

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0017

State lands-grazing of non-owned livestock.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands &
Water Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to state lands; providing for lessees of
2 state lands to graze livestock they do not own, but retain
3 management and responsibility, on leased lands without
4 obtaining permission from the director of the office of
5 state lands and investments; and providing for an effective
6 date.

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8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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10 **Section 1.** W.S. 36-5-105(d) is amended to read:

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12 **36-5-105. Criteria for leasing; preferences;**
13 **assignments, subleases or contracts; lands taken for war**
14 **purposes; mineral lands excepted; agricultural lands.**

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1 (d) If the lessee of state lands shall assign,
2 sublease or contract all or any part of the lease area, the
3 lease shall be subject to cancellation unless such
4 assignment or sublease or contract is approved by the
5 director, subject to criteria established by the board of
6 land commissioners; however, no such approval shall be
7 arbitrarily or unreasonably withheld and all action upon
8 each application therefor, shall be such as will inure to
9 the greatest benefit to the state land trust beneficiaries,
10 provided, that in no event shall the lands be subleased
11 unless one-half (1/2) of the excess rental is paid to the
12 state. A lessee of state lands whose lease authorizes
13 grazing on the state lands shall not be required to obtain
14 the approval of the director under this subsection prior to
15 allowing livestock the lessee does not own, but for which
16 the lessee retains full management and responsibility, to
17 graze on the lands.

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19 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2023.

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(END)