
HOUSE BILL 1949

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Hansen, Irwin, Griffey, Kilduff, and Graham

Read first time 02/07/19. Referred to Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to conducting a feasibility study to examine and
2 make recommendations regarding the establishment of a single point of
3 contact firearm background check system; creating a new section; and
4 providing an expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The joint legislative audit and review
7 committee shall conduct a feasibility study and make recommendations
8 regarding the establishment of a single point of contact, also known
9 as a full point of contact, system for firearm background checks. The
10 joint legislative audit and review committee may contract with an
11 independent expert to assist with the feasibility study. The study
12 must consider and make recommendations regarding, but not limited to,
13 the following:

14 (a) Whether or not public safety in Washington could be improved
15 by implementing a single point of contact system in Washington;

16 (b) Whether a single point of contact system in Washington would
17 more effectively keep prohibited persons from obtaining firearms
18 while continuing to respect a person's right to bear arms consistent
19 with Article 1, section 24 of the state Constitution and the Second
20 Amendment of the Constitution of the United States;

1 (c) Whether a single point of contact system in Washington would
2 simplify the background check process for those purchasing firearms,
3 firearms dealers, and law enforcement agencies;

4 (d) The feasibility of creating a single point of contact system
5 within the Washington state patrol or the Washington association of
6 sheriffs and police chiefs, creating a new agency for this purpose,
7 or a combination of these options;

8 (e) What computer system improvements would need to be made to
9 most effectively and efficiently administer a single point of contact
10 system in Washington; and

11 (f) The approximate cost to establish a single point of contact
12 system in Washington, and the approximate annual cost to operate such
13 a system.

14 (2) The joint legislative audit and review committee shall submit
15 a final report to the governor and the appropriate committees of the
16 legislature by December 1, 2019.

17 (3) The joint legislative audit and review committee and its
18 agents and employees are immune from civil liability arising out of
19 their work pursuant to this section unless it is shown that the
20 committee or its agents and employees acted with gross negligence or
21 bad faith.

22 (4) This section expires July 1, 2020.

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