

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0048

Department of family services-confidentiality amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the department of family services;
2 creating a new duty for the director of the department of
3 family services to review the effectiveness and impact of
4 the department's programs; authorizing the sharing of data;
5 creating exceptions for the sharing of confidential
6 information; requiring rulemaking; requiring a report; and
7 providing for effective dates.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-2104(a) by creating a new
12 paragraph (x), 14-3-214(a), 14-6-203(g)(intro), 14-6-306,
13 14-6-437 by creating a new subsection (c), 14-6-604(a) by
14 creating a new paragraph (vi), 21-18-202(a)(vi)(C),
15 35-20-108 and 42-2-111(a) are amended to read:

16

1 **9-2-2104. Duties and powers of director of**
2 **department.**

3
4 (a) The director shall:

5
6 (x) Notwithstanding any confidentiality
7 requirements of W.S. 14-3-214(a), 14-6-203(g), 14-6-306,
8 14-6-437(a), 14-6-604(a), 35-20-108 and 42-2-111(a), review
9 the effectiveness and impact of programs and services which
10 shall include sharing data to the extent permitted by
11 federal law for the purposes of referrals, provision of
12 services and participation in bona fide research.

13
14 **14-3-214. Confidentiality of records; exceptions;**
15 **penalties; access to information; attendance of school**
16 **officials at interviews; access to central registry records**
17 **pertaining to child protection cases.**

18
19 (a) All records concerning reports and investigations
20 of child abuse or neglect are confidential except as
21 provided by W.S. 9-2-2104(a)(x) and 14-3-201 through
22 14-3-215. Any person who willfully violates this subsection
23 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be

1 fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or
2 imprisoned in the county jail not more than six (6) months,
3 or both.

4

5 **14-6-203. Jurisdiction; confidentiality of records.**

6

7 (g) Except as provided by subsection (j) of this
8 section and W.S. 9-2-2104(a)(x), all information, reports
9 or records made, received or kept by any municipal, county
10 or state officer or employee evidencing any legal or
11 administrative process or disposition resulting from a
12 minor's misconduct are confidential and subject to the
13 provisions of this act. The existence of the information,
14 reports or records or contents thereof shall not be
15 disclosed by any person unless:

16

17 **14-6-306. Disclosure of information and data.**

18

19 Except as provided by W.S. 9-2-2104(a)(x), all information
20 and data obtained in the discharge of official duties by
21 the supervising probation officer is privileged information
22 and shall not be disclosed directly or indirectly to anyone
23 other than to the juvenile court, department of family

1 services, department of education, department of health or
2 to others entitled to receive reports as ordered by the
3 court, such as multidisciplinary teams.

4

5 **14-6-437. Records and reports confidential;**
6 **exceptions; inspection.**

7

8 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
9 the department may share data in accordance with W.S.
10 9-2-2104(a)(x).

11

12 **14-6-604. Access to and dissemination of information.**

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14 (a) Information contained in the juvenile justice
15 information system shall be accessible, whether directly or
16 through an intermediary, to:

17

18 (vi) The department for purposes of sharing data
19 for referrals, provision of services and participation in
20 bona fide research in accordance with W.S. 9-2-2104(a)(x).

21

22 **21-18-202. Powers and duties of the commission.**

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1 (a) The commission shall perform the following
2 general functions:

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4 (vi) In cooperation with the community colleges
5 and the University of Wyoming, develop and maintain a
6 common transcript and transfer process system that uses
7 common course numbering for all undergraduate courses
8 provided at the community colleges and the University of
9 Wyoming. The development and ongoing maintenance of the
10 statewide course numbering system, including determining
11 course equivalencies, shall be accomplished with the
12 assistance of appropriate committees that shall include
13 faculty members and staff of the community colleges and the
14 University of Wyoming. The system shall:

15

16 (C) Extend to the community college
17 commission, the Wyoming department of education, the
18 department of workforce services, the department of family
19 services and the University of Wyoming a statewide
20 longitudinal education data system, which shall serve as a
21 statewide exchange for management and analytical reporting
22 in support of education and workforce outcomes;

23

1 **35-20-108. Records confidential; exception.**

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3 Except as provided under W.S. 9-2-2104(a)(x) and 35-20-116,
4 records of the department or other agency or the court
5 pertaining to a vulnerable adult receiving protective
6 services under this act are not open to public inspection.
7 Information contained in those records shall not be
8 disclosed to the public in any manner that will identify
9 any individual. The records may be made available for
10 inspection only upon application to the court pursuant to
11 W.S. 35-20-112 for good cause shown.

12

13 **42-2-111. Prohibited disclosure and use of records;**
14 **penalty; judicial discovery.**

15

16 (a) Except as provided in this section, and by W.S.
17 9-2-2104(a)(x) to the extent allowed by federal law, no
18 person shall disclose, receive, use or knowingly permit or
19 participate in the use of any information derived from
20 records maintained pursuant to law or acquired in the
21 performance of duties under this article for purposes not
22 directly related to the administration of this article.

23

1 **Section 2.** The department of family services shall
2 promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions
3 of this act.

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5 **Section 3.** The department of family services shall
6 report to the joint judiciary interim committee on the
7 types of data that are shared pursuant to this act and any
8 safeguards that have been implemented to protect personal
9 data not later than October 1, 2025.

10

11 **Section 4.**

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13 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
14 section, this act is effective immediately upon completion
15 of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided
16 by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

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18 (b) Section 1 of this act is effective July 1, 2025.

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(END)