

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0024

Insurance requirements for newly purchased vehicles.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Cohee, Gilmore, Hallinan
and Petersen and Senator(s) Esquibel, F.,
Landen and Von Flatern

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to motor vehicle registration; specifying
2 which vehicles must be registered; and providing for an
3 effective date.

4

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

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-4-103(a) is amended to read:

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9 **31-4-103. Failure to maintain liability coverage;**
10 **penalties; exceptions.**

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12 (a) No owner of a motor vehicle currently required to
13 be registered or which is required to be registered within
14 a period of time, shall operate or permit the operation of
15 his motor vehicle without having in full force and effect a
16 motor vehicle liability policy in amounts provided by W.S.

1 31-9-405(b) or a bond in amounts provided by W.S.
2 31-9-102(a)(xi). Violation of this subsection is a
3 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than
4 six (6) months, a fine of not less than two hundred fifty
5 dollars (\$250.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars
6 (\$750.00), or both. On a second or subsequent violation of
7 this subsection, the person may be fined not less than
8 five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than one thousand
9 five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), imprisoned for not more
10 than six (6) months, or both. In addition to the fine or
11 imprisonment imposed for a second or subsequent violation
12 of this subsection, the judge shall require the defendant
13 to deliver the registration and license plates of the
14 vehicle involved to the county treasurer for the county
15 where the citation was issued, and the registration and
16 license plates shall be held by the county treasurer until
17 such time as the judge determines that the defendant has
18 met all obligations imposed by law. Excusable neglect or
19 mistake by another is a defense for any violation of this
20 subsection. If evidence of excusable neglect or mistake by
21 another is presented and the defendant is convicted, the
22 court may consider this evidence in imposing a penalty
23 under this subsection. The judge may suspend part or all of
24 the sentence under this subsection and place the defendant

1 on probation subject to conditions imposed by the judge
2 which shall include a condition that the defendant shall
3 deliver the registration and license plates of the vehicle
4 involved to the county treasurer for the county where the
5 citation was issued. This subsection does not apply to a
6 vehicle owned by a nonresident and registered in a state
7 requiring insurance if a vehicle insurance policy meeting
8 requirements of the laws and regulations of that state is
9 in effect or unless it otherwise complies with the laws of
10 that state concerning compulsory financial responsibility.
11 The department shall report any violation of this
12 subsection to the motor vehicle administrator in the state
13 wherein the vehicle is registered. A vehicle owned by a
14 nonresident and registered in a state not requiring
15 insurance is exempt from this subsection.

16

17 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
18 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
19 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
20 Constitution.

21

22 (END)