STATE OF WYOMING

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0195

Credit reporting-medical debt.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Provenza and Andrew and Senator(s) Barlow and Hutchings

## A BILL

## for

1 AN ACT relating to consumer protection; prohibiting the 2 reporting of medical debt to credit reporting agencies; 3 creating a civil penalty; providing definitions; making 4 conforming amendments; specifying applicability; and 5 providing for an effective date. 6 7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming: 8 9 Section 1. W.S. 40-12-115 is created to read: 10 40-12-115. Credit reports; medical debt reporting 11 12 prohibited; definitions. 13 14 (a) As used in this section: 15

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1 (i) "Collection entity" means any person that 2 purchases medical debt from or collects medical debt on 3 behalf of another person; 4 5 (ii) "Credit report" means as defined in W.S. 40-12-501(a)(iv); 6 7 (iii) "Credit reporting agency" means a person 8 9 that collects and sells information about a person's credit 10 history; 11 (iv) "Health care product" means a product 12 including, but not limited to, a good, device, durable 13 medical equipment or prescription drug provided in the 14 provision of health care services; 15 16 17 (v) "Health care services" means as defined in 18 W.S. 26-13-303(a)(ii); 19 20 (vi) "Medical debt" means an obligation or 21 alleged obligation of a consumer to pay any amount related to the receipt by the consumer of health care products or 22 health care services. "Medical debt" shall not include debt 23

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charged to a credit card unless the credit card is issued 1 2 under an open-end or closed-end credit plan offered 3 specifically for the payment of charges related to health 4 care products or health care services; 5 (vii) "Medical facility" means a hospital, б clinic, office, nursing home or other facility where a 7 8 health care provider provides health care products or 9 services to patients. 10 11 (b) On and after July 1, 2025, each medical facility 12 and each collection entity doing business in this state shall not report any portion of a medical debt to a credit 13 reporting agency for use in a credit report. 14 15 16 (c) If a medical facility or collection entity 17 violates this section, a court of competent jurisdiction may impose a civil penalty on the medical facility or 18 19 collection entity in the amount of the medical debt 20 reported. 21 Section 2. W.S. 40-12-102(a)(x) is amended to read: 22 23

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1 **40-12-102.** Definitions. 2 (a) As used in this act: 3 4 5 (x) "This act" means W.S. 40-12-101 through  $6 \quad \frac{40-12-114}{40-12-115}.$ 7 Section 3. Nothing in this act is to be construed to 8 impair any contract entered into before July 1, 2025. 9 10 11 Section 4. This act is effective July 1, 2025. 12 13 (END)

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