State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1006

SENATE BILL NO. 2014

By Gresham, Hensley, Gardenhire, Haile, Tate, Kelsey, Crowe, Dickerson, Lundberg


By Harry Brooks, Williams, Dunn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 5, relative to background checks.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-413(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

Except as provided by subsection (f), and in addition to the requirements of § 49-5-406, a local board of education, charter school, or any child care program as defined in § 49-1-1102, shall require that prior to employment, and at least every five (5) years thereafter, any person applying for or holding a position as a teacher or any other position requiring proximity to school children or to children in a child care program to:

(1) Agree to the release of all investigative records to the board or child care program for examination for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of criminal violation information as required by § 49-5-406(a)(1)(A); and

(2) Supply a fingerprint sample and submit to a criminal history records check to be conducted by the Tennessee bureau of investigation and the federal bureau of investigation.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-413, is amended by adding the following language as new subsections:

(f) Upon Tennessee's acceptance into the federal bureau of investigation rap back program, local boards of education, charter schools, and any child care programs, as defined in § 49-1-1102, shall conduct state and national criminal history record checks on the personnel identified in subsection (a) and shall participate in the rap back program to determine suitability or fitness for employment. Local boards of education, charter schools, and child care programs shall notify applicants and employees who are subject to a criminal history record check pursuant to this section that the Tennessee bureau of investigation may charge a reasonable fee for the criminal history record checks performed and that applicant and employee fingerprints will be retained by the Tennessee bureau of investigation and the federal bureau of investigation for all purposes and uses authorized for fingerprint submissions. The criminal history record check shall include the submission of fingerprints to:

(1) The federal bureau of investigation for a national criminal history record check; and

(2) The Tennessee bureau of investigation for a state criminal history record check that shall include nonconviction data.

(g) Each local board of education and each governing body of a charter school shall adopt a policy governing background check procedures for contract workers and volunteers. Upon Tennessee's acceptance into the federal bureau of investigation rap back program, local boards of education, charter schools, and any child care program, as defined in § 49-1-1102, may require state and national criminal history record checks to be conducted on contract workers and school volunteers, and may participate in the rap back program, for the
purpose of determining suitability or fitness for contract workers and volunteers to work with children or to be on school grounds when children are present.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.
SENATE BILL NO. 2014

PASSED: April 24, 2018

Randy McNally
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Beth Harwell
BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 21st day of May 2018

Bill Haslam
BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR