



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 580**

*January Session, 2009*

House Bill No. 5199

*House of Representatives, April 9, 2009*

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 38th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK OF YOUTH CAMP EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) Each youth camp  
2 licensed pursuant to chapter 368r of the general statutes shall require  
3 every person (1) employed by the camp, (2) volunteering at the camp,  
4 (3) applying for a paid or volunteer position at the camp, and (4)  
5 affiliated with the camp who is responsible for transporting in a motor  
6 vehicle any child attending the camp to submit to a state and national  
7 criminal history records check in accordance with section 29-17a of the  
8 general statutes.
- 9 (b) The cost of the state and national criminal history records check  
10 required under subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the youth  
11 camp.



The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Public Safety, Dept.	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential
Public Safety, Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Various State Agencies	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:**

Municipalities	Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Various Municipalities	Cost	Potential	Potential

**Explanation**

The bill requires employees, volunteers, applicants, and various affiliates of youth camps licensed by the Department of Public Health (DPH) to submit to state and local background checks to be performed through the Department of Public Safety (DPS). This results in a cost to DPS, and a potential cost to various state agencies and municipalities.

DPS currently performs state and national criminal history checks through the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). DPS performed 166,344 criminal history checks in calendar year 2008 and it is estimated that 15,000 additional applicant checks would be required under the bill. By contract, DPS is allowed approximately 1,200 AFIS transactions per day; with the estimated increase under the bill there would be an average of 497 transactions per day. To the extent that this increase in background checks would cause the daily transaction allowance to be exceeded at any given time there is a potential cost associated with purchasing additional capacity from the AFIS service provider. It is anticipated that the 11 Technicians, 3 Supervisors, and 1

Director that currently comprise the Bureau of Identification would be able to accommodate this influx within the normal course of their duties at no additional cost.

The fee for an individual applying for a state and national criminal history records check for a paid position is \$44.25 (\$25 for the state check and \$19.25 for the federal check); the fee for an individual applying for such a background check for a volunteer position is \$30.50 (\$15.25 for the state check and \$15.25 for the federal check). To the extent that various state agencies and municipalities run youth camps, there is a cost associated with covering the appropriate fee as required by the bill. There is also a corresponding revenue gain to DPS.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing cost to DPS identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation; the cost to various state agencies and municipalities and the revenue gain identified above would remain constant into the future as fees are set by statute.

*Sources: Selection Committee on Children Public Hearing Testimony 2/5/09*

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**HB 5199**

***AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK OF YOUTH CAMP EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires youth camps to mandate state and national criminal background checks for employees, volunteers, applicants for paid or volunteer positions, and people affiliated with them who are responsible for transporting campers. The camp must pay for the background check.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2009

**BACKGROUND**

***Related Bills***

sHB 1116 reported favorably by the Judiciary Committee, also requires camp workers to undergo criminal background checks.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Select Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Change of Reference  
Yea 11 Nay 0 (03/03/2009)

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable  
Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/25/2009)