

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0023

Law enforcement interstate mutual aid.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation and Highways Interim  
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to criminal procedure; authorizing law  
2 enforcement agencies of this state to enter into mutual aid  
3 agreements with law enforcement agencies of other states  
4 under certain conditions; providing definitions; providing  
5 for protection in certain situations; amending related  
6 provisions; conforming related provisions in the  
7 Governmental Claims Act and the state self-insurance  
8 program; requiring reports; and providing for an effective  
9 date.

10

11 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

12

13 **Section 1.** W.S. 7-3-901 through 7-3-910 are created  
14 to read:

15

16

ARTICLE 9

## 1                   LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERSTATE MUTUAL AID

2

3           **7-3-901. Short title.**

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5       This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Law  
6       Enforcement Interstate Mutual Aid Act."

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8           **7-3-902. Definitions.**

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10       (a) When used in this act, unless the context  
11       requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

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13           (i) "Law enforcement agency" means a lawfully  
14       established federal, state or local public agency that is  
15       responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and  
16       the enforcement of penal, traffic, regulatory or criminal  
17       laws;

18

19           (ii) "Law enforcement agency of another state"  
20       includes a law enforcement agency of another state and any  
21       political subdivision of that state;

22

23           (iii) "Law enforcement employee of another  
24       state" means an employee of a law enforcement agency

1 trained and certified in accordance with the laws of the  
2 state or jurisdiction where regularly employed by the  
3 United States, another state or political subdivision;

4

5 (iv) "Mutual aid agreement" or "an agreement"  
6 means an agreement between two (2) or more law enforcement  
7 agencies consistent with the purposes of this act;

8

9 (v) "Party law enforcement agency" means a law  
10 enforcement agency that is a party to a mutual aid  
11 agreement as set forth in this act;

12

13 (vi) "Wyoming law enforcement agency" includes a  
14 sheriff, municipal, college or university police force,  
15 Wyoming highway patrol and the division of criminal  
16 investigation;

17

18 (vii) "Wyoming law enforcement employee" has the  
19 same meaning as "peace officer" as defined in W.S. 7-2-101  
20 but does not include those officers specified in W.S.  
21 7-2-101(a)(iv)(K);

22

23 (viii) "This act" means W.S. 7-3-901 through  
24 7-3-910.

1

2           **7-3-903. Authorization to enter agreement; general**  
3 **content; authority of law enforcement employee.**

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5           (a) Any one (1) or more law enforcement agencies of  
6 this state may enter into a mutual aid agreement with any  
7 one (1) or more law enforcement agencies of another state  
8 or the United States to render assistance in the provision  
9 of the law enforcement or emergency services that the  
10 requesting party is authorized by law to perform. If  
11 required by applicable law, the agreement shall be  
12 authorized and approved by the governing body of each party  
13 to the agreement.

14

15           (b) The agreement shall fully set forth the powers,  
16 rights and obligations of the parties to the agreement.

17

18           (c) A mutual aid agreement may grant a law  
19 enforcement employee or officer of any party law  
20 enforcement agency acting within the territorial  
21 jurisdiction of any other party law enforcement agency  
22 authority to act as if he were a duly appointed and  
23 qualified law enforcement employee or officer of the law  
24 enforcement agency he is assisting.

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**7-3-904. Detailed content of agreement.**

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(a) Any agreement under this act shall specify the following:

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(i) Its duration, which shall be not more than four (4) years;

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(ii) The purpose of the agreement;

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(iii) The manner of financing the agreement and establishing and maintaining a budget therefor;

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(iv) The method to be employed in accomplishing the partial or complete termination of the agreement and for disposing of property upon such partial or complete termination;

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22

(v) Provision for administering the agreement, which may include creation of a joint board responsible for such administration;

23

1           (vi) The manner of acquiring, holding and  
2 disposing of real and personal property used in the  
3 agreement;

4

5           (vii) The minimum standards for law enforcement  
6 employees implementing the provisions of the agreement;

7

8           (viii) The respective liability of each party to  
9 the agreement for the actions of law enforcement employees  
10 when acting under the provisions of the agreement;

11

12           (ix) The minimum insurance, if any, required of  
13 each party to the agreement;

14

15           (x) The exact chain of command or delegation of  
16 authority to be followed by law enforcement employees  
17 acting under the provisions of the agreement;

18

19           (xi) The enforcement authority that the law  
20 enforcement employee of each party law enforcement agency  
21 may exercise;

22

1           (xii) Provisions for any specific immunities not  
2 listed in W.S. 7-3-910 and for defending law enforcement  
3 employees in civil litigation;

4

5           (xiii) Any other necessary and proper matters.

6

7           **7-3-905. Right of state in actions involving**  
8 **agreements.**

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10 In any case or controversy involving performance or  
11 interpretation of or liability under a mutual aid agreement  
12 entered into between one (1) or more law enforcement  
13 agencies of this state or political subdivisions of this  
14 state and one (1) or more law enforcement agencies of  
15 another state or of the United States, the parties to the  
16 agreement are the real parties in interest.

