

3-6-2018

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers reporting to you from Cheyenne on Tuesday March 6. Today, we continued to debate the Governor's ENDOW bills on second reading, as they passed to third reading. In my Appropriations Committee today we heard SF71, the Senate's version of the Stand Your Ground bill, which expands the self-defense statutes. I did not support HB168, a similar bill, because it was not supported by the Sublette County Sheriff or County Attorney. HB168 would have radically changed Wyoming law, affecting the ability of police to detain suspects for investigation. SF71 was heavily amended in the Senate, with the result that law enforcement and county attorneys can live with that bill. I voted for SF71 in committee, because I do support our right to self-defense.

Passing Committee of the Whole today were bills prioritizing landfill cease and transfer projects, legalizing and regulating biological pharmaceutical products, putting some restrictions on the number of years a veteran can receive free tuition, creating a State Fair Board, expanding the definition of vulnerable adults, and making computer science a requirement for school districts.

Senate File 62, the omnibus water planning bill, passed Committee of the Whole today with my support. One of the bill's projects is a Level II feasibility study for repair of the Silver Lake Dam in Sublette County.

Senate File 61, which passed with my support, would allow fluorescent pink to be utilized as a hunting color.

Senate File 83 also passed with my support. This is a bill I initiated which further defines portions of the opioid tracking program. Currently, only licensed pharmacies must report to the opioid tracking program, but this bill would expand that to include all dispensers of opioids, with some exceptions for dispensing in medical facilities.

We have not reached a compromise with the Senate on the budget, the State capital construction bill, or the House comprehensive education funding bill.

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Thank you