

FILED



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF WYOMING, COUNTY OF NATRONA**

**DANIELLE JOHNSON; GIOVANNINA
ANTHONY, M.D.; RENE R. HINKLE, M.D.;
CHELSEA’S FUND; JTP PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE CORPORATION, d/b/a Just The
Pill; CIRCLE OF HOPE HEALTH CARE
SERVICES, INC., d/b/a Wellspring Health Access;**

Plaintiffs,

vs.

**STATE OF WYOMING; MARK GORDON,
Governor of Wyoming; KEITH G. KAUTZ,
Attorney General for the State of Wyoming;
JOHN HARLIN, Sheriff Natrona County,
Wyoming; and SHANE CHANEY, Chief of
Police, City of Casper, Wyoming; STATE OF
WYOMING BOARD OF MEDICINE; KEVIN
BOHNEBLUST, Executive Director of the
Wyoming Board of Medicine;
STATE OF WYOMING BOARD OF NURSING;
RACHAEL FILBRANDT, Executive Director of
the Wyoming Board of Nursing;
STATE OF WYOMING BOARD OF
PHARMACY; and MATT MARTINEAU,
Executive Director of the Wyoming Board of
Pharmacy,**

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 2025-CV-0115019

**ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' WRCP 15(d) MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE
SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDED CLAIMS**

THIS MATTER came before the Court on March 30, 2026, for hearing on Plaintiffs' March 10, 2026, *WRCP 15(d) Motion for Leave to File Supplemental and Amended Claims* ("*Motion*"). Marci C. Bramlet and John H. Robinson appeared for Plaintiffs, with Mr. Robinson presenting argument; John J. Woykovsky, Donovan Burton, and Attorney General Keith G. Katuz, appeared for Defendants, with General Kautz presenting argument. The Court, now having reviewed and considered the file, the pleadings and arguments presented, and otherwise being advised in the matter, **FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Plaintiffs seek to add additional claims to their *Complaint*—specifically, a claim for injunctive relief regarding House Bill ("HB") 126, which generally bans abortions after detection of a fetal heartbeat. HB 126 became law on March 9, 2026. In support of their request, Plaintiffs rely on WRCP 15(d), which provides:

On motion and reasonable notice, the court may, on just terms, permit a party to serve a supplemental pleading, setting out any transaction, occurrence, or event that happened after the date of the pleading to be supplemented. The court may permit supplementation even though the original pleading is defective in stating a claim or defense.

2. Addressing the propriety of supplementing pleadings, the Wyoming Supreme Court has relied on outside precedent and provided:

We have limited case law addressing Rule 15(d). However, other courts, when addressing similar rules, have stated supplementation under Rule 15(d) should be freely granted unless the court finds that factors such as untimeliness, prejudice, bad faith, or futility of the amendment would make such a grant unjust. Rule 15(d) motions to amend should be granted unless undue prejudice to the opposing party will result. Whether to permit an amendment or supplementation of the pleadings is within the sound discretion of the district court.

Redland v. Kimsey, 2025 WY 85, ¶ 41, 573 P.3d 497, 510 (Wyo. 2025) (internal citations omitted).¹ The basis for amendment *or* supplementation prompts the Court to analyze standards of justice.² The burden for amendment or supplementation of pleadings rests on the party seeking relief. *W.N. McMurry Const. Co. v. Community First Ins., Inc. Wyoming*, 2007 WY 96, ¶ 36, 160 P.3d 71, 82 (Wyo. 2007).

