

To: Johnathan Ball

Report in response to: HB 7, ITEM 28 (REQUEST FOR REPORT ON OPTIONS FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND REVIEW) -- The Legislature intends that the Department of Health report to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst by September 1, 2018 on options to triage criminal background review based on severity of the crimes committed and/or reduce the review the time required to process information from criminal background checks.

*The Division of Family Health and Preparedness (FHP) in the Utah department of Health gives the following response as the report to the Legislature:*

In April of 2018 FHP consolidated the background processing of Emergency Preparedness, Child Care Licensing, and Health Facility Licensing into a new program, the Office of Background Processing and Security. The intent behind this shift was to capitalize on the processing aspects of these three units and to perform background screenings for employees within the Department of Health. Combining the three areas has increased the collaboration but as of yet has not increased the number of background checks performed. We are continually looking towards efficiencies in screening process. Statutes would have to be altered to change the severity of crimes committed for specific areas of the workforce and the background checks that are processed.

FHP has also reported on the following performance measures in Build Block Performance Measures, "BB Performance Measures 2017 GS Aug 2018 Report"

**1) Hire 2 additional background check/fingerprint workers by July 1, 2017,**

OCT 2017

One staff has been temporarily reassigned from the Bureau of Emergency and Medical Services for fingerprint. EMS has recently had reduced and loss of Federal grant funds (Zika and Ebola). Duties are being shifted among staff members due to the loss of funds. One temporary TL staff has been utilized for fingerprints since July 1.

AUG 2018

An equivalent of 2 additional FTE are assigned to this work. In May of 2018, the Division created the Office of Background Processing & Security. One TL staff has been dedicated to fingerprints, and 1 FTE has been reassigned to the new office.

**2) Achieve production level of 6,800 background screening actions per month.**

OCT 2017

9,519 Background screenings have been processed July - Sept 2017. During this quarter, .5 FTE has been out of the office on FMLA. Also, when the original goal of 6,800 was proposed the Bureaus did not realize that some background checks were being counted twice for ACS and CPS checks, and OIG counts were included in our original number. We propose changing the goal to 4,000 actions per month.

AUG 2018

54,562 determinations were completed for FY 2018. This is equivalent to 4,546 actions per month. See October 31, 2017 for revised goal