

# HARRIET HAGEMAN

WYOMING'S CONGRESSWOMAN

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Hello Laura,

Congress returned to session last week, and I was active in House leadership elections, floor votes, constituent meetings, and more. I have enjoyed these past two years serving as Wyoming's lone representative in the House, and I look forward to the privilege of doing so for another two years.

Upon my return to Washington, D.C., I led a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) requesting that it delay enforcement of its electronic identification (EID) eartag rule and joined a letter to the Mountain West Conference regarding the safety of female athletes.

Keep reading below to learn more about these priorities.

## Working to Delay Implementation of the EID Mandate

On Tuesday, November 5th, the USDA's EID eartag rule went into effect. It has been clear from the beginning of this latest rulemaking process that the USDA had no interest in actually listening to the regulated industry and the people who would be most impacted by an EID mandate. The USDA has ignored the many concerns raised by the cattle and bison industries, the sale barns, consumers, and Congress (among others).

One example of the USDA's refusal to take heed of the challenges associated with a mandatory EID is the fact that there is already a shortage of tags, and the eartag industry (one of the biggest advocates for the rule) is unable to readily replenish to meet demand. The state of Wyoming, in fact, ran out of tags in August and hopes to have more in the next week or so. Our cattle and bison producers are now not only concerned about the cost and logistics of complying with this harmful rule, but face substantial hurdles to being able to do so. The USDA was warned, but it didn't listen.

This mandate is also under legal challenge in the courts, with the plaintiffs in that case arguing that the USDA lacks the authority to create and enforce an EID requirement, that it failed to properly comply with the applicable regulatory process, and that it ignored the harm it would inflict on the regulated community.

For these reasons, this past week I led a coalition of members opposed to the EID mandate urging the Secretary of Agriculture to use his discretionary authority to delay implementation of this rule. We cited wide-scale industry opposition, challenges already faced, and the active lawsuit. The Administrative Procedure Act allows the Secretary to "postpone the effective date of action taken by it, pending judicial review" when "justice so requires." I cannot think of a better situation to which this authority applies, and I call on Secretary Vilsack to postpone the effective date of the EID eartag mandate.

I also encourage our state officials to enter arrangements with like-minded leaders in other states to continue to accept cattle and bison that are identified using our traditional forms of identification and tracing (including brands, eartags, backtags, tattoos, etc.).

## Fighting to Protect Women's Sports

Many of you are likely aware that the Mountain West Conference has permitted a male San Jose State University player to compete against females in women's college volleyball. I was proud to support the University of Wyoming's decision to protect its women by acknowledging this situation and the danger that it poses. I do not believe, however, that it is fair, reasonable, or at all rational that women are now being forced to forfeit college-level games simply because a man wants to play on the women's team. Stated bluntly, San Jose State is cheating, and athletic leadership is allowing them to get away with it. It is for that reason that I support the recent lawsuit filed against San Jose State and the Mountain West Conference alleging Constitutional and Title IX violations.

As your representative, I have fought against attempts by the radical Left to erase women and destroy women's sports. On Friday, I joined a letter led by Rep. Burgess Owens (R-UT) urging the Mountain West Conference to update its student-athlete guidelines to prohibit men from competing against female students in women's sports. I have also cosponsored multiple pieces of legislation that seek to safeguard women and girls in sports, including [H.R. 734](#), the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, which passed the House of Representatives, and [H.R. 7187](#), the Protection of Women in Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

Men and women are biologically different, and to argue otherwise is not only absurd but dangerous because it puts our women and girls at great physical risk of injury and abuse. Doing so is also an affront to the rights we have worked so hard to achieve and as protected with the passage of Title IX. I will continue to do all that I can to prevent the Left from trampling on basic biological principles and destroying women's rights.

See What I'm Doing in D.C.! Add Me on Social Media:



## Events and Announcements

### Upcoming Congress in Your Communities

My staff members hold mobile office hours around the state to hear your concerns and assist with casework requests. Schedule an appointment [here](#) or by calling 307-261-6595. Exact addresses for Congress in Your Community locations will be provided once meeting times are confirmed.