3. The Plaintiffs’ position is straightforward, supplementation promotes judicial economy, as it would avoid “serial litigation over the same critical issue.” Notably, judicial economy is the foremost function of Rule 15(d). *See Zuniga v. TrueAccord*, No. CV 18-683 KG/KRS, 2020 WL 2558229, at *2 (D.N.M. May 20, 2020)(recognizing that FRCP 15(d) is meant “to promote as complete an adjudication of the dispute between parties as possible”).³
4. The issues in this matter and those that Plaintiffs seek to add are certainly related, as the challenged laws all involve the availability and restrictions on abortions in Wyoming. However, and as aptly noted by the Defendants, a closer review indicates that the laws’ similarities are strictly superficial. The laws challenged in this case regulate abortion medications and providers. HB 126 functions as a circumstantial abortion ban. While these laws all implicate constitutional rights and require certain governmental interests, the Defendants’ approach in defending HB 126 is decidedly

¹ In line with the rest of this Order, these are the same factors of consideration that apply to amendments under WRCP 15(a)(2).

² Compared to WRCP 15(d) which allows supplementation “on just terms,” amendments before trial should be freely allowed “when justice so requires.” WRCP 15(a)(2).

³ As the language of WRCP 15(d) and FRCP 15(d) are identical, the court is particularly mindful that “[i]n construing Wyoming rules of procedure, where Wyoming and federal rules of procedure are similar, we have repeatedly looked to federal cases construing the federal rule as persuasive authority.” *Johnson v. State*, 2009 WY 104, ¶ 14, 214 P.3d 983, 986 (Wyo. 2009)(citing *Bird v. State*, 901 P.2d 1121, 1129 (Wyo. 1995)).

different than it is here. The Defendants allege different compelling State interests, and they are permitted to develop those in litigation, uninhibited by the procedural posture of this case. The factual differences are, and should be, subject to discovery, dispositive motions and other procedures which, in either event, amounts to “starting anew.”

5. While a ruling on summary judgment is pending, the current case is at least ripe for trial. Granting the Plaintiffs’ motion would require the Court to establish deadlines, allow for discovery regarding new factual issues, and may possibly preclude timely entry of a final judgment in this matter. Plaintiffs’ assertion that Certification under WRAP 11 or a reserved ruling under WRCP 52(d) of the current case is available once summary judgment is decided is unpersuasive as Certification is not assured and would present the same piecemeal evil Plaintiffs wish to avoid. Upending a case on the cusp of completion does not comply with the confines of WRCP 15(d). *See Walker v. United Parcel Serv., Inc.*, 240 F.3d 1268, 1278 (10th Cir. 2001)(finding that the district court did not abuse its discretion in declining supplementing the pleadings after the close of discovery because such supplementation would unduly prejudice the opposing party); *see also W.N. McMurry Const. Co. v. Community First Ins., Inc. Wyoming*, 2007 WY 96, ¶¶ 35—36, 160 P.3d 71, 82 (Wyo. 2007).
6. Defendants present alternative grounds for the presence of prejudice. Often alternative arguments are necessary and wise, but this Court is compelled to note that it does *not* conclude that it lacks jurisdiction; nor does it find that the Plaintiffs’ *Motion* constituted inappropriate judge shopping, any more than Defendants’ suggestion that retention elections of judges should factor into such matters and rulings by the judiciary. In fact, the system’s integrity depends on the absence of political pressure from the Court’s

decisions.

CONCLUSION

The Court has considered efficiency—including practicality and expediency. The factual issues sought to be added to this case are inherently different from those currently before this Court, which are primed for resolution through summary judgment or trial. Reopening deadlines and accommodating discovery would delay finality in this case. The Defendants would be prejudiced and Plaintiffs' assertion that supplementation is appropriate must fail.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Plaintiffs' *WRCP 15(d) Motion for Leave to File Supplemental and Amended Claims* ("Motion") is **DENIED**.

Dated this 31st day of March 2026.



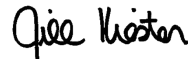
THOMAS T.C. CAMPBELL
DISTRICT JUDGE RETIRED



CERTIFIED

TO BE A FULL TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF
THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT ON FILE OF RECORD

03/31/2026



Jill Kiester, Natrona County Clerk of District Court
Certified by: Haley Mayer