

SENATE No. 2183

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

SENATE, Thursday, October 19, 2017

The committee on Environmental, Natural Resources and Agriculture to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 480) of Michael J. Rodrigues, Michael O. Moore, Peter J. Durant, David K. Muradian, Jr. and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to horse riding instructor's licenses,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2183).

For the committee,
Anne M. Gobi

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An Act relative to horse riding instructor's licenses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
2 172M the following new section:-

3 Section 172N. (a) Notwithstanding section 172 or any other general or special law to the
4 contrary, operators of a riding school or a stable where horses are kept, that have been licensed
5 pursuant to section 2B of chapter 128, shall obtain all available criminal offender record
6 information as found in the court activity record information from the department of criminal
7 justice information services prior to accepting a person as an employee, volunteer, vendor or
8 contractor who as part of the person's duties works with children 18 years of age or less;
9 provided, however, that any such vendor or contractor is contracted to work on the premises of
10 the riding school or stable for a total of not less than 5 days annually. The department of
11 agricultural resources shall obtain all available criminal offender record information for the
12 purposes of evaluating all riding school or stable operators applying for licensure pursuant to
13 said section 2B of said chapter 128. Any riding school or stable obtaining information under this

14 section shall not disseminate that information for any purpose other than to further the protection
15 of children.

16 (b) Notwithstanding section 172 or any other general or special law to the contrary, and
17 except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the department may disclose, upon a request
18 made by a parent or guardian of a child 18 years of age or under, all criminal record information
19 of a person who purports to be a horse riding instructor for hire, who is not affiliated or
20 contracted with a riding school or a stable licensed pursuant to section 2B of chapter 128 and
21 who may have direct and unmonitored contact with children 18 years of age or under. The
22 department shall obtain written consent from a horse riding instructor for hire prior to disclosing
23 criminal record information to a parent or guardian.

24 SECTION 2. Section 2A of chapter 128 of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

25 SECTION 3. Section 2B of said chapter 128, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, is
26 hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following sentence:- The commissioner
27 shall obtain all available criminal offender record information pursuant to section 172N of
28 chapter 6 in order to assist the commissioner in evaluating a riding school or stable operator
29 applying for licensure under this section.