

MATTHEW H. MEAD
GOVERNOR



2323 Carey Avenue
CHEYENNE, WY 82002

Office of the Governor

March 1, 2017

The Honorable Eli Bebout
Wyoming Senate
3001 E. Pershing Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82001



Dear President Bebout,

I have vetoed SEA10/original SF31 Genetic Information Privacy.

The goal of the bill is to require a person or entity conducting genetic analysis to obtain informed consent prior to testing, obtaining, disclosing or retaining an individual's genetic information.

This is an important goal, and one I fully support. Legislation to execute the goal proved to be a complex undertaking. Legislators worked with individuals, and with representatives of business and research entities to strike a proper balance between the realities of data storage, research needs and individual privacy concerns.

An amendment added very late in the process could be interpreted to prohibit genetic testing facilities, research facilities and even universities from using a third party to store or back up their genetic testing data.

Based on my discussions with legislators, this is an unintended result. With great appreciation for the very good work by the legislators I veto this bill with a hope it may be easily corrected next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Mead".

Matthew H. Mead
Governor

MHM:ts

cc: ✓ The Honorable Edward F. Murray III, Secretary of State
The Honorable Steve Harshman, Speaker of the House
Chief Clerk, Wyoming Senate
Chief Clerk, Wyoming House of Representatives