

Wyoming Liberty Index

62nd Wyoming Legislature ★ 2014 Budget Session

HB0111, School safety and security.

Sponsors: Representative(s) Eklund, Hutchings and Semlek and Senator(s) Barnard

Comments

A step in the right direction. Idaho has similar legislation on the books, and has not yet seen the Armageddon predicted by opponents.

N: No significant fiscal or personnel impact. A large economy sized mixed bag! As introduced, W.S. 21-3-132 (a) and (b) is an excellent baby step toward removing the status of schools as criminal safe zones. Things get a bit muddy in section (c) tho. It seems a bit strange that persons who have already been vetted by the State for concealed carry permits would have to be vetted again by the school boards beyond getting a signed authorization letter. After all, nation-wide statistics show that concealed carry permittees are the most law-abiding class of citizens in the country! Since this is a power granted to school boards only over their own employees, it is a positive move toward eliminating criminal safe zones and protecting our children without causing confusion or imposing impossible requirements on the rest of the citizens of the State of Wyoming. So, as introduced, this would qualify as a good bill or neutral with positive potential. At introduction, just about anybody could get away with voting for it: criminal friendly legislators could vote for it and claim to have voted for a gun-friendly bill; child-friendly legislators could vote for it and say that they hoped to improve it during the amendment process. The nit-picking super vetting rules added later to the bill in the Education Committee are onerous enough to qualify as a poison pill designed by criminal-friendly legislators to (at best for them) guarantee defeat of the bill on the floor of the House, or if passed, to make it as criminal-friendly as possible (and therefore as good as possible for them) by making the administrative approval process onerous enough that few, if any, school employees would be motivated to run the administrative gauntlet that would enable them to provide protection to their students.

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

Categories

Education, and Individual Rights

For more information on the categories:

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

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