
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6717

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Kohl-Welles, Brandland, McAuliffe, Hargrove, Rockefeller, Shin, Rasmussen, Schmidt and Stevens)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to the joint task force on criminal background
2 check processes; reenacting and amending 2005 c 452 s 1 (uncodified);
3 and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** 2005 c 452 s 1 (uncodified) is reenacted and amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) A joint task force on criminal background check processes is
8 established. The joint task force shall consist of the following
9 members:

10 (a) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate,
11 appointed by the president of the senate;

12 (b) One member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house
13 of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of
14 representatives;

15 (c) The chief of the Washington state patrol, or the chief's
16 designee;

17 (d) The secretary of the department of social and health services,
18 or the secretary's designee;

1 (e) The state superintendent of public instruction, or the
2 superintendent's designee;

3 (f) An elected sheriff or police chief, selected by the Washington
4 association of sheriffs and police chiefs; and

5 (g) The following (~~eleven~~) twelve members, jointly appointed by
6 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the
7 senate:

8 (i) A representative from a nonprofit service organization that
9 serves primarily children under sixteen years of age;

10 (ii) A health care provider as defined in RCW 7.70.020;

11 (iii) A representative from a business or organization that
12 primarily serves persons with a developmental disability;

13 (iv) A representative from a local youth athletic association;

14 (v) A representative from the insurance industry;

15 (vi) A representative of the Washington association of criminal
16 defense lawyers;

17 (vii) Two representatives from a local parks and recreation
18 program; one member shall be selected by the association of Washington
19 cities and one member shall be selected by the Washington association
20 of counties;

21 (~~(vii)~~) (viii) A representative from a for-profit entity that
22 primarily serves children;

23 (~~(viii)~~) (ix) A representative from a business or organization
24 that primarily serves vulnerable adults;

25 (~~(ix)~~) (x) A representative selected by the state's long-term
26 care ombudsman; and

27 (~~(x)~~) (xi) As a nonvoting ex officio member, a representative of
28 an organization that serves as a clearinghouse for other nonprofit
29 organizations in the state and that recruits volunteers and trains
30 nonprofit boards of directors.

31 (2) The task force shall choose two cochairs from among its
32 membership.

33 (3) The task force shall review and make recommendations to the
34 legislature and the governor regarding criminal background check policy
35 in Washington state. In preparing the recommendations, the committee
36 shall, at a minimum, review the following issues:

37 (a) What state and federal statutes require regarding criminal
38 background checks, and determine whether any changes should be made;

1 (b) What criminal offenses are currently reportable through the
2 criminal background check program, and determine whether any changes
3 should be made;

4 (c) What information is available through the Washington state
5 patrol and the federal bureau of investigation criminal background
6 check systems, and determine whether any changes should be made;

7 (d) What are the best practices among organizations for obtaining
8 criminal background checks on their employees and volunteers;

9 (e) What is the feasibility and costs for businesses and
10 organizations to do periodic background checks;

11 (f) What is the feasibility of requiring all businesses and
12 organizations, including nonprofit entities, to conduct criminal
13 background checks for all employees, contractors, agents, and
14 volunteers who have regularly scheduled supervised or unsupervised
15 access to children, persons with a developmental disability, or
16 vulnerable adults;

17 (g) What is the feasibility of establishing a state registration
18 program for private youth sports coaches under which some or all of
19 such persons are required to obtain and disclose to prospective clients
20 and employers a copy of the results of their fingerprint-based criminal
21 background checks;

22 (h) A review of the practices of the department of social and
23 health services with respect to checking the backgrounds of its
24 employees, applicants for employment, and candidates for promotion; and

25 (i) A review of the benefits and obstacles of implementing a
26 criminal history record information background check program created by
27 the national child protection act of 1993. The national child
28 protection act of 1993 increases the availability of criminal history
29 record information background checks for employers who have employees
30 or volunteers who work with children, elderly persons, or persons with
31 disabilities.

32 (4) The task force, where feasible, may consult with individuals
33 from the public and private sector.

34 (5) The task force shall use legislative facilities and staff from
35 senate committee services and the house office of program research.

36 (6) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to

1 the legislature by December 31, ((2005)) 2006.

2 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act expires January 31, 2007.

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