| | Bills WCADVSA Supported for 2020 Signed, or soon to be signed, by the Governor |
|---|--|
| 1 | Missing and Murdered Indigenous People - <u>SF0008</u> This bill will give AG authority to make information publicly available, create ability for tribes to operate a warning system on WRIR, and state agencies will assist. |
| 2 | Supporting federal missing and murdered persons efforts - HJ0003 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to enact legislation expanding and improving efforts to coordinate reporting, investigation and pursuit of justice for missing and murdered Native Americans and other persons. |
| 3 | Emergency Call Location Information - <u>HB0126</u> Requires wireless carriers and service suppliers to provide call location information to law enforcement when 911 in dialed in emergency situations. Provides immunity to all wireless carriers and service suppliers for providing the call location information. Also known as the <u>Kelsey Smith Act</u> for a young woman who went missing and was murdered before first responders could find her. |
| 4 | Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - HB0127 Allows victims of FGM to sue for damages in civil court; makes the department of health provide community education materials on health risks and emotional trauma of FGM; provides criminal definitions of FGM. We only supported AFTER "sex reassignment surgery" was no longer confused with FGM. |
| 5 | School Nursing - State School Nurse - <u>HB0165</u> Permits State Superintendent of Public Instruction to employ, with grant funding only, and at the request of district boards of trustees, advise on the child sexual abuse education, prevention and response program under W.S. 21-3-133. |

Bills of Note for 2020 That did not pass Voyeurism - HB0048 **UPDATE**: We're sad to tell you this one failed - so it's NOT going to the Governor. Too many attorneys working in joint conference committees, not enough proofreading ... next year we'll try again. Seeks to improve language so an "up-skirting" incident in a grocery store parking lot could be charged. Stranger approached woman, slid his camera under her skirt and then took off. Discussion as to whether a county attorney could have charged it without needing this statute change. May lead to other system changes in the future but bill has been substantially changed from its beginning. **Second Amendment Preservation Act - HB0118** The act would have invalidated, not recognized and rejected federal laws and other actions by the federal government that the legislature thought "infringed on people's 2nd amendment rights." This would significantly confused people about our favorite federal laws that keep guns out of the hands of those convicted of misdemeanor crimes involving violence toward and intimate partner, or subject to a protection order. Warrants for Digital Records - SF0010 Provided consistency to judiciary to approve warrants to in-state and out-of-state providers of electronic communication services and remote computing services. Allows district judges ability to issue warrant in criminal matters, provides immunity from criminal or civil liability of provider.

Other bills of interest for 2020 Signed, or soon to be signed, by the Governor

Criminal Justice Reform - HB0031

Creates mental health and substance use disorder programming and facilitates collaboration between Dept. of Corrections and Dept. of Health in order to reduce recidivism. This is good for everyone - including survivors who get dragged into the system.

General Government Reports - Status on Women Report - HB0002

Not later than October 1, 2020, the Wyoming Council for Women's issues created within the Wyoming Business Council under W.S. 9-12-501 and 9-12-502 shall report to the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee on its statutory obligations regarding the status of women in Wyoming. The report shall include any efforts addressing economic development, data collection and partnerships with business technology organizations.

Electronic monitoring in long-term care facilities - HB0109

Allows video to be installed in adult's room for monitoring by family due to concern of family for resident in facility.

Human trafficking- penalties - <u>HB0010</u>

New penalty for subsequent human trafficking convictions. Our national allies report too many victims get scooped up as traffickers, and such severe penalties should not be our best solutions. We did offer amendments during interim study to please not have the only penalty as "life imprisonment without parole." The legislature compromised on "improisonment for not less than 25 years or for life imprisonment without parole" when convicted and victim is a minor, or 1 or more similar convictions and convicted is 18 or older.

Sex offender - prohibited access to school facilities - HB0068

With the written permission of the school principal, vice-principal or person with equivalent authority, is attending an academic conference or other scheduled extracurricular school event with school officials present when the registered offender is a parent or legal guardian of a child who is participating in the conference or extracurricular event.

