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CHEYENNE WELCOMES FIREARMS BUSINESS

SHERIDAN TAKES Center Stage



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ABOUT

Population: 587,618

Size: 97,814 square miles (253,348 kilometers)

Capital: Cheyenne

Governor: Mark Gordon

BUSINESS CLIMATE

- No corporate or personal state income tax
- No inventory tax
- No franchise tax
- No occupation tax
- No value-added tax of public land to hunt, fish, bike, hike, climb and roam

THE FACTS

Spend Less & Earn More: Wyoming has the most business-friendly tax climate in the nation.

Lucrative Business Climate: No personal or corporate state income taxes, manufacturing sales tax exemptions and low sales and property taxes.

Room for Adventure: Wyoming boasts two national parks, five national forests, 12 state parks and countless acres of public land to hunt, fish, bike, hike, climb, and roam.



The state of Wyoming is incredibly business-friendly, not just economically, but in our regulatory environment as well as the easy access to policymakers and influential leaders in our tight-knit state. When we work with businesses interested in expanding or relocating in our state, we show up as "Team Wyoming!"

Team Wyoming rides for the brand and includes key leaders in different agencies, fields, and industries across Wyoming from energy

to tourism, manufacturing, agricultural products and more. We want to ensure you're hearing all sides of our exciting story and can tap into all the resources we have available. We are always willing to roll up our sleeves to get things done, eager to help your business grow, and ready to collaborate in all phases of business growth. According to the Tax Foundation, Wyoming offers the "Best Business Friendly Tax Climate in the US," and we've been consistent about that for more than a decade. No personal or corporate income tax, very low property tax, no value-added tax,

BUSINESS COUNCIL

no gross receipts tax, exemptions from sales tax for manufacturing, as well as a state government committed to low regulation and businessfriendly policies all make Wyoming a very inviting

place for businesses to set up shop.

Come see what we can offer and learn for yourself why It's better in Wyoming!



WHY WYOMING?



LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY IN WYOMING

Wyoming is a state that provides unmatched beauty and endless opportunities for businesses. We are committed to providing a taxfriendly climate and establishing an environment that helps your company prosper. Don't just take our word for it, come see for yourself.

WYOUTDOORREC.ORG

Plan your next big game hunt or outdoor adventure with Wyoming Outfitters and Guides Association.

307.265.2376 /// wyoga.org



CODY HITS THE MARK

- BY FORWARD CODY

A recent business relocation prospect to Cody stepped out of his car, strapped on his revolver and belt, and strode down the street. It was apparent that he was attempting to get a reaction. And a reaction he got. It wasn't long before a passerby stopped him asking, "Is that a Smith & Wesson?" So it goes in Cody – a place where not having a firearm is more unusual than having one.

Firearms in Wyoming are as common to its residents as having a shovel or a hammer. To us, they are tools. Tools of protection and tools of provision. Our people know firearms, and they know how to handle them. As the number two state for gun ownership, nearly two-thirds of Wyoming residents own a firearm. Most have several.

It makes sense to also be home to the manufacturers as well. Cody is home to a host of specialty firearms manufacturers including, Gunwerks, Best of the West, Big Horn Armory, Wyoming Arms, and the Wyoming Armory. A half dozen shops carry munitions and about that many offer gunsmithing services. It's also home to well-known industry names Randy Selby, Jim Zumbo, and John Linebaugh to name a few.

"When we decided to make Cody our forever home, one of the reasons we felt confident in making this choice and staying here was because of people we knew on the Business Council and the relationships we developed and the assurance that we had that they were real Wyoming people really interested in making Wyoming successful," said Aaron Davidson, Gunwerks CEO.

Why these people and companies chose to live in Cody is a short conversation. It's a place where you can live and use firearms and not be challenged for your beliefs. The conservative views of the residents carry an appeal to those wishing to escape a growing anti-gun culture. Our

FIREARMS IN WYOMING ARE AS Common to its residents as having a shovel or a hammer.



world-renowned museum, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West proudly displays over 7,000 firearms. Their display tells the story of how guns were instrumental in the development of the West. It also helps people see value in guns as a tool – not a weapon. Tens of thousands of people from around the world travel to visit the Cody Firearms Museum and view their exhibits.

