Wyoming Gun Owners

2026 WYGO State Legislative Candidate Survey

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Question 1

A growing number of Wyomingites have had their permit to carry application denied based on the nebulous definition of 'prior contact with law enforcement.' This denial is not based solely on a criminal conviction but is often done based on the opinions of the county sheriff or Chief of Police. Further, the chief law enforcement officer is not required to provide the applicant with a written report wherein he documents the reasons for his opinion. As a result, it is almost impossible for a gun owner to properly appeal this decision with the Department of Criminal Investigations or the court, as he has no idea why the permit was denied in the first place.

If elected, would you SUPPORT and VOTE YES on legislation that would require any permit denial to be documented in writing, including all input from local law enforcement, so that an applicant can make a proper appeal to the Department of Criminal Investigations?

Question 1 Answer

- Co-Sponsor

Question 2

In 2025 and 2026, the Wyoming legislature passed legislation to plug the gaps in Wyoming's Second Amendment Preservation Act (SAPA.) This is necessary to ensure that the next Democrat in the White House can't use Wyoming cops to enforce federal gun laws that contradict Wyoming gun laws. Governor Gordon vetoed this legislation both years.

If elected, would you SUPPORT and VOTE YES on legislation like SF-101, to plug the gaps in our Second Amendment Preservation Act law and protect gun owners from the next Democrat President who wants to use Wyoming cops to enforce federal gun control laws?

Question 2 Answer

- Co-Sponsor

Question 3

Anti-gun organizations, often funded with out-of-state resources from Michael Bloomberg, have been pushing legislation that would end all private party firearms transfers in Wyoming unless gun owners submit to a federal NICS check. And we all know that every Federal NICS check adds gun owners and their firearms to a government database. As we've seen, this legislation does virtually nothing to stop crime but expands state and national databases of gun owners – which can be used against gun owners later.

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on 'Universal Gun Registrations' (or similar legislation) that bans private party gun sales and make criminals out of Wyomingites who lawfully transfer firearms without first obtaining government permission?

Question 3 Answer

Yes

Question 4

Mental health (aka FIX-NICS) has become a back door for gun control. By expanding the criteria for voluntary and involuntary commitments for ‘treatment’ and giving mental health staffers the power to ‘declare’ someone as a ‘prohibited person’ in the NICS database, hundreds of thousands of gun owners have been disarmed (mostly veterans) even though their due process rights were violated, and they were never ‘adjudicated’ defective in a court of law. Once a person’s name is placed on this list, it is virtually impossible to have it removed.

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on all so-called ‘mental health’ legislation that would allow a law-abiding Wyomingite to be disarmed before they were able to exercise their due process rights in a court of law?

Question 4 Answer

Yes

Question 5

Wyoming has had Stand-Your-Ground law since 2018, allowing innocent Wyomingites to defend themselves from violent criminals without having to retreat first. Without this law, gun owners could be arrested and prosecuted for not retreating an arbitrary number of steps before defending themselves or their loved ones. Joe Biden and the Radical Left want to repeal Stand-Your-Ground in every single state in America!

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on legislation that would repeal any portion of Wyoming’s Stand-Your-Ground law, knowing that without this law, innocent Wyomingites could go to prison at the hands of a Soros-backed prosecutor?

Question 5 Answer

Yes

Question 6

Wyoming became the first state in the nation to ban ‘Red Flag Gun Confiscations’ during the 2024 legislative session. Also known as ‘Extreme Risk Protection Orders,’ ‘Red Flag’ laws allow virtually anyone to petition a court and make the claim that a person is a ‘danger to themselves or others’ while providing little to no evidence. Once filed, ‘Red Flag’ allegations allow a liberal judge to strip a law-abiding gun owner of his firearms before he has been arrested, indicted, or convicted of a crime. But some politicians are talking about repealing this law!

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on legislation that would repeal any portion of Wyoming’s ban on ‘Red Flag Gun Confiscations,’ recognizing that these laws shred the Constitution and the idea of ‘innocent until proven guilty?’

Question 6 Answer

Yes

Question 7

Gun control activists have long desired mandatory waiting periods before law abiding citizens can purchase firearms, ammunition, or accessories. Similar legislation has passed in other states that would make criminals out of citizens who buy a firearm without waiting five days first. This, even though many women have been murdered by violent predators because they were unarmed and couldn’t defend themselves, because they hadn’t waited enough days to buy a gun! This bill has been filed in Wyoming as recently as 2020!

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on legislation that would make criminals out of Wyomingites who buy firearms without waiting an arbitrary number of days first, knowing that these laws are unconstitutional and only endanger innocent people?

Question 7 Answer

Yes

Question 8

Over the last four years, an estimated 7,500,000 million people have illegally entered America. The Dept. of Homeland Security said that at least 70,000 of these were ‘special interest’ aliens, coming from countries that ‘promote or protect terrorism’ against the United States. Now, some are trying to use the Supreme Court’s Bruen decision to justify letting these foreign nationals possess firearms.

If elected, would you OPPOSE and VOTE NO on legislation that would allow for foreign nationals who have entered America illegally to possess a firearm, knowing that they’ll be able to legally buy a firearm once they’ve completed the process for entry?

Question 8 Answer

Yes

Question 9

Over the last eight years, gun owners here in Wyoming have had our ‘pro-gun’ governors veto multiple pro-gun bills. In Governor Gordan’s case, he did so in direct violation of a signed candidate survey. It is not enough to for the legislature to vote pro-gun, only to do nothing when the Governor vetoes these bills.

If elected, would you SUPPORT and VOTE YES on an effort to override a gubernatorial veto on pro-gun bills previously passed by the legislature, and would you support a procedure effort to convene a special session if it was necessary?

Question 9 Answer

Yes

Question 10

In your own words, please explain what rights you believe the Second Amendment ultimately safeguards:

Question 10 Answer

Our right to bear arms shall not be infringed. The 2A supports my natural God given right to defend my life and those of my family (and others). It safeguards my ability to defend my rights from violation by others, whether it be an individual or an over-reaching government. It also safeguards my rights to purchase, own, sell, trade, build, and utilize (without violating the rights of others) firearms without restriction, registration, or tracking by any government entity.

Name (As it will appear on the ballot)

Laurie Bratten

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District Number **Chamber** **Party Affiliation**

51	Wyoming House	Republican

E-Signature

✔ I have truthfully answered the questions above and they accurately reflect my positions on the Second Amendment

Date

07/09/2026

Signature



Reviewed

- Yes

Paper Survey