

HB 1200 -- Family Care Safety Registry

Sponsor: Grisamore

This bill changes the laws regarding criminal background checks conducted under the Family Care Safety Registry. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services, subject to appropriations or with funds from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to update and enhance the technological capabilities of the registry and implement a new interdepartmental uniform infrastructure and procedures for the departments of Public Safety, Social Services, Mental Health, and Elementary and Secondary Education to use for background screening results;
- (2) Requires available funds to be used for processing the background screening results of employees of these departments who are not currently registered and to make the necessary technological, administrative, and procedural adjustments to ensure the interagency operability needed for implementation of the new infrastructure and procedures;
- (3) Requires the Department of Public Safety to report all results to the registry when the other departments submit an application for a background screening to the State Highway Patrol;
- (4) Requires all criminal background checks to include a federal and state search;
- (5) Requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to report results to the registry. Currently, the registry only contains background screening results from applicants reported by the departments of Social Services, Mental Health, and Health and Senior Services;
- (6) Specifies that the contents of the registry will include open and closed records and be accessible to the five departments and school districts. However, certain information which would violate federal laws cannot be shared between departments; and
- (7) Allows the background screening applicant to appeal directly to the department that disqualified him or her for employment, if applicable, when the denial is based on results found in the registry.