Hunting in the shadow of Yellowstone Park and some of the wildest country in the world doesn't hurt



either. The area boasts some of the finest elk, deer, and Big Horn sheep hunting anywhere. And when you can't hunt, you can fish any of the four major rivers in the area or any of the dozens of mountain lakes. Outdoor recreation is a leading sector of our local economy.

But then there's work to do too. With quality infrastructure to support growing companies and positive support from the community, firearms companies find Cody to be a welcoming home. As a community of 10,000 residents, the ability to attract a workforce exists and for those needing growth in skills, training opportunities are nearby. We have what you need for your business to succeed.

The people who have chosen Cody as a place to set up business did so by intention. They chose to spend their time living the heritage they love in a country that you can't help but love.



EXPLORE GUNWERKS' SUCCESS IN CODY, WY

EXPANDING SCOPE AND SIGHT:

CHERERARD STOLLARD STOLL. CHERERARD STOLLARD STOLLARD

T'S no secret that the changing climate for firearms manufacturers and firearms related companies is leading to an exodus from states with burdensome regulations to Wyoming. The Cowboy State understands the value of this fast-growing sector, and local communities are more than happy to welcome those companies with open arms.

"Cheyenne came out on top on most of the individual criteria, and, considering our requirements as a whole, it was by far the superior site," said Elie Azar, Founder and CEO of White Wolf Capital LLC, which owns a controlling interest in Stag Arms.

Cheyenne, located in the southeast corner of the state and 15 miles north of Colorado, is a community that has used that support to attract firearms related companies, including Magpul Industries, Thunder Beast and Stag Arms. Cheyenne LEADS, the economic development organization for Cheyenne and Laramie County, has assisted several companies by providing discounted land in their business parks and favorable lease agreements for those looking to move or expand their operations.

LEADS began purchasing land and developing infrastructure in two business parks starting in 1992. The Cheyenne Business Parkway

and the North Range Business Park, both owned by LEADS, offer shovelready property of varying acreage, all dedicated to economic development. You will find both Stag Arms and Magpul in these parks. Other business parks also offer business friendly development opportunities, including the Cheyenne Logistics Hub, a privately owned industrial park that boasts complete infrastructure, dual rail, and immediate access onto Interstate 25. With a continuing demand for development, the **Bison Business Park recently** completed construction.

Cheyenne is at the crossroads of Interstates 80 and 25, with one connecting San Francisco to New York City, and the other connecting Cheyenne to Mexico via Denver, Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

Not only is Wyoming an incredibly hospitable place to do business, but it is also a top destination for outdoor recreation, including hunting and shooting sports, which reflects its citizens' unwavering support for the Second Amendment. - ELIE AZAR

CEO, White Wolf Capital/Stag Arms

The state's capital also offers rail versatility with two Class I railroads, BNSF and Union Pacific. While the availability of transportation is a key component of relocation decisions, so is the ability to run a business with minimal interruption. With a current labor shed of over 183,000 and the continued migration of workers from more restrictive states, workforce availability will continue to increase. Add that to low crime rates, great outdoor spaces, good schools, clean air, and an involved community, it's no wonder that businesses continue to consider Cheyenne and Wyoming for relocation and expansion.



THE RIGHT OF THE CITIZENS TO BEAR ARMS IN DEFENSE TO BEAR ARMS IN DEFENSE THEMSELVES AND THE STATE SHALL NOT BE DENIED. STATE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION - ARTICLE 1, SECTION 24

Wyoming does not restrict any type of firearm or magazine. In 1994, the Wyoming Legislature modified the Weapons Statutes (W.S. 6-8-101 et. seq.) in two important ways. First, Wyoming became a "shall-issue" state, which meant that, subject to certain conditions (age, clean record, and training), no one could be denied a concealed carry permit. Second, state preemption over all local ordinances allowed the



permit holder statewide privilege. In 1999, in response to the spate of city and state lawsuits against gun manufacturers whose products were used in criminal activity, the Wyoming

Legislature passed and the governor signed the Second Amendment Defense Act (W.S. 9-14-101). This bill authorized

the state attorney general to intervene in court cases involving Wyoming firearms manufacturers and citizens as defendants. In 2001, reciprocity was authorized. As of April 2013, Wyoming has

Over the last ten years, women's participation in hunting has increased by 30.5%.

