

SENATE FILE NO. SF0065

Termination of parental rights.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Perkins, Meier and Ross and
Representative(s) Davison and Gingery

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to children and families; providing for
2 termination of parental rights for failure to provide
3 support and maintain regular personal contact; and
4 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. 14-2-309(a)(i) is amended to read:

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10 **14-2-309. Grounds for termination of parent-child**
11 **relationship; clear and convincing evidence.**

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13 (a) The parent-child legal relationship may be
14 terminated if any one (1) or more of the following facts is
15 established by clear and convincing evidence:

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(i) The parent has willfully abandoned or deserted the child ~~has been left in the care of another person without provision for the child's~~ by failing to provide support and without communication from the absent parent in accordance with W.S. 20-2-301 through 20-2-315 or by other valid court order, or failing to maintain regular personal contact, which shall be more than incidental contact and communication. Failure of the parent to maintain this relationship without just cause for a period of at least one (1) year shall constitute prima facie evidence of the abandonment. In making the above determination, the court may disregard occasional contributions, or incidental contacts and communications;

15 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2010.

17 (END)