

WAM has taken a proactive approach to the 65th Wyoming Legislative Budget Session with the Legislative Leadership Committee approving the following agenda. Throughout 2017, resolutions were drafted, a Municipal Finance Comparison Report was published, and other issues relative to Wyoming's cities and towns were presented to WAM members. The following briefly details issues that will be supported or monitored during the session. Other bills that are presented during the session will be addressed accordingly and messaged in the weekly legislative reports. For additional information and daily updates, follow the bill activity on the Advocacy Page of WAM's improved website wyomuni.org.

Municipal Finance Comparison Report Recommendations

1. Pass appropriation bill to secure at a minimum \$105M biennium payments to towns, cities and counties
2. Revise tax laws to increase municipal revenue capacity, considering local option tax revisions, property tax assessment adjustments, municipal sales and use tax, increase state sales and use tax to 5% with current allocation, and review revising state sales tax allocation.
3. Increase the cap for Severance Tax and Federal Mineral Royalties
4. Remove tax exemptions that do not support economic development

WAM Annual Convention Resolutions (Prioritized)

1. A resolution supporting the WAM legislative agenda and the Association's efforts in seeking appropriation of state funding for Wyoming cities and towns during the 2018 Budget Session of the Wyoming Legislature (**Resolution No. 2017-02**)
2. A resolution to create an optional general revenue tax for a specified purpose (**Resolution No. 2017-09**)
3. A resolution supporting and advocating legislation to amend Wyoming statute 15-1-113 (a), contracts for public improvement and Wyoming Statute 15-1-113 (f) forms of guarantee (**Resolution No. 2017-07**)
4. A resolution advocating legislation to remove the non-transient lodging tax exemption (**Resolution No. 2017-05**)
5. A resolution to create an agreement of 'lodging' taxation between online marketplace and hospitality service providers and the State of Wyoming (**Resolution No. 2017-10**) – **Airbnb agreed to add tax starting 8/1/17**
6. A resolution supporting and advocating that the State of Wyoming Legislature reinstate taxation on food products for financial support to Wyoming cities and towns (**Resolution No. 2017-04**)
7. A resolution to create utility and other municipal services lien authority for municipalities and joint powers boards (**Resolution No. 2017-08**)
8. A resolution advocating legislation to clarify the lien and assessment process by which municipal expenses for abating nuisances and dangerous buildings may be recovered (**Resolution No. 2017-06**)
9. A resolution supporting any efforts to raise the tax on all malt beverages (**Resolution No. 2017-03**)

WAM Member Requests

- Coordination with WCCA to introduce a joint bill addressing the extra-territorial jurisdiction,

particularly addressing planning and zoning.

- Coordinating with the Department of Workforce Services to draft a bill addressing exempting Unemployment Benefits for certain seasonal workers.
- Supporting a bill that adds stormwater fees to legislation similar to water and sewer fees such that a local council could add a fee through a typical rate increase process.

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