



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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January 4, 2017

Honorable Steve Henson
State Senator
121-B State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
Senate Bill (LC 41 0858)

Dear Senator Henson:

This bill would require the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) to create and maintain a mobile phone application allowing any seller of a firearm to determine if the buyer passes or fails a status check under the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). The legislation stipulates that the voluntary check only include a pass or fail determination.

The bill would have no additional state cost because creation and support of the mobile application would be performed by existing personnel. GBI officials anticipate using existing IT personnel to create the app and an existing criminal justice training specialist for part-time ongoing support.

GBI officials noted that because Georgia is no longer a state point of contact for NICS background checks, it must obtain FBI permission to access the system. In addition, use of the app must be limited to federally licensed firearms dealers because private sellers may not access NICS background checks. GBI would therefore need to maintain a list of dealers to ensure access is properly restricted. Finally, GCIC personnel noted that NICS E-Check, while not available as an *app*, does have a mobile option for use on a cell phone or other handheld device.

Sincerely,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Teresa A. MacCartney, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/TAM/bc