HOUSE BILL 970:
State Controller/Criminal Record Checks.

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:		**Date:**	August 9, 2016
Introduced by:		**Prepared by:**	Susan Sitze
Analysis of:	S.L. 2016-28		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: S.L. 2016-28 authorizes criminal record checks for any current or prospective employees, volunteers, or contractors of the Office of State Controller.

This act became effective June 22, 2016.

CURRENT LAW: Chapter 143B, Article 9, Part 28 of the General Statutes creates and authorizes the Office of the State Controller to maintain the State accounting system and administer the State disbursing system. The Office of the State Controller is headed by the State Controller, who is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly.

BILL ANALYSIS: S.L. 2016-28 directs the State Controller to require a criminal record check for any current and prospective employees, volunteers, or contractors. The criminal record check will be conducted by the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI).

- The Office of State Controller will provide the Department of Public Safety (DPS) a criminal record check request, fingerprints, and a consent form signed by the person whose criminal record check is to be performed. DPS will forward the necessary information and fingerprints to the SBI for a search of the State's criminal record file and the SBI will forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for a national criminal history record check.

- The criminal history report will not be a public record and must be kept confidential by the Office of State Controller.

- DPS will be authorized to charge a fee to offset the cost incurred to conduct a criminal record check.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective June 22, 2016.

This bill analysis was prepared by the nonpartisan legislative staff for the use of legislators in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.