

Department of Planning and Budget
2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1012

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

2. Patron Howell

3. Committee Passed By Both Houses

4. Title Department of Human Resource Management; criminal background checks

5. Summary/Purpose: This bill requires the Department of Human Resource Management to develop a state-wide policy for designating sensitive positions within state agencies. Such sensitive positions shall include positions generally described as directly responsible for the health, safety and welfare of the general populace or protection of critical infrastructures. Final candidates for employment in a position that has been designated as sensitive shall be required to submit to a criminal background investigation.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Minimal, See Item 8 below.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No

8. Fiscal implications: Currently, some agencies conduct Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) checks, which include an FBI check, at least for finalists for certain positions. Some conduct lesser background reviews. Agencies that currently require these investigations utilize the services of agencies such as the Department of Corrections or the Department of State Police to facilitate the background checks. Agencies pay between \$37 and \$40 per background check.

The bill as enrolled would only require final candidates of sensitive positions to submit to a background investigation (as opposed to all candidates) which greatly reduces any potential fiscal impact of the bill. Agencies should be able to absorb any additional cost.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Potentially all Executive Branch agencies, in particular, agencies of the Public Safety Secretariat.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: None

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cc: Secretary of Administration
Secretary of Public Safety