



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 243

January Session, 2023

Senate Bill No. 968

Senate, March 28, 2023

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

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

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 29-161q of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2023*):

4 (c) Not later than two years after successful completion of the training
5 required pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or the waiver of such
6 training, the applicant may submit an application for a license as a
7 security officer on forms furnished by the commissioner and, under
8 oath, shall give the applicant's name, address, date and place of birth,
9 employment for the previous five years, experience in the position
10 applied for, including military training and weapons qualifications, any
11 convictions for violations of the law and such other information as the
12 commissioner may require, by regulation, to properly investigate the
13 character, competency and integrity of the applicant. The commissioner
14 shall require any applicant for a license, or for renewal of a license,

15 under this section to submit to state and national criminal history
 16 records checks conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. Each
 17 applicant shall submit with the application two sets of his or her
 18 fingerprints on forms specified and furnished by the commissioner, two
 19 full-face photographs, two inches wide by two inches high, taken not
 20 earlier than six months prior to the date of application, and a one-
 21 hundred-dollar licensing fee, made payable to the state. Any applicant
 22 who received a waiver as provided in subsection (b) of this section shall
 23 be exempt from payment of such licensing fee. Subject to the provisions
 24 of section 46a-80, no person shall be approved for a license who has been
 25 convicted of a felony, any sexual offense or any crime involving moral
 26 turpitude, or who has been refused a license under the provisions of
 27 sections 29-161g to 29-161x, inclusive, for any reason except minimum
 28 experience, or whose license, having been granted, has been revoked or
 29 is under suspension. Upon being satisfied of the suitability of the
 30 applicant for licensure, the commissioner may license the applicant as a
 31 security officer. Such license shall be renewed every five years for a one-
 32 hundred-dollar fee. The commissioner shall send a notice of the
 33 expiration date of such license to the holder of such license, by first class
 34 mail, not less than ninety days before such expiration, and shall enclose
 35 with such notice an application for renewal. The security officer license
 36 shall be valid for a period of ninety days after its expiration date unless
 37 the license has been revoked or is under suspension pursuant to section
 38 29-161v. An application for renewal filed with the commissioner after
 39 the expiration date shall be accompanied by a late fee of twenty-five
 40 dollars. The commissioner shall not renew any license that has been
 41 expired for more than ninety days.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	29-161q(c)

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Emergency Services and Public Protection, Dept.	Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires security officers to submit to a state background check when renewing their license, resulting in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund and the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), to the extent that additional background checks are conducted.

DESPP conducts state background checks for a \$75 fee per person, paid to the General Fund. State background checks also require fingerprinting, which DESPP conducts for a \$15 fee per person, paid to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account.¹

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of additional background checks conducted.

¹ Funds in the non-lapsing Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account are used for IT support and maintenance for the fingerprinting systems.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 968*****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 done through the State Police in keeping with state law. This bill requires licensed officers to also submit to these checks when renewing their licenses (i.e., every five years).

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 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (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)