

February 17, 2026

Honorable Mr. Speaker Chip Neiman

200 West 24th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Courtesy copies to: Representative Karlee Provenza
Representative Mike Yin

Mr. Speaker,

This letter is to serve as a complaint alleging legislative misconduct by a members of the Wyoming House of Representatives pursuant to Joint Rule 22-1 of the Wyoming Legislature.

Joint Rule 22-1(e) provides:

A complaint alleging legislative misconduct by a member of the House or Senate shall meet the following criteria:

(i) The complaint shall be in writing;

(ii) The complaint shall:

(A) Be based on unique personal knowledge;

(B) State detailed facts;

(C) Specify the actions of the named member which form the basis of the complaint;

(D) Attach all documentation on which the complaint is based; and

(E) Identify how the specific alleged violation constitutes legislative misconduct.

(iii) The complaint shall be signed by the person alleging legislative misconduct.

Furthermore, Rule 22-1(c) and Rule 22-1(f) specify that such written complaints alleging legislative misconduct shall be first delivered to the Speaker of the House and to the member against whom the complaint is filed.

Pursuant to these rules, copies of this complaint are being provided to Representatives Mike Yin and Karlee Provenza.

The following is based on my unique personal knowledge:

On the House floor on Wednesday February 11 2026, I witnessed Representative Mike Yin cite his “understanding” that a private individual distributed checks on the House floor. When later asked if he could substantiate his claims, Representative Yin stated to Cowboy State Daily, “I can’t tell you who told me, but I trust that it is correct.”¹

¹ *Rep. Mike Yin Claims Jackson GOP Leader ‘Handed Out’ Checks On Floor Of Legislature, Feb. 11, 2026* (<https://cowboystatedaily.com/2026/02/11/rep-mike-yin-claims-jackson-gop-leader-handed-out-checks-on-floor-of-legislature/>)

Representative Yin later told the press that House Bill 141, the matter pending before the House of Representatives when his floor remarks were made, “is brought by Rebecca Bextel,” a private citizen, and insinuated that House Bill 141 was “the reason for the checks.”²

Later on February 11, it was reported by WyoFile that Representative Provenza had used her phone to take a photo of Rebecca Bextel on the House floor after the session had adjourned *two days earlier*, on February 9.³ This photo was given to multiple media outlets.

On the House floor on Thursday February 12 2026, I witnessed Representative Provenza make a motion to convene a special committee to “investigate whether checks were provided to members of the House of Representatives on the floor of the House and whether that action is a violation of the Wyoming State Constitution ... or constitutes legislative misconduct...”⁴

On February 16, Representative Provenza told Cowboy State Daily that she intentionally failed to provide allegations of legislative misconduct and bribery to the presiding officer of the House, stating, “I didn’t send it to leadership because I think this was such an egregious violation of the public’s trust, and I wasn’t sure I trusted leadership to handle it appropriately.”⁵

It is my understanding that no written complaint has been delivered to you as Speaker of the House, and that none of the members of the House of Representatives implicated in the allegations made by Representatives Provenza and Yin received any copy of the complaint if one exists.

Joint Rule 22-1(a)(iii) provides:

An ethics violation instituted for the purposes of advancing political interests, or connected with intended legislation or any matters upon which a house should act, or instituted merely to subject a member of the House or Senate to public animadversion, is not a proper legislative proceeding.

Additionally, Rule 22-1(j) provides:

All records, findings and proceedings including the filing of the initial complaint shall be considered confidential information, but the complaint shall be available for public inspection upon the dismissal of the complaint, a referral of the complaint for formal investigation or other final dispositive action regarding the complaint.

² *Id.*

³ *Conservative activist hands checks to lawmakers on Wyoming House floor. Controversy erupts.* Feb. 11, 2026 (<https://wyofile.com/conservative-activist-hands-checks-to-lawmakers-on-wyoming-house-floor-controversy-erupts/>)

⁴ Motion to Convene Investigative House Committee, Feb. 12, 2026 (<https://wyoleg.gov/InterimCommittee/2026/S49-report-HM-0001MotiontoConveneInvestigativeHouseCommittee.pdf>)

⁵ *Teton County GOP Condemns Check Passing On House Floor By Its Own Committeewoman*, Feb. 16, 2026 (<https://cowboystatedaily.com/2026/02/16/teton-county-gop-condemns-its-own-committeewoman-for-passing-checks-on-house-floor/>)

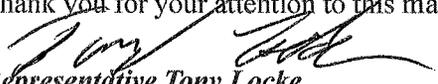
Moreover, Rule 22-1(k) specifies that complaints alleging criminal conduct must be referred to the Management Council to determine whether probable cause exists, then be sent to the Presiding Officer of the relevant house.

Based on the facts above, Representatives Provenza and Yin are alleged to have violated the following Joint Rules of the Wyoming Legislature:

- Representative Yin, by theatrically alleging the existence of an ethics violation connected with HB0141, which was pending on the floor of the Wyoming House of Representatives, violated Joint Rule 22-1(a)(iii).
- Representative Provenza, by taking alleged ethics violations to the press rather than to the presiding officer of the Wyoming House, violated Joint Rules 22-1(c) and 22-1(j).
- Representative Provenza, by failing to submit a written and signed complaint to the presiding officer of the Wyoming House, violated Joint Rules 22-1(c), (e), and (f).
- Representative Provenza, by widely publicizing the alleged ethics violation, including insinuating felonious intent on the part of the parties involved, violated Joint Rule 22-1(a)(iii).

The ethics violations contained within this complaint have triggered an unprecedented degradation in the decorum of the House of Representatives. Had the original allegations of Representatives Provenza and Yin been handled pursuant to the Joint Rules adopted by the Wyoming House, the body would be in a much different place today.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.


Representative Tony Locke
House District 35