

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 6, 2016 to April 29, 2016

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 29, 2016

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2016

JOINT STUDY ORDERS

**JOINT STUDY ORDER TO ESTABLISH
A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY
BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR CHILD
CARE FACILITIES AND PROVIDERS**

H.P. 1167

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Working Group to Study Background Checks for Child Care Facilities and Providers is established as follows.

1. Working Group to Study Background Checks for Child Care Facilities and Providers established. The Working Group to Study Background Checks for Child Care Facilities and Providers, referred to in this order as "the working group," is established.

2. Membership. The working group consists of 5 members appointed as follows:

A. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature; and

B. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature.

The members appointed must serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs or the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

3. Working group chairs. The first-named Senator is the Senate chair of the working group and the first-named member of the House is the House chair of the working group.

4. Appointments; convening of working group. All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following passage of this order. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been made. When the appointment of all members has been completed, the chairs of the working group shall call and convene the first meeting of the working group. If 30 days or more after the passage of this order a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the

chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the working group to meet and conduct its business.

5. Duties. The working group shall review the requirements for national criminal history background checks based on fingerprints as required by the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. The working group shall invite the participation of and comments from stakeholders, including but not limited to child care facilities, family child care providers and parents. The working group shall invite the participation of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Safety, State Bureau of Identification. The working group shall recommend how the required background checks should be incorporated into law in this State, including but not limited to who should be subject to the background checks, whether the law should provide for contingent or provisional hiring while background checks are pending, who is responsible for the payment of costs associated with the background checks and how the Background Check Center within the Department of Health and Human Services can help coordinate and streamline the background check process for child care facilities and providers. The working group shall explore options, including the application of federal grant funds, to defray all or some of the initial and ongoing additional costs.

6. Staff assistance. The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the working group.

7. Report. No later than November 2, 2016, the working group shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

**Passed by the House of Representatives April 14,
2016 and the Senate April 14, 2016.**
