



## **SB25-146 Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Record Checks**

Senator Rich | Senator Michaelson Jenet | Rep. Hartsook | Rep. Lukens

### **Summary**

The FBI's comprehensive criminal history database can only be accessed through the CBI in Colorado and only after the FBI has approved the process defined in state statute. This bill aligns numerous Colorado statutes with the updated FBI requirements to ensure fingerprint-based criminal record checks can be completed in the state.

### **Background**

The state legislature has passed numerous bills and compacts over the last four years that have included a fingerprint-based criminal history record check as a requirement to obtain certain licenses, certifications, or registrations. Recently the FBI has notified the CBI that many of these statutes do not meet their criteria and that the background checks will not be processed. This bill aligns already existing background check processes with the appropriate language to facilitate national criminal history checks.

Some of the affected occupations include:

- Licensed counselors
- Social workers
- Certified midwives
- Audiologists
- Speech-language pathologists
- Occupational therapists
- Physician assistants
- Dental hygienists
- Cremationists
- Mortuary science practitioner

Additionally, this bill creates an umbrella policy that allows local municipalities to create a policy or ordinance that requires a criminal history record check for a local business.

**This bill does not create any new background checks or remove that requirement for any of the impacted licenses, certifications, or registrations.**

### **Request**

Align the current statutes requiring criminal history record checks to with the FBI's requirements for obtaining a fingerprint-based criminal history check.



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public Safety

### **Bottom Line**

Without these adjustments, the FBI will not approve the background checks in statutes with insufficient language. Aligning these statutes prioritizes public safety by ensuring that all affected applicants have successfully passed a fingerprint-based criminal history record check at the state and national level.