

By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and
Senator Polsky

586-03173A-25

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public education of background
3 screening requirements; amending s. 435.12, F.S.;
4 requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration
5 and the Department of Law Enforcement, in consultation
6 with certain agencies, to develop and maintain a care
7 provider background screening education and awareness
8 webpage; providing requirements for resources provided
9 on the webpage; requiring that specified agencies
10 provide a link to the webpage on their respective
11 websites and promote the inclusion of the link in
12 certain media; requiring that the webpage be active by
13 a specified date and updated annually; providing an
14 effective date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 435.12,
19 Florida Statutes, to read:

20 435.12 Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse.—
21 (4) (a) As part of the Care Provider Background Screening
22 Clearinghouse, the Agency for Health Care Administration, in
23 consultation with all specified agencies that are required by
24 law to use the clearinghouse for employment screening, must
25 develop and maintain a publicly available webpage which provides
26 a central source for care provider background screening
27 education and awareness. This webpage may be part of the current
28 web-based clearinghouse system. The resources available on the
29 webpage must be written in nontechnical and accessible language,

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30 tailored to qualified entities as defined in s. 943.0542(1)(b)
31 and include, but need not be limited to:

32 1. Information and education related to employment
33 screening requirements of qualified entities, to include:

34 a. The Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse.

35 b. Level 2 screening standards under chapter 435.

36 c. Live-scan fingerprinting, or other third-party systems,
37 including information on process, vendors, locations, and
38 potential costs.

39 2. A searchable catalog, by specified agency, of qualified
40 entity employment classes and positions required by law to
41 undergo employment screening through the clearinghouse, to
42 include:

43 a. Disqualifying offenses.

44 b. Exemption requirements and process.

45 3. A downloadable checklist detailing the process,
46 timelines, and contact information for employment screening
47 process support, tailored to qualified entities.

48 (b) Specified agencies must include a clear and conspicuous
49 link to the webpage on their respective websites and promote the
50 inclusion of the link in all job vacancy advertisements and
51 posts by qualified entities.

52 (c) The webpage must be active by January 1, 2026, and
53 reviewed and updated by October 1, 2026, and each subsequent
54 year to incorporate any changes to law, the clearinghouse, or
55 the employment screening process.

56 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.