

1-24-2017

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers reporting to you from Cheyenne on Tuesday, January 24. Today in Committee of the Whole we debated a bill that would have provided a reciprocal agreement for governmental immunity between states where community buses run. This issue is highlighted in Jackson, where town buses bring workers in from Idaho. These buses are protected under governmental immunity in Wyoming, but in Idaho they are subject to other liability laws. This bill would provide a framework to solve that issue, but the bill is poorly written, and it remains to be seen whether it can be fixed. We also discussed a bill to automatically restore voting rights to non-violent felons and a bill to help solve salvage title issues. HB 32, the Ski Safety Act, passed final vote in the House today, as the good lawyers in our body cut the fat out of the bill, and made it palatable. I stood in support of this bill again today, as it is desired by our local ski area.

Two gun bills came out of the Judiciary Committee today, and were placed upon General File. HB137 would repeal gun free zones in governmental meetings, like town council and county commission meetings, for those individuals with a conceal-and-carry permit. This is identical to a bill last year that my county and town governments seemed comfortable with. The other bill, HB136, would allow individuals with a conceal-and-carry permit to pack a gun on our college and university campuses in Wyoming. I supported HB137 last year, but have some concerns with HB136. Should guns be packed into the football stadium at UW, where a lot of alcohol is consumed?

I have received a lot of comments on HB135, The Government Non-discrimination Act, and folks seem to be pretty split on the issue in Sublette County. That bill has not yet been heard in committee. I can be reached at [albert@albertsommers.com](mailto:albert@albertsommers.com)

Thank you