#### Congress in Sweetwater County:

Monday, November 18, 2024 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Rock Springs, WY

#### Congress in Uinta County:

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Lyman, WY

#### Congress in Lincoln County:

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Diamondville, WY

#### Congress in Platte County:

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Guernsey, WY

#### Congress in Sublette County:

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Pinedale, WY

### Information on RBDG Grants Now Available

Are you interested in learning more about the USDA's [Rural Business Development Grant \(RBDG\) program](#)? If so, please consider joining Wyoming Rural Development staff at a webinar which will discuss eligibility, funding available, the application process, and more.

The webinar will take place **tomorrow, November 18, at 1 p.m. MT**. To register, [click here](#).

### WY SBDC to Hold Trainings for Small Business Owners

The Wyoming Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network announced that it is offering a wide variety of small business training opportunities both online and throughout the state for small business owners and entrepreneurs.

To learn more about upcoming events, [click here](#).

### AFG Grant Application Period Now Open

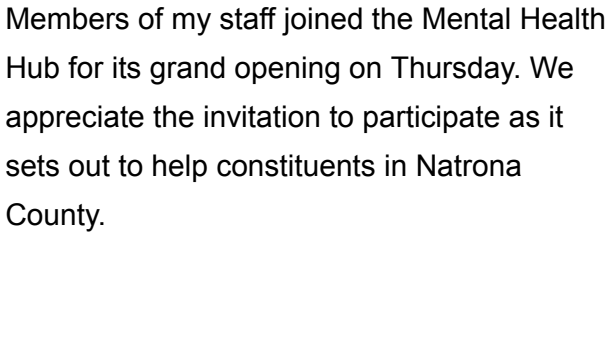
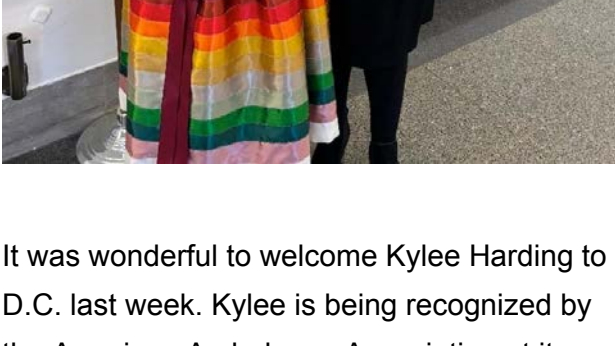
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the opening of the latest application period for the Fiscal Year 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG), which will award \$291.6 million to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters nationwide against fire-related deaths and hazards.

The application period is open from now until **December 20, 2024, at 3 p.m. MT**. To learn more, [click here](#).

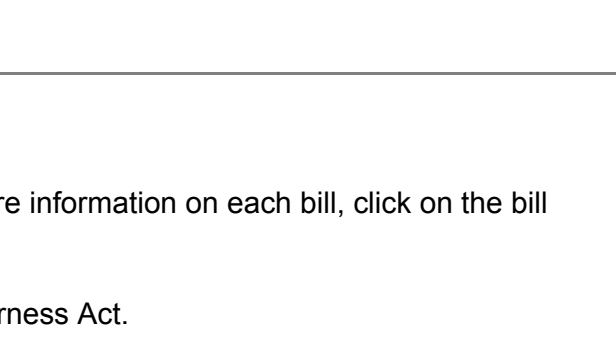
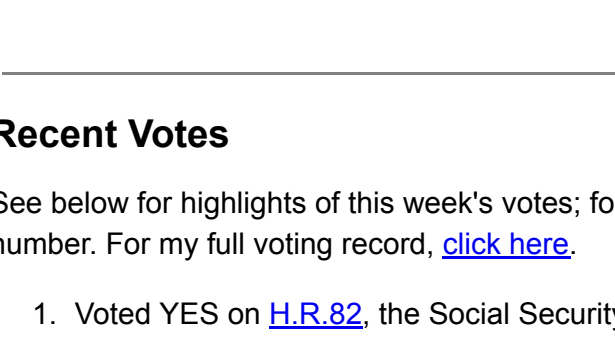
## Recent Photos



I was honored to spend the morning of Veterans Day at a service at Arlington National Cemetery. Thank you to our veterans for all they have done in service to our great nation.



While I was in D.C., my staff members were attending Veterans Day memorials in the state. I've included some of the images they took above.



It was wonderful to welcome Kylee Harding to D.C. last week. Kylee is being recognized by the American Ambulance Association at its annual Stars of Life event for her work with Priority Ambulance in Riverton. The Stars of Life awards recognize EMS personnel from across the country who go above and beyond in service to their community.

