

SWEETWATER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2

**BOARD RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST
THE STATE OF WYOMING
OPERATIONS & CAPCON**

WHEREAS, the Wyoming State Constitution guarantees the children of Wyoming an equal opportunity to a quality education, regardless of where a student attends school; and

WHEREAS, the Wyoming Supreme Court has ruled the right to a quality education is a fundamental right under the Wyoming State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, supporting an opportunity for a complete, proper, quality education is the legislature's paramount priority under the constitution; and

WHEREAS, competing priorities not of constitutional magnitude are secondary; and

WHEREAS, the legislature may not yield to these secondary competing priorities until constitutionally sufficient provision is made for elementary and secondary education; and

WHEREAS, because education is one of the State's most important functions, lack of financial resources is not an acceptable reason for failure to provide a constitutionally sound education system; and

WHEREAS, safe and efficient physical facilities with which to carry on the process of education are a necessary element of the total educational process and state funds must be readily available for those needs; and

WHEREAS, the legislature bears the burden of funding and providing constitutionally adequate facilities to school districts that provide an equal opportunity for a quality education; and

WHEREAS, safe and efficient facilities that are educationally suitable for student learning has been a long-standing need in Sweetwater County School District #2; and

WHEREAS, Wyoming's education system and the physical facilities with which to carry on the process of education are not currently being funded according to constitutional mandates and governing law, resulting in harm to this District; and

WHEREAS, this Board has diligently exhausted all potential means to resolve this conflict without pursuing legal action; and

WHEREAS, these efforts to work with the State to resolve this conflict have proved unsuccessful;
and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2022, the Wyoming Education Association filed suit against the State of Wyoming alleging the State is in violation of the Wyoming Constitution by failing to provide an equal opportunity to a quality education for Wyoming students; and

WHEREAS, this Board has reviewed said Complaint, concurs with its claims against the State., and has additional and distinct claims of educational harm to students resulting from the State's failure to adequately and equitably fund education.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board, by a majority, agrees to authorizing legal action against the State of Wyoming to ensure education funding complies with the Wyoming State Constitution and applicable governing law.

Steve Core, Board of Trustees Chairman

Date

Craig Barringer, Superintendent of Schools

Date