

ORIGINAL HOUSE
BILL NO. HB0202

ENROLLED ACT NO. 99, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2017 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to motor vehicle insurance; increasing penalties for failing to sufficiently insure a motor vehicle; and providing for an effective date.

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

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

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

(a) No owner of a motor vehicle currently required to be registered or which is required to be registered within a period of time, shall operate or permit the operation of his motor vehicle without having in full force and effect a motor vehicle liability policy in amounts provided by W.S. 31-9-405(b) or a bond in amounts provided by W.S. 31-9-102(a)(xi). Violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not less than ~~two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00)~~ five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00)~~ one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or both. ~~On a second or subsequent violation of this subsection, the person may be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both. In addition to the fine or imprisonment imposed~~ For a second or subsequent violation of this subsection, the judge shall require the defendant to deliver the registration and license plates of the vehicle involved to the county treasurer for the county where the citation was issued, and the registration and license plates shall be held by the county treasurer until such time as the judge determines that the defendant has met all obligations imposed by law.

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Excusable neglect or mistake by another is a defense for any violation of this subsection. If evidence of excusable neglect or mistake by another is presented and the defendant is convicted, the court may consider this evidence in imposing a penalty under this subsection. The judge may suspend part or all of the sentence under this subsection and place the defendant on probation subject to conditions imposed by the judge which shall include a condition that the defendant shall deliver the registration and license plates of the vehicle involved to the county treasurer for the county where the citation was issued. This subsection does not apply to a vehicle owned by a nonresident and registered in a state requiring insurance if a vehicle insurance policy meeting requirements of the laws and regulations of that state is in effect or unless it otherwise complies with the laws of that state concerning compulsory financial responsibility. The department shall report any violation of this subsection to the motor vehicle administrator in the state wherein the vehicle is registered. A vehicle owned by a nonresident and registered in a state not requiring insurance is exempt from this subsection.

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

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

Chief Clerk