Source: Wyoming Game and Fish Department

reciprocal concealed carry agreements with 35 states, including every state with which it shares a border. In 2010, out-of-state concealed carry permit holders were provided more legal protection in Wyoming by the State

Legislature. Wyoming licensees benefited when traveling to reciprocal states. In 2011, the Wyoming Legislature approved concealed carry without a permit, recognizing the right to personal protection absent government licensure. Wyoming is one of 10 states that have acknowledged this right.

FREARIS FREARIS MANUFACTURING







SUCCESS STORIES

WEATHERBY

After announcing their plans to relocate at SHOT Show in 2018, Weatherby has since celebrated three years of being located in Sheridan, WY. They employ over 100 people in their state-of-the-art facility that fits right into the backdrop of the beautiful Bighorn Mountains.

MAVEN OPTICS

Maven Optics, a locally grown company that opened in Lander, WY in 2013, had the privilege of supplying the United States Archery Team with custom-made spotting scopes and binoculars during this summer's Olympics. Maven is built around a direct-to-consumer model that allows it to provide quality and highperformance equipment while avoiding retail markup.

STAG ARMS

Since its founding, Stag Arms has specialized in the advancement of the AR firearms platform and pioneered the first left-handed modern sporting rifle. In November 2019, Stag announced its move to Cheyenne, WY from Connecticut. That move inspired a whole new rebranding and product offering, showcasing the pride in their new Wyoming home.



DIVERSE BUSINESS PROFILE

From rifles to optics, from sights to ammunition—our local communities support these thriving businesses. Like many other outdoor recreation businesses across the country, the pandemic created an increased demand for these local companies, most of whom found creative ways to hire additional workforce, increase production capacity, and add new product lines.

SUPPORTING INDUSTRY TRAINING

Wyoming's seven community colleges located across the state offer a wide array of programs that serve the needs of firearms and advanced manufacturing training needs. Community colleges work diligently with local businesses to help provide training programs in CNC manufacturing, fabrication and welding that bolster the talent of the manufacturing workforce. Manufacturing Works, the state's manufacturing extension partnership, is also available to assist Wyoming manufacturers, producers and entrepreneurs—strategically identifying and solving their most pressing issues and enabling them to take their business to the next level. Wyoming is like the incubator of great gun companies, and that's going to create a critical mass of talent here.

> - ZAK SMITH Co-owner, Thunder Beast Arms Corporation in Cheyenne, WY

FAVORABLE CULTURE

Wyoming enjoys easy access to year-round recreation opportunities and wide-open spaces. Here the great outdoors and economic opportunity go hand-in-hand, making Wyoming an ideal spot for firearms manufacturing and other supporting recreation-related businesses.

AVAILABLE WORKFORCE

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS) recognizes the importance of an educated, skilled workforce in promoting Wyoming's economic growth. To foster this growth, DWS assists employers through the Pre-Hire Grant Program, which is available to train potential employees for a new or expanding business to fit its specific skill set. Find out more by visiting **wyomingworkforce.org**.



SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON ELECTRICITY USED IN MANUFACTURING

The sales tax burden is exempt on sales of power or fuel to a person engaged in the business of manufacturing, processing, or agriculture when the same is consumed directly in the manufacturing process.

MANUFACTURING SALES TAX EXEMPTION

The sales tax burden is exempt on the sale or lease of machinery to be used in the state of Wyoming directly and predominantly in manufacturing tangible personal property.

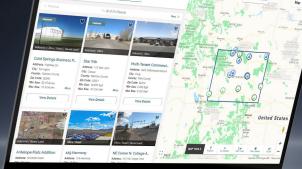
Find out more at **WHYWYOMING.ORG**



AVAILABLE SITES

Wyoming has available sites and buildings across the state, ranging from shovel-ready to shell buildings and existing industrial buildings.

Whether you need 2,000 square feet or 50,000 square feet, or are looking for office space with room to expand, you can explore current inventory as well as relevant community data and facts at **WyomingSites.com**.



WIRED FOR BUSINESS

The Wyoming Business Council aims to leave no Wyoming citizen behind and position every business to compete on a global scale by ensuring they each connect to the rest of the digital world with broadband internet capabilities that set the standard for all others to follow by 2025.

