For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AS A REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSURE AS A PHYSICAL THERAPIST OR A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AS A REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSURE AS A PHYSICAL THERAPIST OR A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-93-303(b), concerning the licensing requirements for a physical therapist, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(A) Apply to the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(B) The criminal background check shall conform to the applicable federal standards, as existing on January 1, 2019, and shall include the taking of fingerprints.

(C) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board and be responsible to the Department of Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.

(D) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the
Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police shall forward to the board all information obtained concerning the commission by the applicant of any offense listed.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-93-304(b), concerning the licensing requirements of a physical therapist assistant, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(6)(A) Apply to the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(B) The criminal background check shall conform to the applicable federal standards, as existing on January 1, 2019, and shall include the taking of fingerprints.

(C) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy and be responsible to the Department of Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.

(D) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police shall forward to the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy all information obtained concerning the commission by the applicant of any offense listed.

/s/Boyd

APPROVED: 3/5/19