

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 352

BY REPRESENTATIVE LARVADAIN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EARLY CHILDHOOD: Provides relative to background checks for certain early childhood workers

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:8.9(A)(1) and to enact R.S. 17:8.9(A)(6), relative to criminal  
3 background checks for persons with an early childhood ancillary certificate; to  
4 provide for exceptions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:8.9(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:8.9(A)(6)  
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §8.9. Criminal history reviews for certification, teaching permits, or teacher  
10 authorizations; state repository

11 A.(1) ~~Beginning January 1, 2025, any~~ Any applicant for an initial educator  
12 credential or teaching authorization issued by the State Board of Elementary and  
13 Secondary Education through the state Department of Education shall undergo a  
14 criminal history record check as provided in this Section.

15 \* \* \*

16 (6) An early childhood ancillary certificate as provided for in rules and  
17 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
18 through the Administrative Procedure Act shall not require a criminal history record  
19 check as provided for in this Section. An applicant for issuance or renewal of such

1 certificate may request such check if his certificate was previously denied,  
2 suspended, or revoked.

3 \* \* \*

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB 352 Engrossed

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Larvadain

**Abstract:** Provides exception for second criminal history check for certain early childhood workers.

Present law (R.S. 15:587.1(C) and R.S. 17:407.42 and 407.71) requires criminal history checks for employment purposes. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 17:8.9) requires criminal history checks for certain credentials and authorization issued by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education through the state Dept. of Education. Proposed law excepts an early childhood ancillary certificate from requiring a criminal history check.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:8.9(A)(1); Adds R.S. 17:8.9(A)(6))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Remove references to an educator credential and teaching authorization.