
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 968 (File 243, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT REQUIRING BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR RENEWAL OF A SECURITY OFFICER LICENSE.

SUMMARY

Existing law requires applicants for a security officer license to submit to a state and national criminal history records check. By law, these are done through the State Police and applicants are fingerprinted and charged fees by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) and FBI for performing the checks (CGS § 29-17a).

This bill requires licensed officers to also submit to these checks when renewing their licenses (i.e., every five years), however it waives (1) the requirement that they submit fingerprints and (2) DESPP's fee for conducting the state criminal history records check (i.e., \$75 (CGS § 29-11(c))). The bill also makes technical changes.

*Senate Amendment "A" adds the fingerprinting and fee waivers and the technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Security Officers Defined

By law, a "security officer" is a licensed and registered person hired to safeguard and protect people and certain property by (1) detecting or preventing unlawful intrusion, entry, larceny, vandalism, abuse, arson, or trespass or (2) preventing, observing, or detecting unauthorized activity. A security officer may be employed by a (1) security service, or (2) non-security business as a uniformed employee who performs security work in an area of the business's premises to which the public has unrestricted access or access only by paid admission (CGS § 29-152u(7)).

Related Bill

HB 6653, § 4, favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, allows DESPP to send expiration notices and renewal applications by email for security officer licenses. Under current law, DESPP must send them by first class mail.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/16/2023)