

HCS HB 839 -- PEACE OFFICER LICENSURE (Copeland)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Public Safety

This bill provides that, in addition to current requirements for licensure, peace officers must submit to being fingerprinted on or before January 1, 2022, for the purposes of a criminal history background check and enrollment in the state and federal Rap Back Program. Additionally, any time a peace officer is commissioned with a different law enforcement agency he or she must submit to being fingerprinted. The criminal history background check shall include the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The resulting report shall be forwarded to the peace officer's law enforcement agency. The Rap Back enrollment shall be for the purposes of peace officer disciplinary reports as required by law. The bill also specifies that all law enforcement agencies must enroll in the state and federal Rap Back programs on or before January 1, 2022, and must remain enrolled. The agencies must take all necessary steps to maintain officer enrollment in the programs.