

3-5-2018

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers reporting to you from Cheyenne on Monday, March 5. Today, I had the honor of showing Robin Schamber and the Wyoming 4-H Leadership team around the floor of the House. This group included three students from Sublette County. Seeing such a good group of young people really gives me hope about the future of our state.

Today in Committee of the Whole we heard three bills that had been generated by the Governor's ENDOW Executive Committee. Senate File 40 would create a new air service program to replace the existing air enhancement program, and we have been told that by doing so we can replace the expenditure of \$60 million over ten years with the expenditure of \$15 million. This is accomplished by long term contracts with airlines. Senate File 100 would create a broadband grant program for public/private partnerships. The bill was developed with the telecommunications industry at the table. High speed, high quality, affordable broadband is essential if Wyoming wants to remain economically relevant in today's business world. Senate File 108 would create an international trade representative, seek to find strategies to bring USDA inspected meat packing plants to Wyoming, and enhance the marketing of Wyoming agricultural products. All three of these bills passed Committee of the Whole today, and I supported all of them.

Other bills of importance that passed today with my support included SF89, the local government distributions bill, which provides extra funding to counties and municipalities using a formula based upon population and needs. Senate File 69, funding projects of the Wyoming Natural Resource Trust Fund board, passed as well. The bill funds important wildlife and natural resource related projects across the state of Wyoming. We also passed out of Committee of the Whole a resolution recognizing the 150th anniversary of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie.

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Thank you