Union's Funding Status

DATE INTRODUCED:


AUTHOR: Senators Robertson and Saint, Director of Government and Community Affairs Gomelsky

SPONSORS: ASUW President, Director of Government and Community Affairs Gomelsky, Senators Bogani, Christensen, Davies, Harper, Heffley, Holt, Keasling Morales, Rzeszut, Schliebe, Shosh Verdeyen


1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the Wyoming Union, under current regulation, is prevented from
4. accessing funds from the University of Wyoming Major Maintenance Fund; and,
5. WHEREAS, the Wyoming Union can only procure funds from bonds, student
6. fees, and other specified fees as specified by Wyoming state law; and,
7. WHEREAS, it is the duty of ASUW to review and ensure proper allocation of student
8. fee dollars; and,
9. WHEREAS, the current maintenance costs of the Wyoming Union are unduly
10. burdensome for UW students and are preventing the Wyoming Union from fulfilling
11. its duties; and,
12. WHEREAS, this resolution would support the State of Wyoming in amending state law
13. to allow for the Wyoming Union to procure funds from the University of Wyoming
14. Major Maintenance fund as outlined in Addendum A and Addendum B; and,
15. WHEREAS, the content in Addendum A and Addendum B would benefit ASUW, the
16. Wyoming Union, and most importantly the student body.
17. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of
18. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government that ASUW supports the State of Wyoming in
19. assisting with the maintenance costs of the Wyoming Union and/or
20. amending its budget to allow the Wyoming Union to procure funds from the University
21. of Wyoming Major Maintenance fund; and,
22. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the Wyoming
23. Legislature, the Wyoming Governor's Office, ASUW, the Wyoming Union, and all
24. other relevant stakeholders upon its passage.

Passed 20-0-0

Referred to: TASFRC, PID, SWAC

Date of Passage: December 3rd, 2024 Signed: 
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on December 3rd, 2024, I do hereby sign my name
hereto and approve this

Senate action.” 

ASUW President

Addendum A

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. HB0001

ENGROSSED

ENROLLED ACT NO. 50, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2024 BUDGET SESSION

MARCH 22, 2024.]

[MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUNDING FOR STATE FACILITIES, STATE PARKS AND CULTURAL
RESOURCES, UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES]

Section 308.

(a) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2024, there is appropriated from the strategic investments and projects account, for major maintenance to the entities and in the amounts specified as provided in this subsection:

(i) One hundred sixty-eight million two hundred seventy-two thousand one hundred fifty-seven dollars (\$168,272,157.00) shall be distributed as follows:

(A) Thirty-six and twenty-four hundredths percent (36.24%) to the state construction department for state facilities managed by the state building commission and state institutions;

(B) Eight and forty-three hundredths percent (8.43%) to fund projects submitted by the department of state parks and cultural resources as approved by the state building commission;

(C) Thirty-six and twenty-one hundredths percent (36.21%) to the University of Wyoming for university facilities, excluding student housing, the student union and auxiliary services areas, the latter being those areas funded by university self-sustaining revenues;

(D) Nineteen and twelve hundredths percent (19.12%) to the state construction department for community college district facilities.

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, appropriations made under subsection (a) of this section shall be separately accounted for by the recipient and shall not revert. Expenditures from these appropriations shall be restricted to expenses incurred for major building and facility repair and replacement as defined in W.S. 9-5-107(h) and as prescribed by rule of the state building commission.

(c) Not later than September 1, 2025, the state construction department shall submit to the state building commission a recommendation for funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2026, for major building and facility repair and replacement for state institutions, for University of Wyoming facilities and for community college facilities. This recommendation for all facilities shall be based on a formula adopted by the state building commission pursuant to W.S. 9-5-107(g), except that the formula shall incorporate the gross square footage of buildings and facilities for each category of buildings for state facilities, university facilities and community college facilities, not to exceed seven (7) building categories for each entity, excluding student housing, the student union and auxiliary services areas funded exclusively through university or community college generated revenues unless otherwise specified.

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. HB0001

ENGROSSED

ENROLLED ACT NO. 50, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2024 BUDGET SESSION

(d) Not later than October 31, 2025, the state construction department, the department of state parks and cultural resources, the University of Wyoming and the community college commission shall report to the state building commission and the joint appropriations committee on the expenditures and commitments made from the appropriations under subsection (a) of this section.

(e) In addition to the appropriation in paragraph (a)(i) of this section, there is appropriated one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the state construction department for major maintenance at Ranch A and an evaluation as provided under this subsection. The state construction department shall evaluate the major maintenance requirements at Ranch A and include any associated recommendations and conclusions, including future budget requests and statutory changes needed to efficiently and effectively address on-going major maintenance at Ranch A in the state construction department's next budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013.

(f) Subsections (b) through (d) of this section shall not be effective if 2024 House Bill 0075 is enacted into law.

[DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARRYOVERS]

Section 309.

(a) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 2, Section 048, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 2, Section 048, or reappropriated from the general fund to the department of health under 2022 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 51, Section 309, as amended by 2023 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 94, Section 3, Section 309, up to fifty-seven million dollars (\$57,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is available, shall not revert on June 30, 2024 and are hereby reappropriated to the department of health in the following amounts and for the following purposes:

- (i) Up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000.00) to the Wyoming state hospital demolition account;
- (ii) Unanticipated Medicaid expenditures, including increased enrollment;
- (iii) Costs associated with the implementation of Title 25, Chapter 10 of the Wyoming statutes;
- (iv) State facility staffing needs.

(b) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207, of unexpended, unobligated monies appropriated from the general fund to the

Addendum B

Section 308 of Enrolled Act NO. 50, by the House of Representatives in the Sixty-Seventh Legislature of the State of Wyoming 2024 Budget Session states that the Wyoming Union can't procure funds from the Major Maintenance fund at the University of Wyoming. This prevents the Wyoming Union from using monies from the University of Wyoming Major Maintenance fund to make improvements and/or repairs on the Wyoming Union. Knowing that there is money in the Major Maintenance fund that would help the Wyoming Union pay for much needed improvements and/or repairs, we strongly encourage the Wyoming Legislature to amend state law to allow for the Wyoming Union to procure and use Major Maintenance money. With the current state of needed repairs for the Wyoming Union, it would be in the best interest of the state and the university to allow the Wyoming Union to use money from the Major Maintenance fund. To add, when the Wyoming Union was initially built it was entirely funded by student fee dollars and access/use of the Wyoming Union was exclusive only to students. This is why the initial name for the building was the Student Union because it was a gathering building for University of Wyoming students only, it is now called the Wyoming Union because it has turned into a gathering location for everyone in Wyoming. With the Wyoming Union now open to the public, which includes non-students and faculty, it only makes sense for the Wyoming Union to draw funding from the Major Maintenance fund that is funded largely by taxpayers. If the current law were to remain as it is, it would put an unnecessary burden on the student body because the only viable avenue available to pay for these improvements and repairs is to increase the student fee for Consolidated Student Services, which we recommended this past ASUW budget session. It doesn't make sense for the entire student body to bear the cost of improving/fixing/maintaining the Wyoming Union when the public and non-students are allowed to make use of the many amenities at the Wyoming Union. Amending this law, by striking the language in Section 308 that prohibits the Wyoming Union from using Major Maintenance money, would benefit the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Union, the State of Wyoming, the public, and the student body.