Utilizing broadband infrastructure grant programs as well as a coalition of public officials and private telecommunications leaders, the state is working to improve service to rural areas of Wyoming.



NESTLED Bighorn Mountains, Sheridan,

at the base of the stunning

WY, has become recognized for building a strong manufacturing cluster aided by its skilled workforce, shovel-ready sites, and an engaged community college.

With Wyoming's business-friendly climate and the successful relocation of companies like Weatherby to Sheridan in 2018, the region's growth potential is evident. Beyond its reputation as an outdoor paradise, the eastern slope of the Bighorns has emerged as a prime location for businesses seeking a supportive business environment, a community that values quality of life, and a place where they can thrive on their own terms.

OUTDOOR PARADISE

The Bighorn Mountains and the **Bighorn National Forest provide** a spectacular backdrop to

Sheridan's appeal. Spanning more than 1.1 million acres, this natural wonderland features 1.200 miles of scenic trails, 30 campgrounds, and hundreds of miles of waterways that offer endless recreation opportunities. The majestic Cloud Peak Wilderness-a centerpiece of this region-boasts glacier-carved valleys and towering rock faces.

With a population of 19,543 and six constituent neighborhoods, Sheridan is the sixth-largest city in Wyoming. Bedroom communities in Sheridan County include Ranchester, Dayton, Big Horn, Story, Arvada, Clearmont, and Ucross, for a total county population of 32,519.

At first blush, the picturesque City of Sheridan is all archetypal mountain verve and Wyoming vigor, but there is an artistic dynamism and cultural allure here. The flagship Sheridan WYO Rodeo draws nearly 30,000 visitors to the town every July, while the Sheridan WYO Film Festival, WYO Theater, Brinton Museum, and the Whitney Center for the Arts

have become artistic touchstones with significant regional cachet.

TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

Air service is provided by SkyWest Airlines, flying as United Express, with daily return flights between Sheridan County Airport (SHR) and Denver International Airport (DEN). Sheridan is served by rail facilities operated by Burlington Northern Santa Fe, a Class 1 Railway, and has interstate access to I-90, with three interchanges serving the community, with access to I-25 a little more than 30 miles to the south.

SHOVEL-**READY SITES**

The city's investment in shovelready sites is one of the keys to growing manufacturing. The High-Tech Business Park and the Sheridan County Airport Business Park are shining examples







of Sheridan's commitment to economic development.

Sheridan built the necessary infrastructure through the Wyoming Business Council's Business Ready Community (BRC) grant and loan program and transformed fields into property ready for business investment. The program provides financing for publicly owned infrastructure. Today, Sheridan's Hi-Tech Business Park on the city's north side is set to double its size. In late 2024, the Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority (SEEDA) received a BRC grant to cover land acquisition and infrastructure development costs to convert 45.29 acres into the second phase of the High-Tech Business Park. The hope is to begin construction in 2025. The Sheridan County Airport Business Park has also filled Phase I development and is looking to expand.

SKILLED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Sheridan College has been a great partner to local manufacturers, building a fabulous program to help develop a skilled workforce pipeline. Sheridan College offers a variety of technical and vocational programs, including Machine Tool Technology and Welding programs, and partners with the local industry to ensure that training is up-to-date and relevant. The college's expanded Technical Center features 52,000 square feet of instructional training labs, classrooms, and flex space.

Each year, the college graduates many students who fill manufacturing positions both locally and regionally. The constant stream of skilled workers has enabled Sheridan's growing manufacturing sector to continue to expand.

WHY SHERIDAN?

This artsy little outdoor playground at the base of the Bighorn Mountains is not just the finest postcardperfect western getaway in the United States; it is also among the best small towns in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

CROSSROADS OF THE SETTE SETTE

Wyoming's advantageous geographic location and ample transportation infrastructure provide reliable access to and from communities statewide.

