

# Wyoming Liberty Index

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

### **SF0113, Task force on expansion of natural gas service.**

Sponsors: Senator(s) Hicks and Representative(s) Paxton

Aye votes: Senators Anderson, JD S02, Anderson, JL S28, Barnard, Case, Christensen, Coe, Cooper, Craft, Dockstader, Driskill, Emerich, Esquibel, F., Geis, Hastert, Hicks, Hines, Johnson, Landen, Meier, Nicholas, P., Nutting, Perkins, Peterson, Ross and Rothfuss

Nay votes: Senators Bebout, Burns, Schiffer, Scott and Von Flatern

#### **Comments**

Why do we need a task force to expand the availability of any product? This is not the proper function of government. It smacks of crony capitalism and corporate welfare.

A: This bill contains a total appropriation of \$9,500 from the GENERAL FUND to the Legislative Service Office and to the Governor's Office. This bill smacks with the scent of government getting ready to interfere in the market. That said, if we take it at face value as a search for pertinent information on a topic area of concern and an effort to use that data to brainstorm up some useful alternative approaches to any issues discovered that are Constitutionally amenable to government solution and/or amelioration, it may well have value. Assuming a positive value to the end result, this is probably the least expensive approach to deriving the data and alternatives—contracting it out would probably cost well over \$10,000 and lose research time due to the process of soliciting contract bids. This sounds like a reasonable price to pay for information that may have value and utility for small towns and rural areas. Where this could become problematic is if all of the alternatives recommended propose that the government interfere in the markets to achieve a desired result. We'll call this one Liberty neutral and stay alert for problems that implementation of some or all of the alternatives offered could cause.

Weighted Rating: -1.00. Unweighted Rating: -1.00.

#### **Categories**

Free Market, General Government, Individual Rights, Limited Government, and Usurpation & Delegation of Power

For more information on the categories:

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

#### **Document Status**

Final