A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	SECTION 1. To protect the health and safety of the elderly
2	and disabled, the legislature recognizes the need to generate
3	timely and accurate background checks in the form of positive
4	fingerprint identification for persons providing care or having
5	access to residents of skilled nursing facilities, intermediate
6	care facilities, adult residential care homes, expanded adult
7	residential care homes, assisted living facilities, home health
8	agencies, hospices, adult day health centers, special treatment
9	facilities, therapeutic living programs, intermediate care
10	facilities for the mentally retarded, hospitals, rural health
11	centers, and rehabilitation agencies, including applicants for
12	licensure to any of these facilities, facility operators,
13	prospective facility employees and facility adult volunteers,
14	and, in the case of any facility operated in a private
15	residence, all adults living in the home other than the clients,
16	and service providers who have direct contact with individuals
17	receiving services who may be frail, elderly, or disabled.

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         SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
    amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
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    and to read as follows:
         "§321- Criminal history record checks. (a) For the
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    purposes of this section:
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         "Adults" means individuals aged eighteen years or older.
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         "Applicant" means a person or entity seeking licensure to
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    operate a healthcare facility. If the applicant is an entity,
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    the term "applicant" shall also include its principals,
    directors, partners, managers, agents, and representatives to
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    the extent that any of these individuals will have access to or
    contact with clients, their finances, assets, personal property,
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    medical records, or individually identifiable information.
         "Conviction for a relevant crime" means any federal or
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    state conviction for any offense described in 42 United States
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    Code §1320a-7 (section 1128(a) of the Social Security Act).
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         "Criminal history record name inquiry" means a search by
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    name, and other identifying information, using the state
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    computerized criminal history record information system.
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         "Department" means the department of health.
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         "Direct patient access employee" means any individual,
    including a volunteer, who has access to a patient or resident
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- 1 of a healthcare facility, or any provider through employment or
- 2 through an agreement or contract with such a facility or
- 3 provider. Such individuals include, but are not limited to:
- 4 physicians, nurses, nursing assistants, home health aides,
- 5 therapists, activities personnel, and support staff (i.e.
- 6 housekeeping, dietary, etc.) who have direct access to patients
- 7 or patient belongings.
- 8 "Disqualifying information" means a conviction for a
- 9 relevant crime or a finding of patient or resident abuse.
- 10 "Finding of patient or resident abuse" means a
- 11 substantiated finding by a state agency under section
- 12 1819(g)(1)(C) or 1919(g)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (42
- 13 U.S.C. §§1395i-3(g)(1)(C) and 1396r(q)(1)(C)) or a federal
- 14 agency that a direct patient access employee has committed an
- 15 act of patient or resident abuse or neglect or has
- 16 misappropriated patient or resident property.
- 17 "Healthcare facility" means a facility or setting where a
- 18 frail, elderly, or disabled adult receives care or is provided
- 19 living accommodations such as a skilled nursing facility,
- 20 intermediate care facility, adult residential care home,
- 21 expanded adult residential care home, assisted living facility,
- 22 home health agency, hospice, adult day health center, special

- 1 treatment facility, therapeutic living program, intermediate
- 2 care facility for the mentally retarded, hospital, rural health
- 3 center, and rehabilitation agency.
- 4 "Name inquiry" means a criminal history record check
- 5 conducted by utilizing the name and other identifying
- 6 information of the individual, in lieu of a fingerprint check.
- 7 "Operator" means an individual or entity that is licensed
- 8 or is seeking licensure to operate a healthcare facility and,
- 9 therefore, is responsible for the management and overall
- 10 operations of that healthcare facility.
- 11 "Relevant crime" means a crime the commission of which the
- 12 department finds, by reason of its nature and circumstances,
- 13 that the person who committed it poses a risk to the health,
- 14 safety, or well-being of a patient or resident. This includes,
- 15 but is not limited to, murder, manslaughter, assault, sex
- 16 offenses, domestic violence, theft or forgery, arson,
- 17 kidnapping, or possession, use, sale, manufacture, or
- 18 distribution of dangerous drugs or controlled substances and the
- 19 abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a dependent individual.
- 20 (b) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
- 21 91 to ensure the reputable and responsible character of all
- 22 prospective applicants, operators, direct patient access

