

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE
SENATE, No. 2688
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 20, 2022

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Requires State employer to ascertain child abuse or sexual misconduct in employment applications for certain positions involving children; requires background checks for current and prospective employees.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase.
- Agencies Affected:** Certain State employers.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Cost Increase		Indeterminate	

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that this bill would result in an indeterminate expenditure increase for certain State employers or service providers to conduct criminal history record background checks and child abuse record background checks for current and prospective employees in positions having regular contact with children.
- The bill also requires State employers or service providers to pay for the cost of obtaining the fingerprints or other identifier authorized by the Division of State Police, unless that service is available at no cost to the employee or individual seeking employment.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill requires State employers, or service providers that hold a contract with a State employer to provide services involving children, to ascertain allegations of child abuse or sexual misconduct prior to awarding employment in certain positions that involve regular contact with children. The bill also requires a criminal history record background check and a child abuse record background check for each current or prospective employee of a State employer or service provider who is or will be employed in a position having regular contact with children.

The bill requires the State employer or service provider to pay for the cost of processing and funding all criminal history record background checks and child abuse record information checks required by the bill. The State employer or service provider would also be responsible for paying the cost of obtaining the fingerprints or other identifier authorized by the Division of State Police, unless that service is available at no cost to the employee or individual seeking employment.

Under the bill, a State employer means any of the principal departments in the Executive Branch of this State, and any board, bureau, office, division, authority, or other instrumentality thereof.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

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Section: State Government

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Principal Research Analyst

Approved: Thomas Koenig
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).