

Email 2022-01-27

The 2022 Legislative Session is coming up soon. This year's budget session starts on February 14. The schedule is attached for your reference. As in previous years, the WLA Legislative Committee will be monitoring legislation, working with the WLA lobbyist (Sherlyn Kaiser), and providing information to the membership. I will be sending update emails throughout the session. Each email will also include whether we need members to take action related to a piece of legislation.

The Legislative Committee encourages you to attend the upcoming WLA Legislative Reception on Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Wyoming State Library. Sherlyn Kaiser will give a legislative session update at 5pm, and the reception officially starts at 5:30pm. Let Susan Mark (susan.mark@wyo.gov or 307-777-5915) know if you will be in attendance. We are still in need of monetary donations and potluck dishes for the event.

General Committee Information:

- The committee is responsible for monitoring, initiating, researching, and coordinating legislative efforts for libraries in Wyoming. The committee is responsible for staying up-to-date and informing on potential changes due to federal funding or upcoming legislation.
- The committee works with the lobbyist to oversee advocacy efforts and contact legislators/representatives as needed.
- It reports to the WLA Executive Board.
- The committee is most active during the Wyoming Legislative Session. The Legislative Committee works closely with the professional lobbyist contracted with WLA. The WLA lobbyist is contracted for the duration of the legislative session.
- Communication to WLA from the lobbyist or concerning legislation is the responsibility of the committee.

Contact the Committee if You:

- are curious or confused about legislation. We're happy to look into it.
- want to alert the committee about legislation or an issue that is important to libraries.
- need help contacting your local/state representation.
- are interested in encouraging the membership or an interest group to advocate for a specific issue or providing education to legislators. The committee is able and willing to help with this, and the WLA lobbyist is able to advise on the best time and way to do this. It's also important for the committee to be informed of advocacy efforts across the association.

How to Contact the Committee:

- You can call or email the committee chair (Caitlin White) at 307-460-2481 or cwhite@acplwy.org.
- You can reach out to another committee member. Committee members are listed here: <https://wyla.org/Legislative-Committee>.

Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks,
Caitlin

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Legislative Committee Chair
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