



Wyoming Chapter

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Blueprints

Strategic Planning Feb. 5th

ABC of Wyoming will be holding a Strategic Planning Session on Thursday, February 5th, from 8am to 3pm at the C'mon Inn in Evansville.

The purpose of the session is not only to plan for the future of the organization, but to also ensure that we are meeting the current needs of our members.

All ABC of Wyoming members are invited to attend, and give input into how we can best

serve our members.

"We need members to turn out, not just Directors. We want to know what ALL of our members want from us, and how we can best provide it to them," said ABC of Wyoming President, Josh Carnahan.

If plan to attend, please drop Laura at the ABC of WY office a line at 307.577.6460 or laurah@abcwyoming.org.

What Will HB 248 Do?

House Bill 248, titled "School Facilities – Remedy Criteria" has some concerned that school projects could be slowed or even temporarily stopped if passed.

The sponsor of the bill, Representative Steve Harshman of Casper has explained that the bill isn't supposed to have that great of an impact on current construction, and is intended to ensure that schools that are not absolutely necessary are not built.

Harshman said an amendment that would ensure projects currently in the works are not

impacted by the proposed changes, and that the bill would only be used for projects funded in the next biennium.

Some officials are concerned that the bill would cause a delay in public projects if the legislation is passed due to legal reviews and rule making process.

Representative Harshman disagrees, explaining that the bill will unlikely have a significant impact to the way the SFC is already doing business and will not impact current projects.

Legislation Opens Door for Lawsuits

House Bill 273, although aimed at Oil & Gas producers would open the door to frivolous lawsuits in all industries, if passed.

The bill allows "owners in control of the worksite" to be held responsible for injured employees of contractors employed by the worksite owner or controller.

In regards to our industry, those that would be further exposed by this bill are our contractors, developers and the real-estate agents we do business with.

The Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association is proposing an amendment that would exempt the building industry from the bill; however, the

bill would need very dramatic revisions to make it tolerable for any industry.

Some ABC of Wyoming members have already been sued because of similar situations, without a law being in place to allow it.

ABC of Wyoming is proposing that the concerns of the Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association be addressed through safety programs and alterations to Worker's Compensation, not through litigation.

The Bill will be heard by the House Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, February 4.



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CTE Bill Advances To Senate

A Career and Technical Training Scholarship Bill has passed the Senate Minerals and Appropriations Committees and is now before the entire Wyoming State Senate with a \$1,000,000 appropriation.

Ever since the creation of the Hathaway Scholarship program, many in skilled trades have wondered why skilled trades was excluded from the program, when over 75% of Wyoming's jobs do not require a 4 year degree, and only about 1 in 5 individuals nationwide have a four year college degree.

If passed, this bill may help fund the training of between two and three hundred individuals for Wyoming's workforce within a year, an aggressive goal, but an achievable one.

Business Day at the Legislature

Presented by the Wyoming Chamber of Commerce Executives

Tuesday, February 10th, 2009

Little America Hotel and Conference Center

- *Breakfast with the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House*
- *Transportation Moves the Individual, but Brings the Whole Community Together*
- *Wyoming...Energy Solutions for the State and the Country*
- *Business Day Luncheon with Governor Dave Freudenthal*
- *Spend the afternoon at the Capitol watching firsthand the actions of Wyoming's legislators.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION CONTACT:

Wyoming Chamber of Commerce Executives (WCCE)
PO Box 301, Wheatland, WY 82201 • Call 307.322.3977
or e-mail wcce@wyomingwireless.com

LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS: Little America 800.445.6945

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2009

- 5th – ABC of WY Strategic Planning, Casper
- 10th – Business Day at the Legislature, Cheyenne
- 12th WABIT Trustees Meeting
- 14th St. Valentine's Day
- 16th President's Day
- 16th – 17th SFC Meeting Cheyenne
- 19th ABC of WY Board of Directors Meeting
- 21st – 3/1 ABC National Convention, Honolulu, HI

MARCH 2009

- 5th 2009 Legislative Session Adjourns
- 12th WABIT Trustees Meeting
- 16th – 17th SFC Meeting Casper
- 19th ABC of WY Board of Directors Meeting

APRIL 2009

- 3rd-5th ABC of WY Convention, Cody
- 15th – 17th ABC Construction Education Conference, Las Vegas, NV
- 20th -21st SFC Meeting Casper

MAY 2009

- 14th WABIT Trustees Meeting
- 16th – 17th SFC Meeting Casper
- 21st ABC of WY Board of Directors Meeting
- 25th Memorial Day

JUNE 2009

- 23rd – 25th ABC Legislative Conference, Washington, DC