



HB 1903 implementation update

House Early Learning & Human Services Committee

January 10, 2012



Requirements of HB 1903

- ✓ Proposal to coordinate background checks between DEL, OSPI, ESDs
- ✓ Portable background check registry



Proposal for coordinated background checks

- ✓ HB 1903: DEL, OSPI, ESDs develop proposal to streamline background checks
- ✓ Due to Legislature Dec. 15, 2011

www.del.wa.gov/government/legislature/reports.aspx



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The issues

- ✓ Employees who work for school districts in child care settings must undergo two background checks
 - OSPI/ESD: Criminal background check
 - DEL/DSHS: Child abuse/neglect check by DEL staff, additional searches by DSHS Background Check Central Unit
- ✓ DEL and OSPI use different systems: no way to know number of duplicate checks



Recommendation

- ✓ Legislation to share background check information between OSPI/ESDs, DEL, WSP, DSHS
- ✓ Secure FBI approval for sharing federal criminal history records
- ✓ DEL and OSPI create electronic method for tracking, sharing information



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Portable background check registry

- ✓ Individual-based portable background check registry by July 1, 2012
- ✓ Three-year clearance
- ✓ Increased safety: *All* new applicants undergo fingerprinting beginning July 1, 2012
 - Currently only those living in WA fewer than three years

Portable background check registry, cont'd

- ✓ All licensed providers were required to pay one-time \$45 fee to build the registry (due Sept. 1, 2011)
- ✓ Registry being built as module in MERIT
- ✓ Launching by July 1, 2012
- ✓ Updating rules to reflect safety assurances:
 - Redetermination if complaint received
 - Self-reporting requirements