

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0202

Motor vehicle insurance-penalties.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Lone, Furphy, Sweeney and
Zwonitzer and Senator(s) Boner

A BILL

for

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

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

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

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9 **31-4-103. Failure to maintain liability coverage;**
10 **penalties; exceptions.**

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12 (a) No owner of a motor vehicle currently required to
13 be registered or which is required to be registered within
14 a period of time, shall operate or permit the operation of
15 his motor vehicle without having in full force and effect a

1 motor vehicle liability policy in amounts provided by W.S.
2 31-9-405(b) or a bond in amounts provided by W.S.
3 31-9-102(a)(xi). Violation of this subsection is a
4 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than
5 six (6) months, a fine of not less than ~~two hundred fifty~~
6 ~~dollars (\$250.00)~~ five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more
7 than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00)~~ one thousand
8 five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or both. ~~On a second or~~
9 ~~subsequent violation of this subsection, the person may be~~
10 ~~fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) nor more~~
11 ~~than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00),~~
12 ~~imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.~~ In
13 addition to the fine or imprisonment imposed for a second
14 or subsequent violation of this subsection, the judge shall
15 require the defendant to deliver the registration and
16 license plates of the vehicle involved to the county
17 treasurer for the county where the citation was issued, and
18 the registration and license plates shall be held by the
19 county treasurer until such time as the judge determines
20 that the defendant has met all obligations imposed by law.
21 Excusable neglect or mistake by another is a defense for
22 any violation of this subsection. If evidence of excusable
23 neglect or mistake by another is presented and the

1 defendant is convicted, the court may consider this
2 evidence in imposing a penalty under this subsection. The
3 judge may suspend part or all of the sentence under this
4 subsection and place the defendant on probation subject to
5 conditions imposed by the judge which shall include a
6 condition that the defendant shall deliver the registration
7 and license plates of the vehicle involved to the county
8 treasurer for the county where the citation was issued.
9 This subsection does not apply to a vehicle owned by a
10 nonresident and registered in a state requiring insurance
11 if a vehicle insurance policy meeting requirements of the
12 laws and regulations of that state is in effect or unless
13 it otherwise complies with the laws of that state
14 concerning compulsory financial responsibility. The
15 department shall report any violation of this subsection to
16 the motor vehicle administrator in the state wherein the
17 vehicle is registered. A vehicle owned by a nonresident
18 and registered in a state not requiring insurance is exempt
19 from this subsection.

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

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(END)