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(Wyo)-Anti-Protest Bill Passes Wyo House Committee

By: John Axtell Posted at: 02/01/2019 01:02 PM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - The Wyoming House Minerals, Business and Economic Development Committee - on a 5-4 vote - has sent to the floor a bill imposing tougher penalties against protesters who intentionally disrupt the operation of refineries, power plants, pipelines, mines and other such facilities.

Individual protesters would be covered by the bill and any group behind such acts could be fined up to \$100,000. A similar measure passed the Legislature last year but was vetoed by then-Governor Matt Mead.

Opponents of the proposal say it would infringe on the rights of protesters and landowners and current laws address any crimes against facilities. Supporters disagree on both points.