

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Highway safety-child restraints.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military
Affairs Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; requiring rear-facing
2 child safety restraint systems for children under the age
3 of two (2); clarifying the placement of child safety
4 restraint systems in front of active airbags; and providing
5 for an effective date.

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

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-5-1303(a) is amended to read:

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11 **31-5-1303. Child safety restraint system; required**
12 **use; exception.**

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2 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of
3 this section, no person shall operate a passenger vehicle
4 in this state unless each child who is a passenger in that
5 vehicle and who has not reached his ninth birthday is
6 properly secured in a child safety restraint system in a
7 seat of the vehicle other than the front seat, except if
8 the vehicle is only equipped with one (1) row of seats, or
9 if all safety belts in the rows of seats behind the front
10 seat are in use by other child passengers in the vehicle,
11 the child may be properly secured in a child safety
12 restraint system in the front passenger seat of the
13 vehicle, except that a rear-facing ~~infant seat~~ child safety
14 restraint system shall not be placed in front of an active
15 airbag. For each child who has not reached his second
16 birthday, the child safety restraint system required by
17 this subsection shall be rear-facing.

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20 STAFF COMMENT

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22 The directive to LSO for this bill draft included reviewing
23 2021 HB0023, which also increased the fines for a violation
24 of the child safety restraint statute. This amendment is
25 below, should the Committee wish to include it:

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31-5-1304. Penalty.

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(a) Any person who violates this article shall be issued a citation and fined not more than ~~fifty dollars (\$50.00)~~ one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the first offense, provided that the fine shall be waived by the court upon receipt of proof by the court that the offender, after the offense occurred, has purchased, leased or otherwise acquired a child safety restraint system which meets the requirements of this article. For a second or subsequent violation of this article, the offender shall be fined not more than ~~one hundred dollars (\$100.00)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2023.

(END)