

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. HB0019

ENROLLED ACT NO. 19, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2023 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to children; creating the state Indian Child Welfare Act task force; specifying members and duties of the task force; requiring a report; providing a termination date for the task force; providing appropriations; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1.

(a) There is created the state Indian Child Welfare Act task force to consist of the following:

(i) The director of the department of family services or the director's designee;

(ii) One (1) county or prosecuting attorney in Wyoming, appointed by the governor;

(iii) One (1) private attorney who practices predominantly family law in Wyoming and is familiar with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, appointed by the governor;

(iv) Two (2) persons appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the Eastern Shoshone business council;

(v) Two (2) persons appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the Northern Arapaho business council;

(vi) Two (2) members of the Wyoming house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house. The

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speaker of the house shall designate from one (1) of the members appointed under this paragraph a cochairperson of the task force;

(vii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming senate, appointed by the president of the senate. The president of the senate shall designate from one (1) of the members appointed under this paragraph a cochairperson of the task force.

(b) The task force shall study the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, P.L. 95-608, 25 U.S.C. §§ 1901-1963, other states' Indian child welfare laws and existing protections and provisions for Indian children throughout Wyoming statutes.

(c) The task force shall meet as necessary and shall consult with national experts in child welfare and Indian Child Welfare Act protections and procedures.

(d) The task force shall develop legislative recommendations to incorporate the protections and procedures of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 into state law. Not later than July 1, 2024, the task force shall report its determinations and any recommendations to the select committee on tribal relations, the joint judiciary interim committee and the governor.

(e) The legislative members of the task force shall receive salary, per diem and travel expenses in the manner and amount prescribed by W.S. 28-5-101. Task force members who are not legislators and are not government employees shall receive salary, per diem and mileage in the amount provided for members of the Wyoming legislature under W.S. 28-5-101. Task force members who are government employees

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or officials shall be considered to be acting within the scope of regular employment when conducting the official business of the task force and shall receive their regular pay without additional compensation except they shall receive mileage and per diem as provided for other members of the task force under this subsection if they are not reimbursed by their employer.

(f) The task force shall be staffed by the legislative service office.

(g) The task force shall terminate December 31, 2024.

Section 2.

(a) There is appropriated forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) from the general fund to the governor's office for the purpose of providing salary, mileage and per diem to nonlegislative members of the state Indian Child Welfare Act task force as authorized by section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2025. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2025.

(b) There is appropriated forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) from the general fund to the legislative service office for the purpose of providing salary, mileage and per diem to legislative members of the state Indian Child Welfare Act task force as authorized by section 1 of this act and for other expenses of the state Indian Child Welfare Act task force authorized by law or policy of the legislature. This appropriation shall be for the period

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beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2025. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2025.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk