HOUSE BILL NO. HB0180

Child interviews-neglect and abuse cases.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Krone, Burkhart, Clem, Connolly, Hunt, Reeder and Walters and Senator(s) Coe, Cooper, Landen, Peterson and Rothfuss

A BILL

for

- 1 AN ACT relating to child protection; limiting disclosure of
- 2 information obtained in a child abuse or neglect case as
- 3 specified; requiring a court order to obtain information as
- 4 specified; and 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. 14-3-214(b)(intro) and by creating a
- 9 new subsection (h) is amended to read:

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- 11 14-3-214. Confidentiality of records; penalties;
- 12 access to information; attendance of school officials at
- 13 interviews; access to central registry records pertaining
- 14 to child protection cases.

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(b) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this

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3	<pre>section, applications for access to records concerning</pre>
4	child abuse or neglect contained in the state agency or
5	local child protective agency shall be made in the manner
6	and form prescribed by the state agency. Upon appropriate
7	application, the state agency shall give access to any of
8	the following persons or agencies for purposes directly
9	related with the administration of W.S. 14-3-201 through
10	14-3-216:
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12	(h) No information, including recorded interviews of
13	the child, shall be disclosed to any person in any civil
14	proceeding not related to an abuse or neglect case brought
15	under this article except upon order of the court which
16	shall determine if disclosure of the information requested
17	is essential to justice. Any order granting disclosure
18	shall include appropriate protections against further
19	dissemination in any form. The court may conduct an in
20	camera review of the information requested and shall
21	consider alternatives to production of a copy of any
22	interview with the child to prevent further dissemination,
23	including, but not limited to:

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Τ	
2	(i) Denying the request for production;
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4	(ii) Requiring counsel to certify that no copies
5	of the interview shall be made available to their client,
6	if only counsel is allowed to review the interview; or
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8	(iii) Allowing a recording to be presented to
9	counsel and their client without making a copy available.
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11	Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2015.
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13	(END)

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