

Thank You for Showing Up — And for Using Your Voice

Christine Langley <christine@startupwy.org>

Thu, Jan 29, 2026 at 8:32 PM

To: christine@startupwy.org

Hello friends,

Thank you sincerely to everyone who joined today's Zoom conversation, *Your Voice Matters: A Critical Call to Protect Wyoming's Economic Future*, and to those who wanted to attend but couldn't make the timing work. More than 95 people registered solely through my personal outreach and sharing, and I want you to know how genuinely meaningful that is to me. Your willingness to show up, engage, and care so deeply about Wyoming's entrepreneurial future is incredibly powerful.

I organized this call because this work is personal to me. I have spent nearly two decades working in economic development support organizations in Wyoming, advising, coaching, and training more than 2,000 individual entrepreneurs. I have an entrepreneurial mindset and a heart for service, and that combination is why I continue to do this work today. For me, nothing is more rewarding than supporting people who take the risk to build, grow, and create something of their own.

Today's conversation focused on the very real and immediate concern surrounding the potential defunding of the Wyoming Business Council and what that decision would mean for entrepreneurs, communities, and Wyoming's long-term economic health. We heard powerful firsthand stories from founders who shared how programs funded and coordinated through the Wyoming Business Council directly helped them start, grow, and sustain their businesses here in Wyoming.

Josh Dorrell reinforced an important and timely message: this is the moment when constituent voices matter most. He was clear that respectful, personal outreach to legislators right now can influence how decisions are made as the budget moves through session. Josh emphasized that emails, letters, calls, and op-eds from people who live and work in Wyoming carry real weight, especially when they clearly explain how economic development programs have impacted real businesses and real communities.

A key takeaway from today is simple and important: personal stories matter. If your business or someone you know benefited from support funded through the Wyoming Business Council, now is the time to speak up. Legislators cannot act on experiences they have never heard about. If you worked with me directly or benefited from individualized support through a program funded by the Wyoming Business Council, it is completely appropriate to say so. Economic development is deeply personal because it is ultimately about people, relationships, and trust.

What to Do Next

The Joint Appropriations Committee has already forwarded its budget recommendation to the full Legislature. The Wyoming Legislature convenes next week, on Monday, February 9, 2026, making this the most important window for constituent voices to be heard before final decisions are made.

Attached to this email, you will find:

1. Slide deck from today's meeting
2. A short instruction document on how to raise your voice
3. A letter template

I strongly encourage you to send a personalized message to all Wyoming legislators, share one specific story about impact, and forward these materials to someone you trust who also cares about Wyoming's future.

If I can convene nearly 100 Wyoming constituents in just a few days from my personal contact list, you can do this too! Use the resources I've shared. Forward this email. Host your own call to action. Invite a few friends, colleagues, or neighbors over for an evening of letter writing and conversation. This is how real change happens in Wyoming. Not through grand gestures, but through people choosing to engage, speak up, and stand up for what they believe in. You have more influence than you realize, and this moment needs all of us.

Thank you again for showing up, for caring, and for being willing to engage. Wyoming's future depends on people willing

to use their voices, and today proved they are paying attention.

With deep appreciation,

Christine Langley

Director of Founder Success, StartupWyoming

(307) 760-0704

<https://www.startupwy.org/>

christine@startupwy.org

Connect with me on [LinkedIn](#)



3 attachments



My Voice Matters_How to Speak Up.pdf

79K



Letter Template_Dear [Senator_Representative].docx

8K



Your Voice Matters_ A Critical Call to Protect Wyoming's Economic Future.pdf

964K