LOS ANGELES

SAN FRANCISCO

S major international airports surround wy

/// Billings, MT/// Denver, CO/// Salt Lake City, UT

466 MILE RADIUS FROM GEOGRAPHIC CENTER

PHEONIX

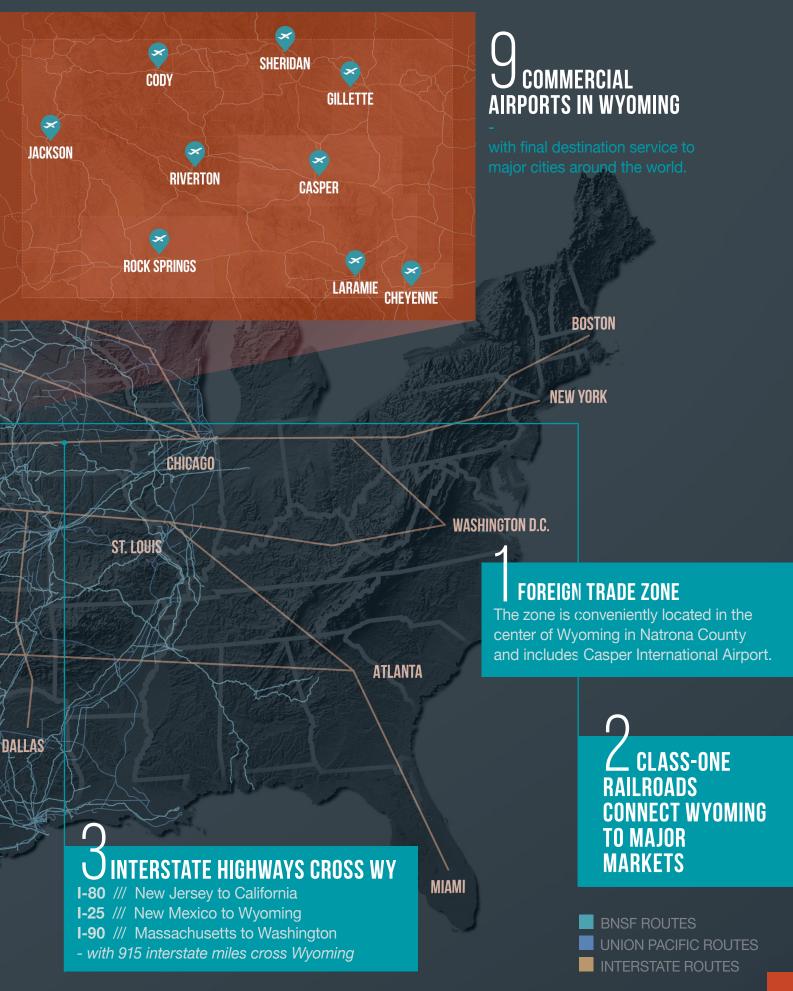
SALT LAKE CITY

BILLINGS

CHEYENNE

DENVER

11,307,444 consumers can be reached within an 8-hour drive (466 miles) from Wyoming.



YOMING: **WHERE YOUR BUSINESS AND IFESTYLE UNIT**



POSITIVE REGULATORY SUPPORT

Wyoming does not believe in regulating honest American companies out of business. That's why Gov. Mark Gordon is committed to promoting the firearms industry in our state.

Wyoming's open-door access to the governor and legislators is especially attractive to companies in highly regulated industries like firearms. This access, coupled with numerous grant, loan and incentive programs, provides businesses with key financial resources.

In addition to earning the nation's "Most Business Friendly Tax Climate" by the Tax Foundation every year since 2013, Wyoming provides a variety of advantages for businesses looking to relocate or expand.

QUALITY OF LIFE makes a community worth living in: comprehensive planning/visioning, cultural and recreational opportunities, adequate and affordable housing, health care, good schools, police and fire protection, and curb appeal. Wyomingites enjoy boundless recreational and cultural opportunities. Residents and visitors alike can enjoy the outdoors and a night on the town – all in the same day.

Wyoming features two national parks, 13 state parks and eight national forests along with plenty of open spaces to hunt, fish, bike, hike, and climb. The state is home to seven ski areas and resorts, from Jackson Hole in the northwest corner to minutes from Laramie in the southeast. Arts and culture? Wyoming offers an array of Western- and urban-themed events throughout the state: rodeos, galleries, symphonies, farmers markets, brew fests and more.

Find the Travel Wyoming calendar of events at travelwyoming.com/events.





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NOW IN ITS NINTH YEAR, THE WYOWING GOVERNOR'S MATCH PRESENTED BY VORTEX OPTICS IS A NATIONAL MULTI-GUN MATCH FEATURING SOME OF THE BEST COMPETITORS IN THE COUNTRY.

