

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0143

Court reporting service providers.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Pelkey and Senator(s) Case

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to court reporting service providers;
2 specifying prohibited acts; providing exemptions; providing
3 penalties; specifying scope of provisions; and providing
4 for an effective date.

5

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

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 33-49-101 through 33-49-105 are
9 created to read:

10

11

CHAPTER 49

12

COURT REPORTING SERVICE PROVIDERS

13

14

33-49-101. Scope; definition.

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1 The provisions of this chapter shall apply to any court
2 reporting service provider. For purposes of this chapter,
3 "court reporting service provider" includes any court
4 reporter, business, entity or firm providing or arranging
5 for court reporting services in connection with any case,
6 action or proceeding in this state.

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8 **33-49-102. Prohibited acts.**

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10 (a) No court reporting service provider shall engage
11 in any of the following acts:

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13 (i) Establish rates or terms for court reporting
14 services that extend beyond a single case, action or
15 proceeding;

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17 (ii) Include a court reporting service provider
18 on any list of preferred providers of court reporting
19 services that is maintained by any person, business, entity
20 or firm that has entered into an oral or written
21 contractual agreement specifying the price or other terms
22 upon which future court reporting services will be
23 provided;

1

2 (iii) Fail to offer comparable services, in both
3 quality and price, to all parties, or otherwise provide
4 financial terms or other services that are not offered at
5 the same time and on similar terms to all parties to the
6 case, action or proceeding, provided that different credit
7 terms may be offered based on payment experience and credit
8 worthiness;

9

10 (iv) Base compensation for the court reporting
11 services on the outcome of the case, action or proceeding
12 or otherwise enter into an agreement or arrangement to
13 obtain a financial interest in the case, action or
14 proceeding;

15

16 (v) Prohibit or restrict the discretion of the
17 attorney from using the attorney's preferred court
18 reporting service provider;

19

20 (vi) Allow the format of the transcript to be
21 manipulated to affect pricing, require the court reporter
22 taking the deposition to relinquish control of an original
23 deposition transcript or a copy thereof before it is

1 certified or otherwise give any other person or entity the
2 right to control or direct the time, manner or method of
3 the provision of court reporting services.

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5 **33-49-103. Prohibition of waiver.**

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7 The provisions of this chapter shall not be waived by
8 disclosure, agreement, stipulation or by any other means.

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10 **33-49-104. Exemptions.**

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12 If required by law, any governmental entity in this state
13 may obtain court reporting services on a long-term basis
14 through competitive bidding.

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16 **33-49-105. Penalties.**

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18 Any court reporting service provider that violates any
19 provision of this chapter shall be subject to a fine of not
20 more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00).

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1 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

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(END)