

2/22/2019

Hello Sublette County,

This is Albert Sommers in Cheyenne on Friday the 22nd. Today was the last day of the 7th week of the 65th General Session of the Wyoming Legislature. We started the morning by voting on concurrences to Senate amendments and voting on Joint Conference Committee reports. One of the Joint Conference Committee reports was to address the differences between the House and the Senate on House Bill 134, which was my brand delinquency bill. This bill would mandate that a brand could not be abandoned until it has been delinquent for two years. The current law is one year of delinquency. The Senate amended the bill to create a lifetime brand provision, which would allow an individual or entity to purchase a lifetime brand for \$1500. If the brand changes ownership, then the lifetime provision will go away. I liked this idea, and the House accepted the amendment. We went into Committee of the Whole to hear six bills carried over from last night. Five bills passed and one failed. Those that passed included:

[SF 161](#) - Management council membership-2. This bill takes some seats on Management Council away from the minority party and gives them to the majority party. Management Council is really the board of directors and jury for the legislature, and so I am not sure we need to change the membership.

[SF 144](#) - Medicaid and SNAP eligibility requirements. This bill would create work requirements for Medicaid and SNAP recipients, but it is not clear to me who will be affected and how.

[SF 134](#) – Severance Tax exemption

The five bills that passed Committee of the Whole will be heard again, on 2nd and 3rd reading. A final vote will occur on 3rd reading, possibly on Tuesday, February 26.

We failed [SF 122](#) – Wyoming Works Program, on a vote of 28-31-1. However, I brought this bill back on a motion to rescind the failed vote. We then passed the bill out of Committee of the Whole. This bill will create a grant program for non-traditional students for credential programs at community colleges. This is a workforce development bill.

Given the amount of time we spent on concurrences and general file, we moved to lay back all 2nd and 3rd reading bills for further consideration on Monday, February 25. These bills will be given their due consideration and we will finish out our work for the people of Wyoming on time next week.

For details and status of all 2019 bills, see <https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2019>

Please follow my [Facebook page](#) for up to date information and email me at albert@albertsommers.com with questions or concerns.

Thank you