12 STOPS INCLUDING CHRONOGRAPH (400 MIN. ROUND COUNT)

S.C

FIND OUT MORE AT WYOREC.INFO/GOVERNORSMATCH ENTRY FEES ARE \$195 ADULTS; \$95 JUNIORS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN.



WYOMING INDUSTRY PROFILI

OUTBOOR RECREATON

TOURISM IS THE #2 INDUSTRY in Wyoming

OUTDOOR RECREATION CONTRIBUTED \$2.2 BILLION

to Wyoming's economy in 2023, ranking the state 5th nationally in this sector.

5.3 MILLION VISITORS

in 2023 explored the 39 state parks and historic sites, which encompass 46,455 acres of public land



to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks in 2024

15,789 JOBS

in the outdoor recreation industry, accounting for 5.3% of the state's total employment in 2023

108,000 MILES OF RIVERS

in Wyoming. Boating and fishing contributed \$62 million to the state GDP in 2023.

2,160 HIKING TRAILS

in Wyoming used for climbing, hiking, and tent camping added \$25 million to the state GDP in 2023

370 RV PARKS

in Wyoming contributed \$87 million to the state GDP in 2023

25,000 STUDENTS

are taught through the National Outdoor Leadership School, based in Lander, every year.



HUNTING, SHOOTING, AND TRAPPING RANKED TOP ECONOMIC DRIVER

in Wyoming's outdoor recreation industry, contributing \$105 million to the state's GDP in 2023.



NoSo Patches are designed and tested in the Tetons. In Jackson, we have some world-class outdoor retailers like Teton Mountaineering,

Skinny Skis, Jack Dennis, and Headwall Sports. NoSo is in all these stores, and our buyers tell us what their customers need.

> - KELLI JONES Founder & CEO of NoSo Patches in Jackson, WY



NOSO PATCHES GROWS IN JACKSON, WY Watch our video



Being centrally located in Riverton, we are super close to multiple different wilderness areas that allow us to head into the mountains to test our gear more efficiently and quickly.

- ARON SYNDER President & CEO of Kifaru in Riverton, WY



KIRFARU RELOCATES TO RIVERTON, WY Watch our video

The rawness of Wyoming and untamed beauty cannot be matched by places of concrete. Consumers today are looking for not just a product but authentic branding and Wyoming offers that to outdoor companies like Weatherby.

- BRENDA WEATHERBY Director of People and Culture at Weatherby, Inc. in Sheridan, WY

WYOMING'S FAVORABLE CONDITIONS

CULTURE

Wyoming enjoys easy access to national and state parks, year-round recreational opportunities, open spaces, and events. Here, recreation and economic opportunity are connected so the state invests in outdoor recreation to attract employers and active workforces.

CLIMATE



The sun shines 60% of the time in winter...

and 75% in the summer. Year round outdoor activities contribute to many products made in Wyoming including: hunting and shooting accessories, fishing lures and flies, knives, optics, outdoor gear, and clothing. Owning an outdoor business in Wyoming is really a privilege. We have residents that live here in part to be close to our amazing recreation opportunities and are avid outdoor participants. Plus, every year, millions of other people come from around the world to join us in enjoying Wyoming's unparalleled wilderness areas and national parks. No matter what flavor of outdoor rec your business serves, there is an opportunity to have a healthy enterprise.

- WES ALLEN Owner, Sunlight Sports in Cody, WY



33rd Governor of the State of Wyoming

WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL

214 West 15th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240 Phone: 307.777.2800 Email: chance.price@wyo.gov wyomingbusiness.org

OFFICE OF Governor Mark Gordon

State Capitol 200 West 24th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002-0010 Phone: 307.777.7434 governor.wyo.gov

- THE MOST BUSINESS-FRIENDLY TAX CLIMATE IN THE U.S.

- A PRO-BUSINESS ATTITUDE
- WIDE-OPEN SPACES FULL OF ADVENTURE
- A SKILLED WORKFORCE
- INDUSTRY INCENTIVES

STATE OF Wyoming Legislature

State Capitol 200 West 24th St. Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone: 307.777.7881 wyoleg.org



Through leadership, policy, and investments, the Wyoming Business Council stands firmly upon Wyoming's heritage while advancing innovation, business creation, recruitment, and growth in order to build resilient communities and create opportunities to thrive.