1 employees, and adult volunteers of a healthcare facility, and, 2 in the case of any healthcare facility operated in a private 3 residence, all adults living in the home other than the clients. 4 These rules, among other things, shall specify how the 5 department may conduct criminal history record checks in 6 accordance with section 846-2.7. 7 (c) All applicants and prospective operators shall: 8 (1) Be subject to criminal history record checks in 9 accordance with section 846-2.7; 10 (2) Authorize the disclosure to the department of criminal 11 history record information; and 12 (3) Consent to be fingerprinted for the purpose of 13 obtaining criminal history record information from the 14 Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Hawaii 15 criminal justice data center. 16 (d) All prospective direct patient access employees and **17** adult volunteers of healthcare facilities and, in the case of 18 any healthcare facility operated in a private residence, all 19 adults living in the home other than the clients shall consent to be fingerprinted and shall provide all necessary information 20

for the purpose of enabling the department to conduct the

criminal history record checks.

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1	(e) The department may obtain criminal history record
2	information through the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the
3	Hawaii criminal justice data center on all prospective
4	applicants, operators, direct patient access employees and adult
5	volunteers of healthcare facilities. In addition, in the case
6	of any healthcare facility to be operated in a private
7	residence, the department of health may obtain criminal history
8	record information through the Federal Bureau of Investigation
9	and the Hawaii criminal justice data center for all adults
10	residing in the home who are not clients.
11	(f) The department shall make a name inquiry into the
12	criminal history records or conduct criminal history record
13	checks of all prospective applicants, operators, direct patient
14	access employees, and adult volunteers at the healthcare
15	facility, and, in the case of any healthcare facility operated
16	in a private residence, all adults living in the home other than
17	the clients.
18	(g) The department may revoke or suspend a current
19	license, impose penalties or fines, or deny an application for a
20	license under rules adopted pursuant to chapter 91 if the
21	applicant, operator, employee, or adult volunteer at the
22	healthcare facility or, in the case of any healthcare facility

- 1 operated in a private residence, any adult living in the home
- 2 other than the client, refuses to authorize the department to
- 3 conduct a criminal history record check, obtain criminal history
- 4 record information for verification, or consent to be
- 5 fingerprinted. In addition, the department may revoke or
- 6 suspend a current license, impose penalties or fines, or deny an
- 7 application for a license if the applicant, operator, direct
- 8 patient access employee or adult volunteer at the healthcare
- 9 facility, or, in the case of a healthcare facility operated in a
- 10 private residence, any adult living in the home other than the
- 11 client, has any disqualifying information. The department may
- 12 also revoke or suspend a current license, impose penalties or
- 13 fines, or deny an application for a license if the department
- 14 determines, based upon consideration of the criminal history
- 15 information, that the applicant, operator, direct patient access
- 16 employee, or adult volunteer at the healthcare facility, or, in
- 17 the case of a healthcare facility operated in a private
- 18 residence, any adult living in the home other than the client,
- 19 is unsuitable to work or live in close proximity to the
- 20 residents of the healthcare facility such that the health,
- 21 safety, and welfare of the residents of the healthcare facility
- 22 could be at risk.

1 (h) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for 2 purposes of this section, the department shall be exempt from 3 section 831-3.1 and need not conduct investigations, 4 notifications, or hearings under this section in accordance with 5 chapter 91. 6 (i) The fee charged by the Hawaii criminal justice data 7 center to perform criminal history record checks may be passed 8 on to all applicants, operators, direct patient access 9 employees, and adult volunteers at the healthcare facility and, 10 in the case of a facility operated in a private residence, all 11 adults living in the home other than the clients. 12 (j) The department, in obtaining and relying upon the 13 Federal Bureau of Investigation and state criminal history 14 record checks, is presumed to be acting in good faith and shall 15 be immune from civil liability for taking or recommending action 16 based upon the criminal history record information. The good 17 faith presumption may be rebutted upon a showing by the person 18 or entity of a lack of good faith, and proof by a preponderance 19 of the evidence, that the department relied upon information or 20 opinion that it knew was false or misleading. 21 (k) Any applicant or operator who receives information

