

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 492
Judiciary

(Delegate Simpson, *et al.*)

Frederick County - County Employees and Volunteers - Criminal History
Records Check

This bill authorizes the Frederick County Director of Human Resources to request State and national criminal history records checks for a prospective or current employee or volunteer of the county. The director must submit fees and two complete sets of the prospective or current employee's or volunteer's fingerprints to the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository (CJIS-CR), as specified.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. CJIS-CR can handle the bill's requirements with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Frederick County expenditures from criminal history records checks beginning in FY 2026. Frederick County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The records checks are confidential, may not be disseminated, and may only be used for a personnel-related purpose as authorized under the bill. Further, the subject of a criminal history records check may contest the contents of the statement issued by CJIS-CR.

Frederick County must adopt guidelines for criminal history records checks under the bill.

Current Law: CJIS-CR collects, manages, and disseminates Maryland criminal history records information for criminal justice and noncriminal justice (*e.g.*, employment and licensing) purposes. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) charges a fee of \$12 for a national check. CJIS-CR collects the fee from the applicant and reimburses the FBI. CJIS-CR submits requests for national criminal records to the FBI electronically. When State legislation includes a national check, the FBI requires that the bill contain certain language. If the FBI does not approve the language of an enacted bill, national checks will not be provided. Each individual who uses CJIS-CR to conduct a criminal history records check is required to pay \$50 for a State and national records check, including a \$20 fingerprinting fee, a \$12 FBI fee, and an \$18 fee to CJIS-CR.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 995 (Frederick County Senators) - Rules.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Frederick County; Department of Legislative Services

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