

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB577S1

Patron: Glass

Bill Title: Social work; applicants for licensure, criminal background check.

Bill Summary: Requires applicants for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker, master’s social worker, or clinical social worker to provide fingerprints and personal identifying information for a criminal background check, directs the Central Criminal Records Exchange to disseminate criminal history record information obtained to the Board of Social Work, and establishes the process by which an applicant may obtain his criminal history record in the event that such applicant disputes the criminal history information on which a denial of licensure privilege is based.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: See below.

Fiscal Summary: Any fiscal impact for the Board of Social Work, the Department of Health Professions, and the Department of State Police is expected to be minimal and absorbable.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill requires fingerprint-based criminal background checks for baccalaureate social workers, master’s social workers, or clinical social workers and directs the Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) at the Department of State Police (VSP) to disseminate the results of such background checks to the Board of Social Work. Currently, the Civil and Applicant Records Exchange (CARE) at VSP is tasked with processing criminal history records and background checks. Upon additional review and consultation, the Department of State Police does not anticipate an impact that cannot be absorbed.

Under the bill, the Board of Social Work will receive records of any criminal background checks performed by VSP related to baccalaureate social workers, master’s social workers, or clinical social workers seeking a license. It is expected that any workload increases associated with records retention will be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Other: For previous versions of this bill and its fiscal impact statement, the Department of State Police believed that they would need one Fingerprint Technician and one Program Support Technician to process the background checks. After an additional review and a determination that the number of additional individuals that would be required to undergo a background check would be minimal, the agency determined any impact would be absorbable.