from the department relating to a criminal history record check

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- 1 of a direct patient access employee or adult volunteer or, in
- 2 the case of a healthcare facility operated in a private
- 3 residence, an adult living in the home other than the clients,
- 4 is presumed to be acting in good faith and shall be immune from
- 5 civil liability for taking or recommending action based upon the
- 6 department's recommendation or direction. Nothing in this
- 7 section shall affect rights, obligations, remedies, liabilities,
- 8 or standards of proof under chapters 368 and 378.
- 9 Criminal history record information shall be used
- 10 exclusively by the department for the sole purpose of
- 11 determining whether an applicant, operator, direct patient
- 12 access employee, or adult volunteer at a healthcare facility,
- 13 or, in the case of a facility operated in a private residence,
- 14 any adult living in the home other than the clients is suitable
- 15 for working or living in close proximity to residents of a
- 16 healthcare facility such that the health, safety, and welfare of
- 17 the residents would not be at risk."
- 18 SECTION 3. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 19 amended by adding to part IV a new section to be appropriately
- 20 designated and to read as follows:
- 21 "§346- Criminal history record checks. (a) For the
- 22 purposes of this section:

1	"Conviction for a relevant crime" means any federal or
2	state conviction for any offense.
3	"Criminal history record name inquiry" means a search by
4	name, and other identifying information, using the state
5	computerized criminal history record information system.
6	"Department" means the department of human services.
7	"Name inquiry" means a criminal history record check
8	conducted by utilizing the name and other identifying
9	information of the individual, in lieu of a fingerprint check.
10	"Relevant crime" means a crime the commission of which the
11	department finds, by reason of its nature and circumstances,
12	means that the person who committed it poses a risk to the
13	health, safety, or well-being of a patient or resident. This
14	includes, but is not limited to, murder, manslaughter, assault,
15	sex offenses, domestic violence, theft or forgery, arson,
16	kidnapping, or possession, use, sale, manufacture, or
17	distribution of dangerous drugs or controlled substances, and
18	the abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a dependent individual.
19	(b) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
20	91 establishing standards regarding the reputable and
21	responsible character of service providers who have direct

1	contact w	ith individuals receiving services under this part,
2	including	<u>:</u>
3	(1)	Licensed adult day care center operators, employees,
4		new employees, subcontracted service providers and
5		their employees, and adult volunteers;
6	(2)	Purchase of service contracted and subcontracted
7		service providers and their employees serving clients
8		of the adult and community care services branch;
9	(3)	Foster grandparent program, senior companion program,
10		and respite companion program participants; and
11	(4)	Contracted and subcontracted service providers and
12		their employees and new employees who provide home and
13		community-based services under section 1915(c) of the
14		Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §1396n(c)).
15	(c)	Individuals identified in subsection (b) shall:
16	(1)	Meet the standards regarding the reputable and
17		responsible character of service providers;
18	(2)	Be subject to criminal history record checks in
19		accordance with section 846-2.7; and
20	(3)	Provide consent to the department to obtain criminal
21		history record information for verification.

- 1 New employees and adult volunteers shall consent to be
- 2 fingerprinted and shall supply the necessary information to
- 3 enable the criminal history record check prior to the start of
- 4 employment or volunteering.
- 5 (d) The department shall obtain criminal history record
- 6 information through the Hawaii criminal justice data center on
- 7 individuals identified in subsection (b) for the first two years
- 8 that an individual identified in subsection (b) is required to
- 9 have such checks, and shall conduct a criminal history record
- 10 name inquiry into the state criminal history records annually or
- 11 biennially thereafter.
- (e) The department may take appropriate action if it finds
- 13 that the criminal history of the individual identified under
- 14 subsection (a) may pose a risk to the health, welfare, and
- 15 safety of service recipients. Such action may include:
- 16 (1) Denying a certificate of approval to operate an adult
- day care center; or
- 18 (2) Refusing to use an individual as a service provider.
- 19 (f) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for
- 20 purposes of this section, the department shall be exempt from
- 21 section 831-3.1 and need not conduct investigations,

