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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 577**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.2, relating to social work;*
5 *licensure; criminal background check.*

6 Patron—Glass

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.2 as follows:**10 **§ 54.1-3707.2. Criminal background check.**11 *The Board shall require each applicant for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker, master's social*
12 *worker, or clinical social worker to submit fingerprints and provide personal descriptive information to be*
13 *forwarded along with his fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau*
14 *of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information regarding the applicant. The*
15 *cost of fingerprinting and the criminal history record search shall be paid by the applicant.*16 *The Central Criminal Records Exchange shall forward the results of the state and federal criminal history*
17 *record search to the Board, which shall be a governmental entity. If an applicant is denied licensure because*
18 *of information appearing on his criminal history record and the applicant disputes the information upon*
19 *which the denial was based, the Central Criminal Records Exchange shall, upon written request, furnish to*
20 *the applicant the procedures for obtaining a copy of the criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of*
21 *Investigation and the Central Criminal Records Exchange. Such information shall not be disseminated except*
22 *as provided in this section.*

INTRODUCED

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