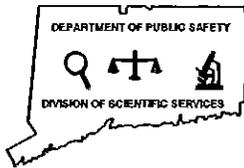




STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henlon
Chief of Staff

March 20, 2009

Rep. Michael P. Lawlor, Co-Chairman
Sen. Andrew J. McDonald, Co-Chairman
Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

SB 1116 AN ACT REQUIRING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS FOR YOUTH CAMP EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

The Department of Public Safety advises of large fiscal impact.

This bill would require that each prospective employee and volunteer of a youth camp licensed by the Department of Public Health submit to a state and national criminal history records check. The bill proposes that the costs for performing the records check be paid by the camp.

Fees for criminal history records checks are set by statute in CGS 29-11. Federal, state and municipal agencies are exempted from paying these fees. Any state fees collected are deposited in the general fund. If a national criminal history record check is required, there is a separate fee charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Section 29-17a(2) requires other state agencies to reimburse the Department of Public Safety for the federal fees and allows those state agencies to charge the person whose record is checked for this federal fee.

Regardless of whom pays for the state and national check, this proposed legislation would increase the agency workload and may create a need for additional personnel and equipment resources. The Department of Public Safety currently has a backlog of requests for fingerprint and criminal history record searches. Without additional personnel and equipment, current backlogs would increase and ultimately create a risk to public safety.