



## DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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**Greg S. Griffin**  
STATE AUDITOR  
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January 16, 2020

Honorable Zahra Karinshak  
State Senator  
314-A Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note  
Senate Bill (LC 41 2170)

Dear Senator Karinshak:

This bill would prevent transfer of firearms, unless otherwise exempted, between individuals without use of a firearms dealer to conduct background checks on the transferee. If the transferee passes the background check and all legal requirements to complete the transfer are met, the dealer may deliver the firearm to the transferee. If the transferee fails the background check or does not meet all other legal requirements, the dealer must decline to complete the transfer and shall return the firearm to the transferor. The dealer may first conduct a background check to ensure the transferor is not prohibited from receiving or possessing the firearm.

The bill will have no fiscal impact on the state. Under current law, firearm background checks do not require processing by the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI). Instead, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Instant Background Check System (NICS) program serves as the direct point of contact for firearm background checks. Accordingly, GBI does not foresee any programmatic or fiscal impact as a result of this bill.

Sincerely,

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

Kelly Farr, Director  
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/KF/jw