

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 339

BY SENATOR REESE

GAMING. Provides relative to criminal background checks in the gaming industry. (8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:587(C), R.S. 27:15(B)(1), and R.S. 47:9065(B) and to enact R.S. 4:147.3 and 705.1, R.S. 27:20.1, and R.S.47:9065(C) and (D), relative to background checks for entities associated with gaming; to provide for the authority to obtain criminal history record information; to provide for the duty to provide information; to provide for the authority and responsibilities of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board; to provide for criminal background investigations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 4:147.3 and 705.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§147.3. Authority to obtain criminal history record information**

**A. The legislature hereby finds and declares that it is vitally important to the public safety, interest, and welfare of the state to protect Louisiana residents and their residences, businesses, and other property, as well as visitors to the state, by reasonably regulating the licensing of persons participating in the horse racing industry in the state.**

**B. As used in this Section:**

1           **(1) "Bureau" means the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and**  
2           **Information of the office of state police within the Department of Public Safety**  
3           **and Corrections.**

4           **(2) "Commission" means the Louisiana State Racing Commission.**

5           **(3) "Criminal history record information" means all state records of**  
6           **arrest, prosecution, and conviction, including those that have been expunged or**  
7           **dismissed pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 893 and 894, and**  
8           **national records which include fingerprints of the applicant and other**  
9           **identifying information, if so requested by the commission.**

10           **(4) "FBI" means the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States**  
11           **Department of Justice.**

12           **(5) "Licensee" means any person, partnership, corporation, or business**  
13           **entity receiving a license, permit, or privilege from the commission to conduct**  
14           **a race meeting or meetings.**

15           **C.(1) Pursuant to this Section, the commission may request and obtain**  
16           **state and national criminal history record information from the bureau and the**  
17           **FBI regarding each applicant.**

18           **(2) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the commission's**  
19           **use of fingerprints shall be for the limited purpose of determining the eligibility**  
20           **of each applicant and conducting directly related matters in accordance with**  
21           **the suitability standards outlined in R.S. 4:150.**

22           **(3) The commission shall be entitled to the criminal history record and**  
23           **identification files of the bureau of any person who is licensed or who is**  
24           **applying to be licensed. Fingerprints and other identifying information of the**  
25           **applicant shall be submitted to the bureau, and the bureau shall, upon request**  
26           **of the commission and after receipt of the fingerprint card and other identifying**  
27           **information from the applicant, make available to the commission all arrest and**  
28           **conviction information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and**  
29           **identification files. In addition, the fingerprints shall be forwarded by the**

1 bureau to the FBI for a national criminal history record check.

2 (4) In accordance with the authority provided for in this Chapter, the  
3 costs of providing the information required by this Section shall be charged by  
4 the bureau, as specified in R.S. 15:587, for furnishing information contained in  
5 the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, including any  
6 additional costs of providing the national criminal history record check, which  
7 pertains to the individual. All costs or fees for furnishing the information may  
8 be imposed on the individual.

9 D. All criminal history record information obtained by the commission  
10 shall be available for review by the Louisiana Department of Justice as part of  
11 an application for a license. The authority of this agency directly related to the  
12 issuance of licenses is provided for in R.S. 4:146.

13 \* \* \*

14 §705.1. Authority to obtain criminal history record information

15 A. The legislature hereby finds and declares that it is vitally important  
16 to the public safety, interest, and welfare of the state to protect Louisiana  
17 residents and their residences, businesses, and other property, as well as visitors  
18 to the state, by reasonably regulating the licensing of persons performing  
19 charitable gaming activity in the state.

20 B. As used in this Section:

21 (1) "Bureau" means the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and  
22 Information of the office of state police within the Department of Public Safety  
23 and Corrections.

24 (2) "Criminal history record information" means all state records of  
25 arrest, prosecution, and conviction, including those that have been expunged or  
26 dismissed pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 893 and 894, and  
27 national records which include fingerprints of the applicant and other  
28 identifying information, if so requested by the office.

29 (3) "FBI" means the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States

1           Department of Justice.

2                   (4) "Licensee" means any person applying for a license with the office.

3                   (5) "Office" means the Louisiana office of charitable gaming.

4                   C.(1) Pursuant to this Section, the office may request and obtain state  
5                   and national criminal history record information from the bureau and the FBI  
6                   regarding each applicant.

7                   (2) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the office's use of  
8                   fingerprints shall be for the limited purpose of determining the eligibility of  
9                   each applicant and conducting directly related matters in accordance with the  
10                   suitability standards outlined in R.S. 4:704, 705, 708, and 718.

11                   (3) The office shall be entitled to the criminal history record and  
12                   identification files of the bureau of any person who is licensed or who is  
13                   applying to be licensed. Fingerprints and other identifying information of the  
14                   applicant shall be submitted to the bureau, and the bureau shall, upon request  
15                   of the office and after receipt of the fingerprint card and other identifying  
16                   information from the applicant, make available to the office all arrest and  
17                   conviction information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and  
18                   identification files. In addition, the fingerprints shall be forwarded by the  
19                   bureau to the FBI for a national criminal history record check.

