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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

Introduced By: Senators Goodwin, and Miller

Date Introduced: March 05, 2014

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 45-2 of the General Laws entitled "General Powers" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **45-2-3.4. Background checks. -- (a) Any person seeking employment as a firefighter**  
4 **with any city or town in Rhode Island shall undergo a national and state criminal background**  
5 **check to be initiated prior to, or within one week of, employment after receiving a conditional**  
6 **offer of employment.**

7           **(b) The applicant shall apply to the bureau of criminal identification (BCI), department of**  
8 **attorney general, state police, or the local police department where he or she resides, for a**  
9 **national and state criminal records check. Fingerprinting shall be required. The applicant shall be**  
10 **responsible for the cost of conducting the national and state criminal records check.**

11           **(c) At the completion of the criminal background check required by this section, the**  
12 **attorney general, state police, or the local police department shall promptly destroy the fingerprint**  
13 **record of the applicant.**

14           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

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1           This act would require all persons seeking employment as a firefighter to undergo a state  
2 and national criminal background check at the applicant's expense, prior to being hired. The act  
3 would also require fingerprinting of the applicant, which fingerprinting records would be  
4 destroyed after completion of the background check.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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