

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0110

Gunshot and stab wound reporting.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Newsome, Blake, Burlingame,
Duncan, Harshman and Western and Senator(s)
Anselmi-Dalton and Hutchings

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health and safety; requiring health
2 care providers to report gunshot and stab wounds; providing
3 definitions; providing a penalty; providing immunity for
4 complying with reporting requirements; and providing for an
5 effective date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-4-1001 through 35-4-1004 are created
10 to read:

11

12

ARTICLE 10

13

GUNSHOT AND STAB WOUND REPORTING

14

15 **35-4-1001. Definitions.**

1

2 (a) As used in this article:

3

4 (i) "Gunshot wound" means any bullet wound, powder
5 burn or other injury arising from or caused by the discharge
6 of a firearm, but does not include an accidental injury
7 suffered as a result of recoil by a person shooting a firearm;

8

9 (ii) "Health care provider" means a person who is
10 licensed, certified or otherwise authorized by the law of
11 this state to provide health care in the ordinary course of
12 business or practice of a profession, but does not include a
13 person who provides health care solely through the sale or
14 dispensing of drugs or medical devices;

15

16 (iii) "Stab wound" means any wound that is likely
17 to result in death or serious bodily injury and is apparently
18 inflicted by a knife, arrow, ice pick or other sharp or
19 pointed instrument.

20

21 **35-4-1002. Gunshot and stab wounds; mandatory**
22 **reporting.**

23

1 (a) Any physician, nurse or other health care provider
2 who treats the victim of a gunshot wound or a stab wound shall
3 notify the sheriff or local law enforcement agency of that
4 jurisdiction.

5

6 (b) The duty to notify law enforcement under subsection
7 (a) of this section arises when the treating professional
8 knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the victim
9 sustained a gunshot wound or a stab wound. Notification shall
10 be made as soon as practicable consistent with reasonable
11 patient care.

12

13 (c) The notification required by this section shall
14 include, if known, a report of the following:

15

16 (i) The name, address and current location of the
17 injured person;

18

19 (ii) The character and extent of the injury;

20

21 (iii) Any information known about the perpetrator,
22 mechanism and cause of the injury.

23

1 **35-4-1003. Penalty.**

2

3 (a) Any physician, nurse or other health care provider
4 who violates the provisions of this article shall be guilty
5 of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one
6 thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), by imprisonment in the county
7 jail for not more than six (6) months, or both.

8

9 (b) Any employer who discharges, suspends, disciplines
10 or penalizes an employee solely for making a notification or
11 report pursuant to this article shall be guilty of a
12 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand
13 dollars (\$1,000.00), by imprisonment in the county jail for
14 not more than six (6) months, or both.

15

16 **35-4-1004. Immunity.**

17

18 Any person who in good faith makes a notification or report
19 pursuant to this article is immune from civil liability for
20 making the notification or report.

21

1 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2019.

2

3

(END)