STATE OF WYOMING

SENATE FILE NO. SF0151

Tax free enterprise zones.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Meier

A BILL

for

1	AN ACT relating to economic development; providing for
2	establishment of a tax free enterprise zone program;
3	authorizing tax credits for certain manufacturers as
4	specified; providing definitions; providing rulemaking
5	authority; and providing for an effective date.
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7	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:
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9	Section 1. W.S. 9-12-1401 through 9-12-1403 are
10	created to read:
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12	ARTICLE 14
13	TAX FREE ENTERPRISE ZONES
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15	9-12-1401. Tax free enterprise zone program; purpose;
16	creation; rulemaking.
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1 (a) It is the purpose of this article to promote 2 economic development at the city, town and county level in 3 order to create additional economic health and a stronger 4 state economy.

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The council shall establish and administer a tax 6 (b) free enterprise zone program as provided by this article. 7 Any city, town or county may submit an application to the 8 9 council for certification of a tax free enterprise zone on 10 forms prescribed by and subject to rules promulgated by the 11 council. The council may certify a tax free enterprise zone if it determines that the area to be designated as a tax 12 13 free enterprise zone has the necessary infrastructure to support manufacturing including, but not 14 limited to, utilities and sewer or water infrastructure. 15

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17 (C) If a tax free enterprise zone is certified under subsection (b) of this section, the council may by rule and 18 regulation authorize a tax credit for property tax paid by 19 20 a manufacturer conducting manufacturing activity within a 21 tax free enterprise zone. Any tax credit under this article shall be referred by the council to the state loan and 22 investment board for final approval or disapproval. 23 The

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state loan and investment board may adopt rules as
 necessary to implement its duties under this article.

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4 (d) A tax credit shall only be provided under this 5 article if the manufacturer applies to the business council 6 and demonstrates that the tax free enterprise zone program 7 enticed the manufacturer to begin or continue manufacturing 8 within the tax free enterprise zone.

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(e) A tax credit authorized under this article shall
be for one hundred percent (100%) of any tax paid under
W.S. 39-13-104(a)(iv) in the first year and shall decrease
twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) every year thereafter
so that after year eight (8) the property of the
manufacturer shall no longer be eligible for any credit
under this program.

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(f) In addition to any tax credit under subsection (e) of this section, a city, town or county may grant a tax credit to the manufacturer who applies to the city, town or county for any property tax paid to the city, town or county in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of any tax paid to the city, town or county in the first year. The credit shall decrease twelve and one-half percent (12.5%)

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every year thereafter so that after year eight (8) the 1 property of the manufacturer shall no longer be eligible 2 for any credit under this subsection. No city, town or 3 county shall grant a tax credit under this subsection 4 5 unless the city, town or county commits to provide revenue to the tax free enterprise zone account equal to the amount 6 of the credit for each year that the credit is authorized. 7 8 9 If a tax credit is authorized under this article (q) and the council does not have funds available in the tax 10 11 free enterprise zone account to pay the credit, no credit shall be allowed under this article. Nothing in this 12 13 article shall be deemed to create an enforceable right 14 against the council or the state of Wyoming. 15 As used in this article "manufacturing" means as 16 (h) defined in W.S. 39-15-101(a)(xxi). 17 18 19 9-12-1402. Tax free enterprise zone account. 20 (a) There is created the tax free enterprise zone 21 22 account. Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated 23

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to the council to be used only for tax credits authorized
 under this article.

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4 (b) The council may accept, and shall deposit to the 5 account, any gifts, contributions, donations, grants or 6 federal funds specifically given to the division for the 7 tax free enterprise zone program.

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9 9-12-1403. Council duties; actions on tax credit
 10 applications.

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All complete applications for a tax credit under this 12 13 article which conform with the criteria established by law and rules promulgated under this article which 14 are submitted to the council shall be considered by the 15 council. The council shall approve or disapprove each 16 17 application for a tax credit it considers in accordance with this article and rules of the council. The council 18 shall not approve any tax credit unless it determines that 19 the benefit to the community, the state or both is of equal 20 21 or greater value than the value of the credit.

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23 Section 2. W.S. 39-13-109(d) by creating a new 24 paragraph (ii) is amended to read:

1 2 39-13-109. Taxpayer remedies. 3 4 (d) Credits. The following shall apply: 5 (ii) The following shall apply to the credit 6 7 under W.S. 9-12-1401: 8 9 (A) The Wyoming business council shall provide reimbursement for any credit allowed from the tax 10 11 free enterprise zone account created pursuant to W.S. 12 9-12-1402. 13 14 Section 3. The Wyoming business council shall request that the governor, pursuant to W.S. 9-2-1005(b), transfer 15 funds to the tax free enterprise zone account created under 16 section 1 of this act from funds previously appropriated to 17 the Wyoming business council. 18 19 20 Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2013. 21 22 (END)