



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 340

January Session, 2023

Senate Bill No. 967

Senate, March 30, 2023

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN PROCEDURES FOR
BACKGROUND CHECKS OF PISTOL PERMIT APPLICANTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (f) of section 29-28 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2023*):

4 (f) Any bona fide resident of the United States having no bona fide
5 permanent residence within the jurisdiction of any local authority in the
6 state, but who has a permit or license to carry a pistol or revolver issued
7 by the authority of another state or subdivision of the United States, may
8 apply directly to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
9 Protection for a permit to carry a pistol or revolver in this state. The
10 commissioner shall require such out-of-state resident applying for an
11 initial or a renewal permit under this section to submit to state and
12 national criminal history records checks conducted in accordance with
13 section 29-17a. All provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e) of this
14 section shall apply to applications for a permit received by the

15 commissioner under this subsection.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 29-29 of the general statutes is
17 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
18 *2023*):

19 (b) The local authority, or the commissioner in the case of an
20 application pursuant to subsection (f) of section 29-28, as amended by
21 this act, shall [take] forward the fingerprints of such applicant [or
22 conduct any other method of positive identification required by the
23 State Police Bureau of Identification or the Federal Bureau of
24 Investigation, unless the local authority or the commissioner determines
25 that the fingerprints of such applicant have been previously taken and
26 the applicant's identity established, and such applicant presents
27 identification that the local authority or the commissioner verifies as
28 valid. The local authority or the commissioner shall record the date the
29 fingerprints were taken in the applicant's file and, within five business
30 days of such date, shall forward such fingerprints or other positive
31 identifying information] to the State Police Bureau of Identification
32 which shall conduct criminal history records checks in accordance with
33 section 29-17a.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	29-28(f)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	29-29(b)

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires certain applicants to submit to a state background check for an initial or renewal pistol permit, resulting in a potential revenue gain to the General Fund and the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), to the extent that additional background checks are conducted.

DESPP conducts state background checks for a \$75 fee per person, paid to the General Fund. State background checks also require fingerprinting, which DESPP conducts for a \$15 fee per person, paid to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account.¹

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of additional background checks conducted.

¹ Funds in the non-lapsing Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account are used for IT support and maintenance for the fingerprinting systems.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 967*****AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN PROCEDURES FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS OF PISTOL PERMIT APPLICANTS.*****SUMMARY**

By law, a nonresident with a valid out-of-state gun permit may apply directly to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioner for a Connecticut handgun permit. This bill explicitly requires the commissioner to require these nonresident handgun permit applicants to submit to state and national criminal history checks conducted under state law. By law, the DESPP commissioner must follow the same fingerprinting and criminal history check procedures that state law requires for local officials processing temporary state handgun permit applications.

The bill also eliminates specified provisions for these fingerprinting and criminal history check procedures but continues to require both the DESPP commissioner and local officials to forward an applicant's fingerprints to the State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI), which must conduct the criminal history checks as state law requires. Specifically, the bill eliminates provisions authorizing them to:

1. use positive identification methods other than fingerprinting for these criminal history checks and
2. opt not to take an applicant's fingerprints if they determine that the applicant's fingerprints were previously taken and the applicant presents valid identification.

The bill also eliminates requirements that they:

1. take an applicant's fingerprints for criminal history checks, requiring instead that they forward the fingerprints to SPBI for these purposes; and
2. record the date fingerprints were taken in the applicant's file and, within five days, forward them or other positive identifying information to SPBI.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sHB 6839, favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, repeals the same provision authorizing the permit issuing authority to opt not to take an applicant's fingerprints under certain circumstances.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/16/2023)