

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 897

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Wexton, J.

3. Committee: Rehabilitation and Social Services

4. Title: Child care providers; criminal history background checks; penalty.

5. Summary: Requires the following individuals to undergo a fingerprint-based national criminal history background check: (i) applicants for employment by, employees of, applicants to serve as volunteers with, and volunteers with any licensed family day system, child day center exempt from licensure pursuant to § 63.2-1716, registered family day home, or family day home approved by a family day system; (ii) applicants for licensure as a family day system, registration as a family day home, or approval as a family day home by a family day system, as well as their agents and any adult living in such family day home; and (iii) individuals who apply for or enter into a contract with the Department of Social Services under which a child day center, family day home, or child day program will provide child care services funded by the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), as well as the applicant's current or prospective employees and volunteers, agents, and any adult living in the child day center or family day home. This bill requires a central registry check from any state in which the individuals indicated above have resided in the preceding five years. This legislation allows for the denial or revocation of a license, registration or approval of a home if a household member with an offense defined in Section 63.2-1719 continues to reside in the home. This legislation also allows for the termination of a contract with the Department of Social Services or local department to provide child care services for failure to obtain background checks. This legislation removes the exception that allow an individual to work under the supervision of an individual with a background check until the criminal history results are returned and removes language exempting certain parent-volunteers from background checks. An enactment clause makes certain provisions of the bill effective September 30, 2017 or by the date specified by a federal waiver.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No. The introduced Governor's Budget Bill provides the necessary appropriation and positions to implement the provisions of this legislation.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	199,922	3	nongeneral
2018	184,433	3	nongeneral
2019	184,433	3	nongeneral

2020	184,433	3	nongeneral
2021	184,433	3	nongeneral
2022	184,433	3	nongeneral

7b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2017	199,922	nongeneral
2018	184,433	nongeneral
2019	184,433	nongeneral
2020	184,433	nongeneral
2021	184,433	nongeneral
2022	184,433	nongeneral

- 8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill expands the national fingerprint background check requirements to include all licensed, registered, regulated and subsidy child day programs in order to comply with the federal interpretation of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. Currently, the Department of Social Services' (DSS) Office of Background Investigations (OBI) only processes and screens national background checks for individuals in children's residential facilities licensed by DSS and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as well as foster and adoptive parents. In addition, national criminal background checks will be required for licensed child day centers and family day homes effective July 1, 2017 due to the passage of HB 1570/SB 1168 during the 2015 session of the General Assembly.

As a result of this bill, additional background checks will be required for registered, regulated, and religious exempt child day programs, which include subsidy child care providers, family day systems, registered family day homes, family day homes approved by a family day system and family day homes approved by subsidy vendors. The primary costs associated with this bill are 1) additional OBI staff and 2) ongoing maintenance of the Background Information System (BIS).

Additional OBI Staff

The Department has no way of knowing how many additional criminal background checks will be required as a result of this legislation, however the Department estimates that approximately 20,500 new background checks will be required every year. OBI would need additional staff to handle this volume of background checks. With the use of a fingerprint vendor, it is estimated that each additional staff person can process approximately 8,500 background checks annually. Based on this, 3 (20,500/8,500) additional full time staff (program support technicians) are needed.

Using an average salary of \$32,022 for the program support technicians, salaries and benefits for the additional staff are estimated to be \$152,049 annually. Nonpersonal services, which include rent, telephone, computer costs, and travel total \$14,368 in FY 2017 and \$9,205 each year thereafter for each additional employee.

Information Systems Costs

The Department would incur an estimated minimal cost of \$4,769 in FY 2017 and each year thereafter, for on-going system maintenance and support for the Background Information System (BIS).

The total annual cost for this legislation was estimated to be \$199,922 in FY 2017; \$184,433 in FY 2018 and each year thereafter. Nongeneral fund appropriation for these amounts and the associated positions were included in the 2016 Appropriation Act, Chapter 780 for this purpose; therefore, a budget amendment is not needed. It is presumed that DSS background check fees will be sufficient to break even on the operating cost of OBI as a whole. Effective December 1, 2016, the Department decreased the National Criminal Background Search fee as a result of a reduction of fees for the FBI.

The fee breakdown for background checks is:

Background check fee breakdown for employees	
FBI	\$12
VSP	\$13
OBI	\$23
TOTAL	\$48

Background check fee breakdown for volunteers	
FBI	\$11
VSP	\$8
OBI	\$10
TOTAL	\$29

Virginia State Police (VSP):

According to the Department of State Police, funding included in the Governor's introduced budget for four additional staff to conduct background checks would be sufficient to comply with this legislation.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Social Services, Virginia State Police

- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

- 11. Other Comments:** The Department will adjust its fee once it has enough data on the number of background check applicants, in order to recover the cost of the program.