

HB2582 -- Oklahoma Long Term Care National Background Check Program

63 OS § 1-1945 *et seq.*

Benefits:

- By this measure, we take a decisive step to stop those who might abuse, neglect or financially exploit our most vulnerable citizens
- Provides through fingerprinting a comprehensive criminal history records search of national and state criminal history records not available under our previous name based records search
- Uses web based technologies to provide employers a single portal for checking state and national abuse registries and the national sex offender registry
- Relies on new technology to monitor criminal histories and alert officials when a change in criminal history occurs
- A monitored criminal history record means the cost of re-fingerprinting is not required for employees who change employers in this industry and allows immediate eligibility determinations for enrolled applicants and employers
- Provides an efficient and effective means for an employer to check an applicant's status prior to paying the cost of criminal history monitoring enrollment
- The Health Department will share with sister agencies in the development and expansion of a statewide network of sites using digital imaging technology to collect fingerprints, yielding more reliable fingerprints the first time, reducing delays in processing, and inconvenience to applicants
- Shared fingerprinting sites means greater access for teachers, nurses, and child-care service workers, also subject to fingerprinting requirements
- Shared contracting with a fingerprinting vendor keeps fingerprinting costs lower for our state
- Limits the ability of bad actors to hide their criminal or abusive actions by crossing state lines
- Ensure applicants are not misidentified and barred from gainful employment based on name based searches
- In most cases, criminal history monitoring enrollment will be cost neutral to providers through the use of minimized re-fingerprinting, grant start-up funds and leveraged Medicaid Funds

Supporters:

- AARP Oklahoma
- Oklahoma Association of Health Care Providers (representing Nursing Homes, Home Care, and Home and Community-Based Service providers)
- Leading Age Oklahoma (formerly called the Oklahoma Association of Homes and Services for the Aging – representing Faith-Based and Non-Profit providers including Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, Adult Day Services, Home Care and Home and Community-Based Service providers)
- ORALA – the Oklahoma Residential and Assisted Living Association
- OKALA – the Oklahoma Assisted Living Association
- Adult Day Services providers
- State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- The Oklahoma Aging Partnership (OAP):
 - The State Council on Aging
 - The Oklahoma Silver Haired Legislative Alumni
 - The Oklahoma Alliance on Aging
- Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation
- Department of Human Services
- Oklahoma Board of Nursing