



CHUCK GRAY, WYOMING SECRETARY OF STATE

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Secretary Gray Makes Statement Regarding State Loan and Investment Board Meeting and Opposition to Resident Aliens Receiving Affordable Housing Benefits

CHEYENNE, WY – On April 23rd, Wyoming Secretary of State Chuck Gray released a statement regarding the State Loan and Investment Board's consideration of affordable housing projects. Secretary Gray had brought an amendment at the Board's April 2nd meeting to require that all individuals afforded housing by the projects should be citizens of the United States, and cross-checked through the Department of Homeland Security's Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program before any housing benefits were disbursed. At today's April 23rd meeting, the Board adopted Secretary Gray's proposal with Secretary Gray's support. But then the Board added another section that allowed for housing benefits to be disbursed to resident aliens in a separate section, which Secretary Gray opposes. Secretary Gray voted for the amendment to conduct a citizenship check, but voted against the projects themselves because he is opposed to the disbursement of any housing funds to resident aliens.

In a statement, Secretary Gray added, "Ensuring that benefits and entitlement programs, such as affordable housing, are only extended to United States citizens is common sense. The laws of our country should be followed. Today, I'm glad that the State Loan and Investment Board adopted my amendment requiring a citizenship check. But then the Board allowed distribution of these benefits to resident aliens. I opposed the distribution of any housing benefits to resident aliens. Only citizens should be receiving these benefits, not resident aliens. For that reason, I opposed any state-funded projects that allowed for the distribution of any housing benefits to resident aliens."

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