

3/11/22

Hello Sublette County, this is Albert Sommers reporting to you from Cheyenne on March 11. Today was the final day of the 2022 Budget Session. The House spent the day debating concurrences and conference committee reports and overriding some of the Governor's vetoes. It takes a 2/3 majority vote of both the House and the Senate to override a Governor's veto.

As it applies to [SF0001](#) - General government appropriations, the Senate chose to override six of the Governor's vetoes. Of those, the House concurred on the override of four. [SF0001VT001](#) vetoes language that requires the Treasurer's office to obtain permission from the Legislature before using investment funds to increase employee salaries. The supermajority of both chambers voted to override this veto, maintaining the Legislative "power of the purse." [SF0001VT002](#) was an attempt to veto an appropriation for an acoustic study designed to reduce poor audibility inside the capitol. This veto was overridden and the appropriation for this study remains in place.

As it applies to [SF0066](#) - American rescue plan act recovery funds appropriations, the Senate chose to override three vetoes, and the House concurred on two. [SF0066VT002](#) discusses appropriations for the department of health to establish emergency medical services across Wyoming, along with investigating alternative options for emergency medical services that could improve access to care while reducing costs. The governor wanted to strike the condition of a 1 to 1 match from another source. This veto override failed, and the 1 to 1 match is removed. [SF0066VT003](#) was a veto that would have allowed the Governor to appropriate and spend ARPA and CAREs federal funds for programs of his choosing, wherever the legislature does not appropriate those federal funds by an established date. Both bodies overrode the Governor's veto, maintaining the Legislature's power of appropriation.

The House and the Senate finally came to terms on [HB0100](#) - Redistricting of the legislature. Early in the session, the House passed a 62-House-district/31-Senate-district plan, but the Senate amended the bill back to a 60/30 plan. The Legislature finally settled on a 62/31 plan at about 11 pm tonight, after an impasse in the Sheridan County area was resolved. This means

that Wyoming will grow from our previous 60/30 plan into 62 House districts and 31 Senate districts. The 62-House-district plan allows more rural representation, because it decreases the size (and population) of the districts. In the 62-House-district plan that passed tonight, my House District #20 will encompass all of Sublette County and the La Barge school district boundary in Lincoln County. The Senate version would have had Sublette County share part of Teton County to form House District #20. I was successful in keeping Sublette County whole and including the La Barge area, which is consistent with all of the feedback I received from my constituents. Here is a link to the statewide map:

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1YI0KPJ\\_Q5ygl9XApFATJM GnPtUePS2s0&ll=42.73985506839341%2C-107.46701438916195&z=8](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1YI0KPJ_Q5ygl9XApFATJM GnPtUePS2s0&ll=42.73985506839341%2C-107.46701438916195&z=8) .

I want to thank the Corporations Committee and everyone else who worked so hard on creating a plan for redistricting. It may not be perfect, but it is a good compromise. I appreciate all the time and hard work put in from both the House and the Senate. I also want to thank the members of my district for the comments I received this session. They helped guide me. I also would like to express my gratitude to all members of the 66th Legislature for their dedication and service to make Wyoming an amazing place to live, work, and play.

I can be reached at [albert@albertsommers.com](mailto:albert@albertsommers.com) with questions and comments.