17

18           **7-3-906. Agreement not to relieve agency of duties.**

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20 No agreement made under this act may relieve any law  
21 enforcement agency of this state of any duty imposed upon  
22 it by law. Timely performance of such a duty by a joint  
23 board or other legal or administrative entity created by a

1 mutual aid agreement may be offered in satisfaction of the  
2 duty.

3

4 **7-3-907. Limitation of powers.**

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6 Except for the right granted by this act to jointly  
7 exercise powers, this act does not authorize any law  
8 enforcement agency of this state to exercise any power  
9 within this state that it is not otherwise authorized to  
10 exercise.

11

12 **7-3-908. Submission of agreement to attorney general.**

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14 (a) As a condition precedent to an agreement becoming  
15 effective under this act, the agreement shall be submitted  
16 to and receive the approval of the attorney general.

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18 (b) Within sixty (60) days of receipt, the attorney  
19 general shall approve an agreement submitted to him under  
20 this act unless he finds that it is not in proper form,  
21 does not meet the requirements set forth in this act or  
22 otherwise does not conform to the laws of Wyoming. If he  
23 disapproves an agreement, he shall provide a detailed,



1 written statement to the governing bodies of the party law  
2 enforcement agencies.

3

4 (c) The attorney general shall annually report the  
5 status of agreements approved by him under this act no  
6 later than September 1 of each year to the joint  
7 transportation and highways interim committee.

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9 **7-3-909. Filing of agreement.**

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11 Within twenty (20) days after approval by the attorney  
12 general, an agreement made pursuant to this act shall be  
13 filed in the office of the secretary of state.

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15 **7-3-910. Immunity.**

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17 Whenever the employees of a law enforcement agency of  
18 another state are rendering aid pursuant to the request of  
19 a Wyoming law enforcement agency under an agreement  
20 pursuant to this act, the employees shall have the same  
21 powers, duties, rights, privileges and immunities as  
22 comparable Wyoming law enforcement employees as provided  
23 for in the agreement.

24

1           **Section 2.** W.S. 1-39-103(a)(iii), 1-41-102(a)(iv),  
2 6-1-104(a)(vi) by creating a new subparagraph (N),  
3 7-2-101(a)(iv) by creating a new subparagraph (M) and  
4 7-3-103(a) by creating a new paragraph (v) are amended to  
5 read:

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7           **1-39-103. Definitions.**

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9           (a) As used in this act:

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11                   (iii) "Peace officer" means as defined by W.S.  
12 7-2-101, but does not include those officers defined by  
13 W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(K) or those officers defined by W.S.  
14 7-2-101(a)(iv)(M) unless otherwise provided in the  
15 applicable mutual aid agreement;

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17           **1-41-102. Definitions.**

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19           (a) As used in this act:

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21                   (iv) "Peace officer" means as defined by W.S.  
22 7-2-101, but does not include those officers defined by  
23 W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(K) or those officers defined by W.S.

1 7-2-101(a)(iv)(M) unless otherwise provided in the  
2 applicable mutual aid agreement;

3

4 **6-1-104. Definitions.**

5

6 (a) As used in W.S. 6-1-101 through 6-10-203 unless  
7 otherwise defined:

8

9 (vi) "Peace officer" includes the following  
10 officers assigned to duty in the state of Wyoming:

11

12 (N) Certified law enforcement officers of  
13 another state while responding to a request for assistance  
14 from a peace officer in this state pursuant to the "Law  
15 Enforcement Interstate Mutual Aid Act" or other lawful  
16 request.

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18 **7-2-101. Definitions.**

19

20 (a) As used in W.S. 7-2-101 through 7-2-107:

21

22 (iv) "Peace officer" means:

23

1                   (M) Certified law enforcement officers of  
2 another state while responding to a request for assistance  
3 from a peace officer in this state pursuant to the "Law  
4 Enforcement Interstate Mutual Aid Act" or other lawful  
5 request.

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7           **7-3-103. Purpose and objects; required ratification.**

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9           (a) Any agreement or compact entered into under W.S.  
10 7-3-101 through 7-3-107 shall be designed to suppress  
11 crime, to circumvent the activities of criminals and to  
12 expedite their apprehension and trial, and to enforce  
13 generally the respective criminal laws and policies of  
14 Wyoming and any other state entering into the agreement or  
15 compact. In order to effectuate those purposes, an  
16 agreement or compact may contain specific provisions for  
17 the accomplishment of any of the following objects:

18  
19                   (v) The agreement of one (1) or more law  
20 enforcement agencies of this state to enter into mutual aid  
21 agreements with one (1) or more law enforcement agencies of  
22 this state or any other state or the United States in order  
23 to facilitate and coordinate efficient, cooperative

1 enforcement efforts directed at mutual law enforcement  
2 responsibilities transcending jurisdictional boundaries.

3

4 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

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(END)