

1/16/2019

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers checking in from the floor of the House of Representatives. I have been spending a great deal of time in the Appropriations Committee and today we began to accept or decline recommendations from both Governors Mead and Gordon. The Committee will have made final motions by Friday, but it will take staff a week to write the budget.

This morning, the House considered and passed 13 bills on second reading, including my bill [HB0012](#) - Shed Antlers and Horn.

Several other bills of interest include:

[HB0006](#) – Physical Therapy-scope of practice revisions

[HB0028](#) – Regulation of Shed Antlers and Big Game Horn Collection

[HB0066](#) – Lodging Tax

[HJ0001](#) – Wyoming Support for delisting the grizzly bear

Several additional bills passed the House and will be delivered to the Senate for consideration.

These bills included:

[HB0003](#) - Board of outfitters and guides-civil penalties. Passed 44-7-9-0-0

[HB0013](#) - Jury procedure amendments. Passed 51-0-9-0-0

[HB0041](#) - UW board of trustees-chairman. Passed 51-0-9-0-0

[HB0069](#) - Collection of sales tax by marketplace facilitators. Passed 42-9-9-0-0

The House Committee of the Whole considered a number of interesting bills including [HB0002](#) - Regulation of hunting methods. This bill authorizes the Wyoming Game and Fish to regulate

new and emerging technologies being utilized in hunting. I spoke in support of this bill because the Game and Fish needs the ability to be responsive to ever changing technologies and balance the need for fair chase of game. Changes to hunting regulations will still be debated in a public forum with public input via the Game and Fish Commission. The bill passed Committee of the Whole on a voice vote. There may be amendments to this bill moving forward to limit the scope of the Game and Fish Department's authority on this issue. I will monitor changes and continue to protect fair chase and the sporting nature of hunting in Wyoming.

Additionally, the Committee of the Whole considered bills pertaining to equal pay, education major maintenance funding, vehicle title requirements, and criminal justice amendments, among others.

One bill failed the Committee of the Whole. [HB0072](#) - Wage transparency failed on a vote of 27-32-1-0-0. This bill would have made it illegal for employers to fire employees for discussing wages.

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Thank you