For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND LAWS CONCERNING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR NURSING LICENSURE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND LAWS CONCERNING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR NURSING LICENSURE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-312, concerning criminal background checks for licensing of nurses, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(m)(1) The board may participate at the state and federal level in programs that provide notification of an arrest subsequent to an initial background check that is conducted through available governmental systems.

(2) The board may submit an applicant’s fingerprints to the federal Next Generation Identification system.

(3) The fingerprints may be searched by future submissions to the Next Generation Identification system, including latent fingerprint searches.

(4) An applicant enrolled in the Next Generation Identification system is not required to re-fingerprint when a subsequent request for a state or federal criminal history background check is required if:

(A) A legible set of the applicant’s fingerprints are obtained when the applicant enrolls in the Next Generation Identification system; and
(B) The applicant is subject to the Rap Back service of the Next Generation Identification system.

(n) The Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may maintain fingerprints in the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

/s/K. Hammer

APPROVED: 4/1/19