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News and Legislation Relating to Employment and Background Checks

News and Federal Legislation:

Background Checks

- On January 25th, the Senate passed a bill (S. 2950) that would extend a pilot program for volunteer groups to obtain criminal history background checks. The bill would extend the PROTECT Act for an additional 14 months. The bill was introduced by Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY).
(http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:s2950cps.txt.pdf)

News and State Legislation:

Background Checks

- On January 25th, the Virginia Senate passed a bill (S.B. 28) that would authorize criminal history background checks on applicants for employment or any contractors engaged in directly providing transit services to the public, or employees of any contractor when the employee will be assigned to directly provide transit services to the public under a contract.
(<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?101+ful+SB28>)
- On January 20th, the Mississippi House of Representatives passed a bill (H.B 210) that would require physician assistant license applicants to submit a full set of fingerprints to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Identification Division for the purposes of undergoing a finger-print based criminal history background check of the Mississippi central criminal database and the FBI criminal history database.
(<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2010/pdf/HB/0200-0299/HB0210PS.pdf>)
- On January 19th, Illinois enacted a bill (H.B. 1188) that requires all applicants seeking to work in cemeteries or funeral service industries to submit their fingerprints to the Department of State Police to perform criminal history background checks.
(<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/96/HB/09600HB1188enr.htm>)
- On January 18th, New Jersey enacted a bill (A.B. 3634) that requires individuals applying for a commercial driver license or a passenger endorsement under a commercial driver license to provide written consent to a criminal history background check.
(http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A4000/3634_I1.HTM)
- On January 18th, New Jersey enacted a bill (S.B. 119) that requires caregivers administering medical marijuana to patients to satisfy criminal history background check requirements before being authorized to administer medicinal marijuana.
(<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bills/BillView.asp>)
- On January 16th, New Jersey enacted a bill (S.B. 2276) that requires all community volunteers applying to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) to satisfy a criminal history background check to be accepted to the program. A prospective volunteer's failure to consent to, or cooperate in, the securing of a criminal history background check will not be appointed.



http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/S2500/2276_11.HTM

- On January 12th, the Kentucky House passed a bill (H.B. 1) that would require a court to perform a criminal history background check on an individual for a record of past violence, threat of violence, or danger prior to ordering the individual to wear or carry a global positioning monitoring system at the request of an alleged victim of domestic violence.
<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/10RS/HB1/bill.doc>
- On January 11th, New Jersey enacted a bill (A.B. 4301) that requires the sharing of mental health records and criminal history background check information in relation to a person looking to purchase and possess firearms.
http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2008/Bills/A4500/4301_R1.PDF