20                   (4) In accordance with the authority provided for in this Chapter, the  
21                   costs of providing the information required by this Section shall be charged by  
22                   the bureau, as specified in R.S. 15:587, for furnishing information contained in  
23                   the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, including any  
24                   additional costs of providing the national criminal history record check, which  
25                   pertains to the individual. All costs or fees for furnishing the information may  
26                   be imposed on the individual.

27                   D. All criminal history record information obtained by the office shall  
28                   be available for review by the Louisiana Department of Justice as part of an  
29                   application for a license. The authority of this agency directly related to the



1           **and 708.**

2                   **(d) The Louisiana State Racing Commission, for the purpose of**  
3                   **determining suitability for licensing under the provisions as provided for in R.S.**  
4                   **4:147.3 and 150.**

5                   **(2) Each applicant shall be fingerprinted, and the fingerprints and any**  
6                   **other identification information as may be required** shall be forwarded to **the**  
7                   **bureau and** the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a **state and** national criminal  
8                   history record check.

9   \*       \*       \*

10                   Section 3. R.S. 27:15(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 27:20.1 is  
11                   hereby enacted to read as follows:

12                   §15. Board's authority; responsibilities

13   \*       \*       \*

14                   B. The board shall:

15                   (1)**(a)** Have all regulatory authority, control, and jurisdiction, including  
16                   investigation, licensing, and enforcement, and all power incidental or necessary to  
17                   such regulatory authority, control, and jurisdiction over all aspects of gaming  
18                   activities and operations as authorized pursuant to the provisions of the Louisiana  
19                   Riverboat Economic Development and Gaming Control Act, the Louisiana  
20                   Economic Development and Gaming Corporation Act, the Video Draw Poker  
21                   Devices Control Law, the Louisiana Fantasy Sports Contests Act, and the Louisiana  
22                   Sports Wagering Act, except as otherwise specified in this Title. Further, the board  
23                   shall have all regulatory, enforcement, and supervisory authority which exists in the  
24                   state as to gaming on Indian lands as provided in the provisions of Act No. 888 of  
25                   the 1990 Regular Session of the Legislature and Act No. 817 of the 1993 Regular  
26                   Session of the Legislature.

27                   **(b) In exercising its authority, the board shall require every applicant for**  
28                   **a license, permit, and any person required to be found suitable under this Title,**  
29                   **to submit a full set of fingerprints to the division for the purpose of a**

1 fingerprint-based national criminal history record check. The division shall  
2 forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national  
3 criminal history check. The board and the division shall be the designated  
4 recipients of the results of the national criminal history record check.

5 \* \* \*

6 §20.1. Authority to obtain criminal history record information

7 A. The legislature hereby finds and declares that it is vitally important  
8 to the public safety, interest, and welfare to this state to protect Louisiana  
9 residents and their residences, businesses, and other property, as well as visitors  
10 to the state, by reasonably regulating the permitting, licensing, or employment  
11 of persons performing gaming activity in the state.

12 B. As used in this Section:

13 (1) "Bureau" means the Louisiana Bureau of Criminal Identification and  
14 Information of the office of state police within the Department of Public Safety  
15 and Corrections.

16 (2) "Criminal history record information" means all state records of  
17 arrest, prosecution, and conviction, including those that have been expunged or  
18 dismissed pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure Articles 893 and 894, and  
19 national records which include fingerprints of the applicant and other  
20 identifying information, if so requested by the board.

21 (3) "Division" means the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and  
22 Corrections, office of state police, gaming enforcement division.

23 (4) "FBI" means the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States  
24 Department of Justice.

25 (5) "Permit" means any permit, license, or authorization, or associated  
26 application, issued pursuant to the provisions of this Title.

27 (6) "Permittee" means any person who is issued or applying for a permit  
28 pursuant to the provisions of this Title.

29 C.(1) Pursuant to this Section, the division may request and obtain state

1 and national criminal history record information from the bureau and the FBI  
2 regarding each applicant.

3 (2) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the division's use  
4 of fingerprints shall be for the limited purpose of determining the eligibility of  
5 each applicant and conducting directly related matters in accordance with the  
6 suitability standards outlined in R.S. 27:28, 234, 235, 306, 427, and 604.

7 (3) The division shall be entitled to the criminal history record and  
8 identification files of the bureau of any person who is permitted, licensed, or  
9 employed, or who is applying to be permitted, licensed, or employed.  
10 Fingerprints and other identifying information of the applicant shall be  
11 submitted to the bureau, and the bureau shall, upon request of the board and  
12 after receipt of the fingerprint card and other identifying information from the  
13 applicant, make available to the division all arrest and conviction information  
14 contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files. In  
15 addition, the fingerprints shall be forwarded by the bureau to the FBI for a  
16 national criminal history record check.

