

SENATE FILE NO. SF0017

Abandonment of sheep.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, Public Lands and Water
Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture and animals; modifying
2 elements of the offense involving a herder abandoning
3 sheep; providing an exception; providing penalties; and
4 providing for an effective date.

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

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-30-108 is amended to read:

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10 **11-30-108. Abandonment of sheep by herders.**

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12 (a) It is unlawful for any person having charge as
13 herder of any sheep to willfully ~~desert and~~ abandon the
14 sheep upon the open range and leave them without care or
15 attention except in those cases where the life or health of
16 the herder is in imminent or immediate danger. The herder

1 shall in all cases where practical give the owner or his
2 employer not less than five (5) days notice prior to the
3 time at which he intends to abandon the sheep. Any person
4 who violates this section shall be fined not less than ~~two~~
5 ~~hundred dollars (\$200.00)~~ five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)
6 nor more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00)~~ ten
7 thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), imprisoned not more than ~~six~~
8 ~~(6) months~~ one (1) year, or both.

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10 (b) Any person who knowingly and willingly aids or
11 abets any herder in the commission of an offense under
12 subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to the same
13 finances and imprisonment as provided for in subsection (a) of
14 this section.

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16 (c) Any person who offers alternative employment
17 without five (5) days notice to the current employer to a
18 herder knowing that such an offer would cause the herder to
19 abandon sheep upon the open range shall be fined not less
20 than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) nor more than twenty
21 thousand dollars (\$20,000.00), imprisoned not more than one
22 (1) year, or both.

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24 (d) As used in this section:

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(i) "Abandon" means the act of intentionally deserting or intentionally leaving sheep that have been entrusted in the care of a herder without providing due notice, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, to the owner or his employer with ultimate responsibility for the sheep that the herder intends to cease such control or care;

(ii) "Herder" means any person who has signed a contract and been informed of this section and who has been charged with the day to day care and responsibility for the sheep by the owner or employer with ultimate responsibility for the sheep.

Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2006.

(END)