

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB1018

Unemployment benefits-failure to comply with local law.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Connolly and Senator(s)  
Rothfuss

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to labor and employment; specifying that  
2 persons who voluntarily leave their employment due to an  
3 employer's failure to comply with local COVID-19 prevention  
4 requirements are qualified to receive unemployment  
5 benefits; and providing for an effective date.

6

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

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 27-3-311(a)(i)(C), (D) and by  
10 creating a new subparagraph (E) is amended to read:

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12 **27-3-311. Disqualifications from entitlement;**  
13 **grounds; forfeiture.**

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1           (a) An individual shall be disqualified from benefit  
2 entitlement beginning with the effective date of an  
3 otherwise valid claim or the week during which the failure  
4 occurred, until he has been employed in an  
5 employee-employer relationship and has earned at least  
6 eight (8) times the weekly benefit amount of his current  
7 claim for services after that date, if the department finds  
8 that he:

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10           (i) Left his most recent work voluntarily  
11 without good cause attributable directly to his employment,  
12 except:

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14           (C) If forced to leave the most recent work  
15 as a result of being a victim of documented domestic  
16 violence; ~~or~~

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18           (D) If unemployed as a result of relocation  
19 due to the transfer of the unemployed individual's spouse,  
20 either within or outside the state, from which it is  
21 impractical to commute to the place of employment, and upon  
22 arrival at the new residence, the individual is in all  
23 respects able and available for suitable work and registers

1 for work with the department of workforce services or an  
2 equivalent agency of another state where the individual is  
3 residing. To qualify under this subparagraph, the  
4 individual shall be married to a member of the United  
5 States armed forces whose relocation is the result of an  
6 assignment on active duty as defined in 10 U.S.C.  
7 101(d)(1), active guard or reserve duty as defined in 10  
8 U.S.C. 101(d)(6), active duty pursuant to title 10 of the  
9 United States Code, or training or other duty performed by  
10 a member of the army national guard of the United States or  
11 the air national guard of the United States under section  
12 316, 502, 503, 504 or 505 of title 32 of the United States  
13 Code. Any benefits awarded under this subparagraph shall  
14 be noncharged benefits and shall not affect an employer's  
15 experience rating account; ~~or~~

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17 (E) If unemployed because of a decision by  
18 the individual to voluntarily terminate his employment  
19 because of his employer's failure to comply with any public  
20 health order issued by the state health officer or the  
21 appropriate county, municipal or district health officer as  
22 authorized under Wyoming law in response to the COVID-19

1 pandemic, including any COVID-19 vaccination requirement or  
2 any other COVID-19 prevention measure.

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4       **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon  
5 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
6 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
7 Constitution.

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9

(END)