- 1 notifications, or hearings under this section in accordance with
- 2 chapter 91.
- 3 (g) The costs of processing fingerprints and the state
- 4 criminal history record checks may be borne by the employer or
- 5 by the employee or individual who is being screened.
- 6 (h) The department, in obtaining and relying upon the
- 7 results of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and state
- 8 criminal history record checks, is presumed to be acting in good
- 9 faith and shall be immune from civil liability for taking or
- 10 recommending action based upon the criminal history record
- 11 information. The good faith presumption may be rebutted upon a
- 12 showing by the person or entity alleging a lack of good faith,
- 13 and by a preponderance of the evidence, that the department
- 14 relied upon information or opinion that it knew was false or
- 15 misleading.
- (i) Nothing in this section shall affect the rights,
- 17 obligations, remedies, liabilities, or standards of proof under
- 18 chapters 368 and 378.
- 19 (j) The criminal history record information obtained under
- 20 this section shall be used exclusively by the department for the
- 21 purpose of establishing the reputable and responsible character
- 22 of the individuals identified in subsection (b) such that the

1 health, welfare, and safety of service recipients will not be at 2 risk." 3 SECTION 4. Section 378-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 4 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows: 5 " (d) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the 6 requirement that inquiry into and consideration of a prospective 7 employee's conviction record may take place only after the 8 individual has received a conditional job offer, and the 9 limitation to the most recent ten-year period, excluding the 10 period of incarceration, shall not apply to employers who are 11 expressly permitted to inquire into an individual's criminal 12 history for employment purposes pursuant to any federal or state 13 law other than subsection (a), including: 14 (1)The State or any of its branches, political 15 subdivisions, or agencies pursuant to section 831-3.1 16 and section 78-2.7; 17 (2) The department of education pursuant to section 18 302A-601.5; 19 (3) The department of health with respect to employees, 20 providers, or subcontractors in positions that place 21 them in direct contact with clients when providing

1		non-witnessed direct mental health services pursuant
2		to section 321-171.5;
3	(4)	The judiciary pursuant to section 571-34;
4	(5)	The counties pursuant to section 846-2.7;
5	(6)	Armed security services pursuant to section 261-17(b);
6	(7)	Providers of a developmental disabilities domiciliary
7		home pursuant to section 333F-22;
8	(8)	Private schools pursuant to section 378-3(8) and
9		section 302C-1;
10	(9)	Financial institutions in which deposits are insured
11		by a federal agency having jurisdiction over the
12		financial institution pursuant to section 378-3(9);
13	(10)	Detective agencies and security guard agencies
14		pursuant to sections 463-6(b) and 463-8(b);
15	(11)	Employers in the business of insurance pursuant to
16		section 431:2-201.3;
17	(12)	Employers of individuals or supervisors of individuals
18		responsible for screening passengers or property under
19		49 U.S.C. §44901 or individuals with unescorted access
20		to an aircraft of an air carrier or foreign carrier or
21		in a secured area of an airport in the United States
22		pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §44936(a);

Ţ	(13)	The department of human services pursuant to (section
2		sections 346- and 352-5.5;
3	(14)	The public library system pursuant to section
4		302A-601.5;
5	(15)	The department of public safety pursuant to section
6		353C-5;
7	(16)	The board of directors of a cooperative housing
8		corporation or the manager of a cooperative housing
9		project pursuant to section 421I-12; [and]
10	(17)	The board of directors of an association of apartment
11		owners, or the manager of a condominium project
12		pursuant to section 514A-82.1[-]; and
13	(18)	The department of health pursuant to section
14		321"
15	SECT	ION 5. Section 846-2.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by	y amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
17	"(b)	Criminal history record checks may be conducted by:
18	(1)	The department of health on operators of adult foster
19		homes or developmental disabilities domiciliary homes
20		and their employees, as provided by section 333F-22;
21	(2)	The department of health on prospective employees,
22		persons seeking to serve as providers, or