17 (4) In accordance with the authority provided for in this Chapter, the  
18 costs of providing the information required by this Section shall be charged by  
19 the bureau, as specified in R.S. 15:587, for furnishing information contained in  
20 the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, including any  
21 additional costs of providing the national criminal history record check, which  
22 pertains to the individual. All costs or fees for furnishing the information may  
23 be imposed on the individual.

24 D. All criminal history record information obtained by the division shall  
25 be available for review by the board and the Louisiana Department of Justice  
26 as part of an application for a license, permit, or employment. The authority of  
27 this agency directly related to the issuance of licenses or permits is provided for  
28 in R.S. 27:15 and 19.

29 E.(1) Criminal history record information shall be considered



1 all potential retailers and investigate all potential employees of the corporation not  
2 referred to in Subsection A of this Section or not investigated by the office of state  
3 police.

4 (2) Supervise ticket validation and lottery drawings.

5 (3) Inspect at times determined solely by the division the facilities of any  
6 vendor in order to determine the integrity of the vendor's product and in order to  
7 determine whether the vendor is in compliance with its contract.

8 (4) Report any suspected violations of this Subtitle to the appropriate district  
9 attorney, or the attorney general and law enforcement agencies.

10 (5) Upon request, provide assistance to any district attorney, the attorney  
11 general, or law enforcement agency investigating a violation of this Subtitle.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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#### DIGEST

SB 339 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Reese

Proposed law provides for the authority of the La. State Racing Commission (LSRC) to obtain criminal history record information for persons participating in the horse racing industry.

Proposed law provides for the authority of the office of charitable gaming (OCG) to obtain criminal history record information for persons performing charitable gaming in La.

Proposed law provides for the authority of the La. Gaming Control Bd. (LGCB) to obtain criminal history record information for the permitting, licensing, or employment of persons performing gaming activity in La.

The following proposed laws apply to criminal history record information sought by the LSRC, OCG, and the LGCB.

Proposed law authorizes the LSRC, OCG, and the LGCB to request and obtain state and national criminal history record information from the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information (bureau) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) regarding each applicant.

Proposed law limits the use of fingerprints for the purpose of determining the eligibility of each applicant and as provided by present law.

Proposed law requires that the LSRC, OCG, and the LGCB be entitled to the criminal history record and identification files of the bureau of any person who is licensed or who is applying to be licensed.

Proposed law requires that fingerprints and other identifying information of the applicant be

submitted to the bureau, and the bureau, upon request, and after receipt of the fingerprint card and other identifying information from the applicant, make available to the requesting agency all arrest and conviction information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files. Proposed law further requires the fingerprints be forwarded by the bureau to the FBI for a national criminal history record check.

Proposed law requires that the costs of providing the information be charged by the bureau for furnishing information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, including any additional costs of providing the national criminal history record check, which pertains to the individual. Proposed law authorizes all costs or fees for furnishing the information be imposed on the individual.

Proposed law requires that all criminal history record information obtained by the LSRC, OCG, or the LGCB be available for review by the La. Department of Justice.

Present law requires the bureau, upon request and after receipt of fingerprint cards or other identifying information from the office of state police (LSP), to make available to the state police gaming division, the LGCB, the La. Lottery Corporation (LLC), the OCG, and the LSRC, information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, which pertains to an applicant or prospective employee of any of them.

Proposed law retains present law and makes technical changes.

Proposed law requires the LGCB to require every applicant for a license, permit, and any person required to be found suitable under present law, to submit a full set of fingerprints to the LSP for the purpose of a fingerprint-based national criminal history record check. Proposed law further requires the LSP to forward the fingerprints to the FBI for a national criminal history check. Proposed law designates the LGCB and the LSP as the designated recipients of the results of the national criminal history record check.

Present law requires the LSP to perform full criminal background investigations on all potential vendors and potential employees of the corporation at the level of division director and above, and at any level within the division of security, and, as required by the La. Lottery Bd. of Directors, and on any other employee of the LLC.

The following proposed laws apply to criminal history record information sought by the LLC.

Proposed law requires the LSP to submit the names of applicants for licensure as vendors or retailers and potential employees to the bureau for criminal background checks.

Proposed law requires the bureau to survey its criminal history records and identification files and make a simultaneous request to the FBI for similar information from other jurisdictions to search for criminal history records. Proposed law authorizes the bureau to charge the LLC or the applicant a reasonable processing fee for conducting and reporting on any such search.

Proposed law authorizes the LSP to share the results of the criminal history record information with the LLC, and to use the information to determine eligibility.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 15:587(C), R.S. 27:15(B)(1), and 47:9065(B); adds R.S. 4:147.3 and 705.1, 27:20.1, and R.S. 47:9065(C) and (D))