

SENATE FILE NO. SF0045

Vulnerable adults-civil cause of action-2.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Nethercott, Baldwin and Barlow and
Representative(s) Conrad, Larsen, L, Larson,
JT, Lawley, Oakley, Olsen, Sommers, Washut
and Zwonitzer, Dn

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to adult protective services; providing a
2 civil cause of action for the exploitation of vulnerable
3 adults as specified; and providing for an effective date.

4

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

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 35-20-117 is created to read:

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9 **35-20-117. Civil cause of action for exploitation of**
10 **vulnerable adults.**

11

12 (a) A vulnerable adult shall have a cause of action
13 against any person who has exploited the vulnerable adult.
14 The vulnerable adult may recover actual damages, punitive

1 damages and reasonable attorney's fees for the exploitation
2 of the vulnerable adult. The action may be brought in any
3 court of competent jurisdiction. The action may be brought
4 by the vulnerable adult or any of the following:

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6 (i) The vulnerable adult's guardian, conservator
7 or other fiduciary acting for the vulnerable adult;

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9 (ii) The personal representative of the estate
10 of a deceased vulnerable adult;

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12 (iii) The vulnerable adult's agent as defined by
13 W.S. 3-9-102(a)(i);

14

15 (iv) The vulnerable adult's spouse, parent or
16 descendant;

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18 (v) A person authorized to make health care
19 decisions for the vulnerable adult;

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21 (vi) A person who would qualify as a presumptive
22 heir of the vulnerable adult;

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