

# WYOMING TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION CORNERSTONES OF TAXATION

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## JUSTIFICATION

- Is there a justified need for the tax and is it fiscally prudent?
- Are existing government funds spent efficiently before considering a new tax?
- Is the primary goal of the tax to generate revenue or does it modify behavior or influence policy?

## EQUITY

- Does the tax impose equal and uniform liabilities upon similarly situated taxpayers?
- Is the tax constitutional?
- Does the tax disadvantage one taxpayer over another?

## BALANCE

- Does the tax result in diversification in taxation?
- Does the tax influence decisions regarding spending, saving or investing?
- Does the tax concentrate a financial burden on a few and will the tax distort economic behavior?

## STABILITY

- Is the tax stable and predictable under changing political, economic, regulatory and environmental conditions?

## TRANSPARENCY

- Is the tax visible, accountable and auditable?
- Is the tax easy to understand, administer and cost effective to collect?