

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0028

Interference with parent-child contact.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; establishing the  
 2 offense of interference with parent-child contact;  
 3 specifying affirmative defenses; specifying penalties;  
 4 providing definitions; and providing for an effective date.

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

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-2-205 is created to read:

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10 **6-2-205. Interference with parent-child contact.**

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12 (a) As used in this section:

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14 (i) "Child custody determination" means as  
 15 defined by W.S. 20-5-202(a)(iii);

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1           (ii) "Physical custody" means as defined by W.S.  
2 20-5-202(a)(xiv).

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4           (b) A person who has been granted physical custody or  
5 visitation with a child pursuant to a child custody  
6 determination is guilty of interference with parent-child  
7 contact if the person willfully prevents or obstructs the  
8 rights of another person entitled to physical custody or  
9 visitation with the child pursuant to a child custody  
10 determination.

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12           (c) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution  
13 under this section that:

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15           (i) The action was necessary to preserve the  
16 child from an immediate danger to his welfare; or

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18           (ii) The child was not less than fourteen (14)  
19 years old and the child was taken away or was not returned:

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21           (A) At his own instigation; and

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1                   (B) Without intent to commit a criminal  
2 offense with or against the child.

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4           (d) Interference with parent-child contact is a  
5 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than  
6 six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty  
7 dollars (\$750.00), or both.

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9           **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2024.

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(END)