

# Wyoming Liberty Index

## 62<sup>nd</sup> Wyoming Legislature ★ 2014 Budget Session

### **HB0005, Education-required school bus video equipment-2.**

Sponsors: Joint Education Interim Committee

Aye votes: Representatives Barlow, Berger, Blake, Blevins, Blikre, Brown, Byrd, Campbell, Cannady, Connolly, Davison, Eklund, Esquibel, K., Filer, Freeman, Gay, Gingery, Goggles, Halverson, Harshman, Harvey, Kasperik, Kirkbride, McKim, Moniz, Northrup, Patton, Paxton, Piiparinen, Sommers, Teeters and Throne Senators Anderson, JD S02, Anderson, JL S28, Barnard, Burns, Coe, Cooper, Craft, Driskill, Emerich, Esquibel, F., Geis, Hastert, Johnson, Landen, Nutting, Peterson, Rothfuss, Scott and Von Flatern

Nay votes: Representatives Baker, Burkhart, Coleman, Greear, Greene, Hunt, Hutchings, Jaggi, Kroeker, Larsen, Lockhart, Loucks, Lubnau, Madden, Mader, Miller, Nicholas, B., Petroff, Reeder, Semlek, Stubson, Walters, Watt, Wilson, Winters, Zwonitzer, Dn. and Zwonitzer, Dv. Senators Bebout, Case, Christensen, Dockstader, Hicks, Hines, Meier, Nicholas, P., Perkins, Ross and Schiffer

Signed by the Governor.

#### **Comments**

More legislative micromanagement. While I support the idea (with reservations about civil rights), it is really up to the state to tell the school districts what equipment they should have on their buses? At least the state funded the mandate on a grant basis.

Pretty much a well intentioned mixed bag. A: \$5M, R? Pro: External cameras: May make it easier to identify and prosecute drivers who fail to stop for school buses. May persuade drivers to stop for school buses if they would otherwise have not. Should make it safer for children loading and unloading at school bus stops. Internal cameras: May make it easier to identify and expel troublemaking students from riding school buses. If camera is on whenever bus is in operation and is not under driver's control, it should make it easier to identify and eliminate abusive bus drivers. In districts that use driver aides to police student behavior, it may be practical to save money by eliminating this position. General: Provides extra funds to school districts to accomplish the requirements of the act. Con: Does not make it clear who is the accuser of any drivers "apprehended" by the system and what evidence the accused must be presented with in order to be in compliance with the requirements of the US Constitution, Amendment VI. Takes away some of the autonomy of the local school boards with its "shall" mandate. This may be a truly good idea, but it smacks of Big Brother and should have been set up as a pilot project in one or two of the school districts identified as having the worst problem.

Weighted Rating: -0.50. Unweighted Rating: -0.50.

#### **Categories**

Education, General Government, Individual Rights, Limited Government, and Separation of Powers

For more information on the categories:

<http://wyominglibertyindex.info/2014/methodology.html#thecategories>

#### **Document Status**

Final