

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0047

Duty to assist during emergencies.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman and Filer and Senator(s) Anderson, Cooper and Gierau

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; specifying a
2 requirement for persons to assist others at risk of serious
3 bodily injury or death; creating a criminal offense for
4 failure to assist; specifying penalties; and providing for
5 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. 6-9-204 is created to read:

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11 **6-9-204. Duty to assist; failure to assist;**
12 **penalties.**

13

14 (a) A person who knows or reasonably believes that
15 another person is suffering from an imminent risk of

1 serious bodily injury or an imminent danger of death shall,
2 if the person is able, attempt to contact law enforcement
3 or an emergency medical care provider as defined by W.S.
4 19-13-202(a)(i) if doing so does not place the person or
5 the other person at risk of serious bodily injury or in
6 imminent danger of death. A person shall not be required to
7 attempt to contact law enforcement or an emergency medical
8 care provider under this subsection if the person knows or
9 reasonably believes that the other person does not require
10 help or emergency assistance.

11

12 (b) No person shall be liable under this section if:

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14 (i) The person provides assistance to the other
15 person in accordance with W.S. 1-1-120; or

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17 (ii) The person would incriminate himself by
18 providing information to law enforcement or an emergency
19 medical care provider in complying with subsection (a) of
20 this section.

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1 (c) A person who fails to assist as required under
2 subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a
3 misdemeanor punishable by:

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5 (i) Imprisonment for not more than six (6)
6 months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars
7 (\$750.00), or both, if the failure to assist results in the
8 other person suffering serious bodily injury;

9

10 (ii) Imprisonment for not more than one (1)
11 year, a fine of not more than two thousand dollars
12 (\$2,000.00), or both, if the failure to assist results in
13 the death of the other person.

14

15 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

16

17 (END)