

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0276

Recording legislative and other meetings.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Halverson, Barlow, Brown,
Clem, Edwards, Lone, Loucks, Miller and
Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Boner and Meier

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the legislature; requiring the
2 legislative service office to record interim committee
3 meetings and other meetings as specified; providing that
4 communications audible on a recording are not privileged as
5 specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 28-8-105(a) by creating a new
10 paragraph (vii) and 28-8-116(a)(intro) and by creating a
11 new subsection (d) are amended to read:

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13 **28-8-105. Duties of director and staff; prefiling**
14 **bills; fiscal notes.**

15

1 (a) It shall be the duty of the director and staff to
2 perform the following specific functions, together with
3 such other functions as the council may prescribe:
4

5 (vii) Prepare an audio recording of each meeting
6 of a joint interim committee, select committee or task
7 force that is staffed by the office and post a copy of the
8 recording to the website of the legislature within one (1)
9 month of the last day of the meeting. The contents of any
10 recording made under this paragraph shall not be construed
11 to supersede the official written record of the meeting
12 that reflects formal action or recommendation when approved
13 and signed by the committee or task force chairman. Nothing
14 in this paragraph shall require an audio recording of any
15 portion of a meeting which is conducted in executive
16 session and nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to
17 wave or modify any law related to public records, public
18 meetings or the legislature. The failure of audio
19 recording capability shall not delay the proceedings of the
20 meeting. The failure to record a meeting as provided by
21 this paragraph shall not affect the validity of any action
22 taken at the meeting.
23

1 **28-8-116. Confidential communications.**

2

3 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of
4 this section and unless the privilege is waived by the
5 individual legislator involved, the following shall be
6 deemed confidential and privileged:

7

8 (d) A communication made by a legislator or
9 legislative staff which would otherwise be confidential and
10 privileged under this section shall not be deemed
11 confidential and privileged to the extent that the
12 communication is audible on a recording of a public meeting
13 as provided in W.S. 28-8-105(a)(vii). Nothing in this
14 subsection shall be deemed to waive the privilege for any
15 communication or portion of a communication that is not
16 audible on the recording.

17

18 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

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20

(END)