



## HOUSE BILL 577: Authorize LSC/Criminal Record Checks.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Finance	<b>Date:</b>	April 25, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Lewis	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Trina Griffin
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 577 would authorize the Legislative Services Commission (LSC) to obtain fingerprint-based State and national criminal history record checks for any current or prospective employees, volunteers, or contractors of the LSC.*

**CURRENT LAW:** As part of the hiring process, some divisions within the General Assembly conduct State background checks, which do not require specific statutory authority, but there is not uniformity across all divisions. In order to obtain a national criminal background check using the FBI's database, there must be specific statutory authority for fingerprinting and for authorizing an employing agency to exchange fingerprint data directly with the FBI. Numerous State agencies and occupational licensing boards currently have this authority.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 577 would authorize the Legislative Services Commission (LSC) to obtain a fingerprint-based State and national criminal history record check through the State Bureau of Investigation for any current or prospective employee, volunteer, or contactor who would be under the supervision and control of the Legislative Services Officer (LSO). The report would not be considered a public record, and the LSO would be required to keep all information obtained pursuant to the background check confidential. The cost to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) for conducting a State and national fingerprint-based background check is \$38.00. The bill would permit DPS to charge the General Assembly a fee to offset its cost.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill would become effective October 1, 2017.

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