

SENATE FILE NO. SF0007

Tethering dogs.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Geis

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to crimes and offenses; creating a new
2 provision relating to the unlawful tethering of dogs;
3 provides that certain requirements must be met in order for
4 an owner to lawfully tether a dog; and providing for an
5 effective date.

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

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 6-3-203 by creating a new subsection

10 (q) is amended to read:

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12 **6-3-203. Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on**
13 **manner of destruction.**

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15 (q) No person shall tether a dog while the dog is
16 outdoors, or within any structure that is not the dog

1 owner's home, except when all of the following conditions
2 are met:

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4 (i) The dog is in visual range of a responsible
5 party;

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7 (ii) The tether is connected to the dog by a
8 well-fitted, buckle-type collar or a body harness made of
9 nylon or leather, not less than one (1) inch in width;

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11 (iii) The tether has the following properties:

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13 (A) The tether length shall be at least
14 five (5) times the length of the dog's body, as measured
15 from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail or shall
16 be at least ten (10) feet in length, whichever is greater;

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18 (B) The tether terminates at both ends with
19 a swivel and does not weigh more than ten percent (10%) of
20 the dog's weight.

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22 (iv) The dog is tethered in such a manner as to
23 prevent injury, strangulation or entanglement;

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(v) The tether shall confine the dog to the owner's property;

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(vi) The dog is not outside during a period of extreme weather, including, without limitation, extreme heat or freezing or near-freezing temperatures, thunderstorms or tornadoes;

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(vii) The dog has access to water, shelter and dry ground;

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(viii) The dog is at least six (6) months of age;

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(ix) The dog is not sick or injured;

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(x) Pulleys, running lines or trolley systems are at least fifteen (15) feet in length and are less than seven (7) feet above the ground;

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(xi) If there are multiple dogs, each dog is tethered separately; and

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(xii) The dog is not tethered more than ten (10)

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hours in a twenty-four (24) hour period.

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Section 2. This act is effective July 1, 2015.

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(END)