1		subcontractors in positions that place them in direct
2		contact with clients when providing non-witnessed
3		direct mental health services as provided by section
4		321-171.5;
5	(3)	The department of health on all applicants for
6		licensure for, operators for, and prospective
7		employees, and volunteers at one or more of the
8		following: skilled nursing facility, intermediate
9		care facility, adult residential care home, expanded
10		adult residential care homes, assisted living
11		facility, home health agency, hospice, adult day
12		health center, special treatment facility, therapeutic
13		living program, intermediate care facility for the
14		mentally retarded, hospital, rural health center and
15		rehabilitation agency, and, in the case of any of the
16		above-related facilities operating in a private
17		residence, on any adult living in the facility other
18		than the client as provided by section 321
19	[-(3) -]	(4) The department of education on employees,
20		prospective employees, and teacher trainees in any
21		public school in positions that necessitate close

1		proximity to children as provided by section 302A-
2		601.5;
3	[-(4)-]	(5) The counties on employees and prospective
4		employees who may be in positions that place them in
5		close proximity to children in recreation or child
6		care programs and services;
7	[-(5) -]	(6) The county liquor commissions on applicants for
8		liquor licenses as provided by section 281-53.5;
9	[-(6)-]	(7) The department of human services on operators and
10		employees of child caring institutions, child placing
11		organizations, and foster boarding homes as provided
12		by section 346-17;
13	[-(7)-]	(8) The department of human services on prospective
14		adoptive parents as established under section
15		346-19.7;
16	[-(8)-]	(9) The department of human services on applicants to
17		operate child care facilities, prospective employees
18		of the applicant, and new employees of the provider
19		after registration or licensure as provided by section
20		346-154;
21	[-(9) -]	(10) The department of human services on persons
22		exempt pursuant to section 346-152 to be eligible to

1		provide child care and receive child care subsidies as
2		provided by section 346-152.5;
3	[(10)]	(11) The department of human services on operators
4		and employees of home and community-based case
5		management agencies and operators and other adults,
6		except for adults in care, residing in foster family
7		homes as provided by section 346-335;
8	[(11)]	(12) The department of human services on staff
9		members of the Hawaii youth correctional facility as
10		provided by section 352-5.5;
11	[(12)]	(13) The judiciary on employees and applicants at
12		detention and shelter facilities as provided by
13		section 571-34;
14	[(13)]	(14) The department of public safety on employees and
15		prospective employees who are directly involved with
16		the treatment and care of persons committed to a
17		correctional facility or who possess police powers
18		including the power of arrest as provided by section
19		353C-5;
20	[(14)]	(15) The department of commerce and consumer affairs
21		on applicants for private detective or private guard
22		licensure as provided by section 463-9;

1	[(15)]	(16) Private schools and designated organizations on
2		employees and prospective employees who may be in
3		positions that necessitate close proximity to
4		children; provided that private schools and designated
5		organizations receive only indications of the states
6		from which the national criminal history record
7		information was provided as provided by section
8		302C-1;
9	[(16)]	(17) The public library system on employees and
10		prospective employees whose positions place them in
11		close proximity to children as provided by section
12		302A-601.5;
13	[(17)]	(18) The State or any of its branches, political
14		subdivisions, or agencies on applicants and employees
15		holding a position that has the same type of contact
16		with children, dependent adults, or persons committed
17		to a correctional facility as other public employees
18		who hold positions that are authorized by law to
19		require criminal history record checks as a condition
20		of employment as provided by section 78-2.7; [and]
21	(19)	The department of human services on licensed adult day
22		care center operators, employees, new employees,

