

Wyoming Liberty Index

62nd Wyoming Legislature ★ 2014 Budget Session

HB0097, Education-state administration.

Sponsors: Representative(s) Reeder, Hutchings, Lubnau, Miller and Teeters and Senator(s) Dockstader and Hicks

Comments

As long as we are going to have a government school system, the standards process should be spelled out and rigorous so that everyone knows what it is. It should set standards for curriculum standards. This is a good bill.

U: This bill has administrative impact that appears to increase (or decrease) duties or responsibilities of one or more state agencies and may impact agency spending or staffing requirements. This is a pretty big mixed bag. First off it appears designed to ensure that education standards promulgated by the national government will not be allowed to become the official standards of the State of Wyoming and it makes reasonably strenuous efforts to prevent the national government from having uncontrolled access to individual school and student data. On the other hand, it has some of the hallmarks of a Trojan horse. It seems to basically duplicate the national standards effort, just at the state level. It does not eschew the use of national government funds in the Wyoming educational system which still gives the national government an indirect means of controlling the Wyoming educational system. History is not considered a critical topic, and as Robert Heinlein has said, "A generation that ignores history has no past and no future." And finally, this seems not to make any effort to prevent the Department of Education from locking the school districts into the same type of lockstep that the opponents of national standards are worried about, just at the state level. Governmental centralization is always inimical to Liberty. Ignoring the provisions of the Constitutions of the USA or of the State of Wyoming almost always promotes the centralization of governmental power and damages Liberty. On balance, we'll have to say that the Trojan horse hypothesis seems to carry the day.

Weighted Rating: 0.00. Unweighted Rating: 0.00.

Categories

Education, Federalism, Individual Rights, Limited Government, and Transparency

For more information on the categories:

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

Document Status

Final