HB0009 - Abstracts of Court Records - HB0009

New statutes governing outcomes of cases! We'll work on being able to access in the future ... "(k) Upon implementation of a case management system in a circuit or district court, the supreme court shall, on behalf of the district or circuit court, furnish electronically to the division an abstract of the court record within ten (10) days after entry of a judgment of conviction or forfeiture of bail. The abstract shall include:

- (i) The name and address of the person charged;
- (ii) A citation to the statute of each offense charged;
- (iii) The finding or disposition of each offense charged;
- (iv) The amount of fine, forfeiture or penalty imposed, if any, or any changes to the amount;
- (v) Other information as determined and agreed upon by the office of the attorney general and the supreme court pursuant to rules promulgated by the attorney general and the supreme court.

Nothing in subsection (k) of this section shall preclude a state agency from requesting and obtaining public court records as provided by court rule."

SF0120 - Office of guardian ad litem - SF0120

The Office of Guardian Ad Litem has long been housed in the Public Defenders Office. This bill makes it its own agency, no longer having conflict of interests with funding or representing an abused child at the same time as representing the person who abused the child.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE BILLS FOR WOMEN

8

For a <u>great review</u> of bills that passed, and most didn't, read past T.S. Eliot's poem "The Hollow Men" follow <u>this link</u>. See next page for shortened summary.

From the Wyoming Women's Action Network - https://www.wyomingwomensnetwork.com/:

- The Wyoming Legislature convened for 24 days this year.
- Lawmakers introduced 398 bills, a record for a Budget Session.
- They passed 167 into law.

HB0049 "Retirement savings information – workforce services"

Failed - Men have, on average, three times as many resources available for retirement as women making women more likely to age into poverty. Women comprise the majority of Wyoming's citizens over the age of 70.

HB0075 "Medicaid expansion - authorization"

HJ0007 "Medicaid coverage - eligible low income adults"

Failed And two amendments failed. (Officially: Epic fail. p.s. - This needs to be an election issue. Do not let this go.) Healthcare is a key to economic self-sufficiency. Women in Wyoming are more likely to be working in jobs that don't offer health insurance for wages that preclude them being able to purchase it. New moms fare better in states that have expanded Medicaid, get better postpartum care, have decreased mortality and morbidity, and healthier infants.

HB0123 "Pharmacists prescribing contraceptives"

Failed - The bill would have enabled pharmacists to prescribe birth control under certain circumstances thereby lowering the barriers to access to birth control. For women in the most rural parts of our state who have limited access to doctors, it would have improved their access to care.

HB0144 "Minimum wage"

Not considered. – 75 percent of Wyoming's minimum wage workers in Wyoming are women. According to the newly released Self-Sufficiency Standard from the Wyoming Women's Foundation, there is no county Wyoming where either state minimum wage (\$5.15) or Federal minimum wage (\$7.25) can enable a woman to achieve self-sufficiency.

HB0188 "Wage transparency"

Failed - Open discussion of salaries among peers and co-workers, experts say, is a powerful tool to fight pay inequity. Wage transparency has proven benefits for both employers and employees, but it is especially important for women and is a policy tool for closing the gender wage gap.

SF0054 "Surplus food programs"

Failed - Single moms with pre-school age children are the most likely to face food insecurity.

SF0086 "Essential health product dignity act"

Failed - Wyoming is one of 37 states with a tax on tampons and feminine hygiene products along with the tax on diapers and adult incontinence supplies. The fiscal note demonstrated that women can expect to pay approximately \$900,000 in taxes in 2020 on period products.

Amendments

Voter ID (amendments)

Failed (That's a good thing in this case.) - The majority of women who marry still change their names (or make name changes if they divorce). Voter ID bills increase the likelihood that women might be in the midst of document transitions when they show up to vote. This could result in being turned away at the polls.

Childcare (amendment)

Failed - In all, there are seven parents of young children out of 90 Legislators. Five of those households are headed by male Legislators, two by female Legislators. Childcare is most often seen as a policy that benefits "moms" and "women" even though research proves it is also a gamechanger for dads, kids, and employers. The US Chamber of Commerce issued a report describing childcare's value as "a powerful two-generation approach to building the human capital that a prosperous and sustainable America requires."

Women's Council and WBC Report

Passed. Because so few policies and bills even discussed women in Wyoming and even fewer of those advanced, adding a statutory requirement for the Wyoming Council for Women to provide the Joint Minerals, Business & Economic Development Committee with an update on women in Wyoming might be the only voice women get in the interim.