1		subcontracted service providers and their employees,
2		and adult volunteers as provided by section 346- ;
3	(20)	The department of human services on purchase of
4		service contracted and subcontracted service providers
5		and their employees serving clients of the adult and
6		community care services branch, as provided by section
7		<u>346- ;</u>
8	(21)	The department of human services on foster grandparent
9		program, senior companion program, and respite
10		companion program participants as provided by section
11		<u>346- ;</u>
12	(22)	The department of human services on contracted and
13		subcontracted service providers and their current and
14		prospective employees that provide home and community-
15		based services under section 1915(c) of the Social
16		Security Act (42 U.S.C. §1396n(c)), as provided by
17		section 346- ; and
18	[(18)]	(23) Any other organization, entity, or the State,
19		its branches, political subdivisions, or agencies as
20		may be authorized by state law."
21	SECTI	ION 6. Section 378-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
22	amended by	y amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

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         "(d)
               Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the
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    requirement that inquiry into and consideration of a prospective
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    employee's conviction record may take place only after the
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    individual has received a conditional job offer, and the
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    limitation to the most recent ten-year period, excluding the
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    period of incarceration, shall not apply to employers who are
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    expressly permitted to inquire into an individual's criminal
    history for employment purposes pursuant to any federal or state
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    law other than subsection (a), including:
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         (1)
              The State or any of its branches, political
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              subdivisions, or agencies pursuant to section 831-3.1
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              and section 78-2.7;
13
         (2)
              The department of education pursuant to section
14
              302A-601.5;
              The department of health with respect to employees,
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         (3)
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              providers, or subcontractors in positions that place
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              them in direct contact with clients when providing
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              non-witnessed direct mental health services pursuant
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              to section 321-171.5;
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         (4)
              The judiciary pursuant to section 571-34;
21
         (5)
              The counties pursuant to section 846-2.7;
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         (6)
              Armed security services pursuant to section 261-17(b);
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1	(7)	Providers of a developmental disabilities domiciliary
2		home pursuant to section 333F-22;
3	(8)	Private schools pursuant to section 378-3(8) and
4		section 302C-1;
5	(9)	Financial institutions in which deposits are insured
6		by a federal agency having jurisdiction over the
7		financial institution pursuant to section 378-3(9);
8	(10)	Detective agencies and security guard agencies
9		pursuant to sections 463-6(b) and 463-8(b);
10	(11)	Employers in the business of insurance pursuant to
11		section 431:2-201.3;
12	(12)	Employers of individuals or supervisors of individuals
13		responsible for screening passengers or property under
14		49 U.S.C. §44901 or individuals with unescorted access
15		to an aircraft of an air carrier or foreign carrier or
16		in a secured area of an airport in the United States
17		pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §44936(a);
18	(13)	The department of human services pursuant to [section]
19		sections 346- and 352-5.5;
20	(14)	The public library system pursuant to section
21		302A-601.5;

1	(15)	The department of public safety pursuant to section
2		353C-5;
3	(16)	The board of directors of a cooperative housing
4		corporation or the manager of a cooperative housing
5		project pursuant to section 421I-12; [and]
6	(17)	The board of directors of an association of apartment
7		owners, or the manager of a condominium project
8		pursuant to section 514A-82.1[-]; and
9	(18)	The department of health pursuant to section
10		<u>321</u> "
11	SECTION 7. There shall be established a working committee	
12	of five members with representatives from the department of	
13	health, department of human services, provider organizations and	
14	community, as appointed by the directors of the department of	
15	health and department of human services to meet minimally on a	
16	quarterly basis to review and evaluate the process undertaken by	
17	the departments in effecting criminal history record checks and	
18	provide recommendations to the directors of the departments as	
19	relevant. Members shall serve a term of two years which may be	
20	extended at the discretion of the directors of the departments	
21	and will report to departmental administrators as designated by	
22	the directors.	

- 1 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
- 4 provided that section 6 shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

Report Title:

Criminal History Checks; Healthcare Providers

Description:

Requires criminal history record checks on persons providing care or having access to residents of healthcare facilities. (SD1)