



HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 547	House Committee:	PASSED 3/1/17 (20-0)
Committee:	Human Resources	House Floor:	PASSED 3/14/17 (93-0)
Floor Manager:	Rep. Heaton	Senate Floor:	PASSED 4/3/17 (49-0)
Date:	Final	Governor:	Signed on April 12, 2017
Staff:	Carrie Malone (5-2063)		

DHS Employee Background Check

- The goal of the bill is to comply with a federal law that requires states to do fingerprint background checks for all state staff that have access to federal tax information. States are required to codify these elements in state law.
- The bill establishes the Department’s authority to conduct national criminal history checks through the FBI for employees with access to federal tax data. The impacted staff would be Child Support Recovery Officers, Income Maintenance workers, and a limited number of IT staff. To the extent that the agency has contracted staff with such access this would impact them as well.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 - NEW SECTION - Background Investigations

A background investigation may be conducted by DHS on all of the following people:

- An applicant for employment with DHS
- A contractor, vendor, or employee performing work for DHS with access to federal and state income tax information of applicants in state assistance programs

People subject to this section shall authorize the release of the following: their work history, a state criminal history background check (they need to get fingerprinted), and a national criminal history check through the FBI.

The potential employee will provide the fingerprints to the department. DHS will then request the national criminal history check and shall provide the fingerprints to DPS to submit through the state criminal history repository to the FBI. DHS is responsible for the cost of the fingerprinting. A contractor or vendor performing work for DHS shall be subject to a background investigation by DHS at least once every 10 years after the date of their employment.