Members of my staff joined the Mental Health Hub for its grand opening on Thursday. We appreciate the invitation to participate as it sets out to help constituents in Natrona County.

## Recent Votes

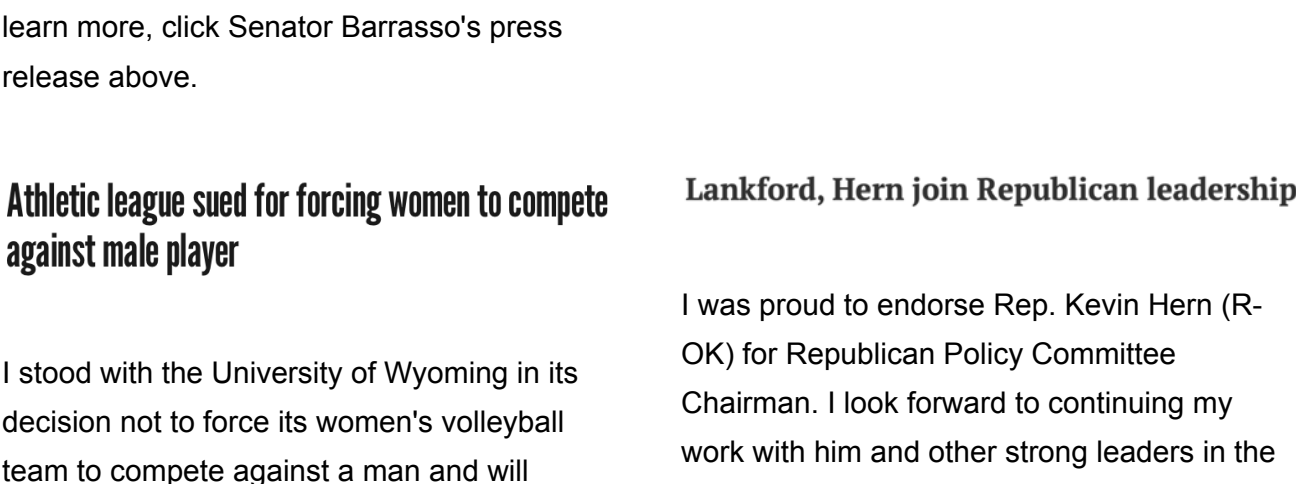
See below for highlights of this week's votes; for more information on each bill, click on the bill number. For my full voting record, [click here](#).

- Voted YES on [H.R.82](#), the Social Security Fairness Act.
- Voted YES on [H.R.9495](#), the Stop Terror-Financing and Tax Penalties on American Hostages Act.
- Voted YES on [H.R.8446](#), the Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024.
- Voted YES on [H.R.7409](#), the Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources (HEATS) Act.
- Voted YES on [H.R.8932](#), the FAFSA Deadline Act.

## Cosponsored Legislation

- [H.Res.1566](#), Honoring the service and sacrifice of America's veterans on Veterans Day, 2024.

## Tweet of the Week



## In the News

### Bill Honoring Wyoming's Dessie A. Bebout Heads to President's Desk

I was honored to play a part in the passage of [S.2274](#), which will name the local post office in Shoshoni, Wyoming, after former Shoshoni Postmaster Dessie A. Bebout. To learn more, click Senator Barrasso's press release above.

### Ranch Group Endorses Bill Protecting Landowners

I greatly appreciate R-CALF's endorsement of my bill, the [PASTURES Act](#), which would safeguard landowners with property adjacent to federal land from enforcement actions related to livestock trespassing.

### Athletic league sued for forcing women to compete against male player

I stood with the University of Wyoming in its decision not to force its women's volleyball team to compete against a man and will continue to stand up for women and girls in athletics.

### Lankford, Hern join Republican leadership

I was proud to endorse Rep. Kevin Hern (R-OK) for Republican Policy Committee Chairman. I look forward to continuing my work with him and other strong leaders in the 119th Congress.

## I Want to Hear From You!

I cannot do my job without your support and input. Thank you for the calls, letters, emails, and questions you have sent to our offices. Please continue to reach out via the contact information below, and stay up to date on all the latest activities and legislation by subscribing and sharing this newsletter and our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) accounts with your friends and family!

Sincerely,

Rep. Harriet Hageman

Member of Congress

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