

Bill No.: HB0018 **Effective:** 7/1/2017

LSO No.: 17LSO-0099

Enrolled Act No.: HEA No. 0003

Chapter No.: 3

Prime Sponsor: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

Catch Title: Child abuse or neglect in military families.

Subject: Tracking and reporting information related to child welfare cases.

Summary/Major Elements:

- 10 U.S. Code § 1787 requires the United States Secretary of Defense to request each state to report to the United States Military Department suspected instances of child abuse and neglect in which the person having care of the child is a member of the armed forces. This request has been made of Wyoming and the Wyoming Military Department and the Wyoming Department of Family Services have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish procedures for sharing child welfare information.
- This bill codifies procedures for sharing child welfare information by requiring the Wyoming Department of Family Services and local protection agencies to inquire into the military status of a child or a person responsible for the welfare of a child in a suspected case of child abuse or neglect.
- The bill also requires child abuse and neglect incidents to be reported to the state judge advocate for the Wyoming Military Department when a child in a suspected case is enrolled in the United States Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System or when the person responsible for the welfare of the child is a member of the armed forces.

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