

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

Absconding for criminal purposes-criminal offense.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; creating the
2 criminal offense of absconding for criminal purposes;
3 specifying penalties; and providing for an effective date.

4

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

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-5-215 is created to read:

8

9 **6-5-215. Absconding for criminal purposes; penalty.**

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11 (a) A person is guilty of absconding for criminal
12 purposes if the person:

13

(i) Absconds from one (1) county to another
county in Wyoming:

STAFF COMMENT

The term "absconds" is not defined in this bill draft; a
court interpreting that term would use a plain-language
meaning. The term "absconds" is generally defined as
leaving "hurriedly and secretly"; typically to avoid
detection of or arrest for an unlawful action.

(A) After having committed any criminal
offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled
Substances Act of 1971;

STAFF COMMENT

The Committee may wish to consider this alternate version
of subparagraph (A) that adds another intent element
(intending to elude law enforcement).

(A) After having committed any criminal
offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled
Substances Act of 1971 with the intent to elude law
enforcement;

1 (B) With the intent to commit an additional
2 criminal offense under this title or the Wyoming Controlled
3 Substances Act of 1971 after having committed an offense in
4 the original county;

5
6 (C) To dispose of or conceal the proceeds,
7 property or other items of value obtained after committing
8 any criminal offense under this title or the Wyoming
9 Controlled Substances Act of 1971; or

10
11 (D) In furtherance of any felony offense.

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13 *****
14 *****
15 STAFF COMMENT
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17 For the subparagraphs above (but particularly for
18 subparagraphs (A) and (B)), the Committee may wish to
19 consider including a temporal element associated with the
20 absconding (i.e., absconding not later than X time after
21 committing an offense).

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23 *****
24 *****
25

26 (b) Absconding for criminal purposes is a felony
27 punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5)
28 years, a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars
29 (\$5,000.00), or both.

1

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

3

4 (END)