

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 494 (SB 339)

2026 Regular Session

Reese

New law authorizes the La. State Racing Commission (LSRC) to obtain criminal history record information for persons participating in the horse racing industry; authorizes the office of charitable gaming (OCG) to obtain criminal history record information for persons performing charitable gaming in La.; and authorizes the La. Gaming Control Bd. (LGCB) to obtain criminal history record information for the permitting, licensing, or employment of persons performing gaming activity in La.

New law authorizes the LSRC, OCG, and the LGCB to request and obtain state and national criminal history record information from the La. Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information (bureau) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) regarding each applicant.

New law limits the use of fingerprints for the purpose of determining the eligibility of each applicant and as provided by existing law.

New law requires that the LSRC, OCG, and the LGCB be entitled to the criminal history record and identification files of the bureau of any person who is licensed or who is applying to be licensed.

New law requires that fingerprints and other identifying information of the applicant be submitted to the bureau, and the bureau, upon request, and after receipt of the fingerprint card and other identifying information from the applicant, make available to the requesting agency all arrest and conviction information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files. New law further requires the fingerprints be forwarded by the bureau to the FBI for a national criminal history record check.

New law requires that the costs of providing the information be charged by the bureau for furnishing information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, including any additional costs of providing the national criminal history record check, which pertains to the individual. New law authorizes all costs or fees for furnishing the information be imposed on the individual.

New law requires that all criminal history record information obtained by the LSRC, OCG, or the LGCB be available for review by the La. Department of Justice.

New law retains provisions in existing law requiring the bureau, upon request and after receipt of fingerprint cards or other identifying information from the office of state police (LSP), to make available to the state police gaming division, the LGCB, the La. Lottery Corporation (LLC), the OCG, and the LSRC, information contained in the bureau's criminal history record and identification files, which pertains to an applicant or prospective employee of any of them.

New law requires the LGCB to require every applicant for a license, permit, and any person required to be found suitable under existing law, to submit a full set of fingerprints to the LSP for the purpose of a fingerprint-based national criminal history record check. New law further requires the LSP to forward the fingerprints to the FBI for a national criminal history check. New law designates the LGCB and the LSP as the designated recipients of the results of the national criminal history record check.

Existing law requires the LSP to perform full criminal background investigations on all potential vendors and potential employees of the corporation at the level of division director and above, and at any level within the division of security, and, as required by the La. Lottery Bd. of Directors, and on any other employee of the LLC.

New law requires the LSP to submit the names of applicants for licensure as vendors or retailers and potential employees to the bureau for criminal background checks.

New law requires the bureau to survey its criminal history records and identification files and make a simultaneous request to the FBI for similar information from other jurisdictions to search for criminal history records. New law authorizes the bureau to charge the LLC or the applicant a reasonable processing fee for conducting and reporting on any such search.

New law authorizes the LSP to share the results of the criminal history record information with the LLC, and to use the information to determine eligibility.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 15:587(C), R.S. 27:15(B)(1), and 47:9065(B); adds R.S. 4:147.3 and 705.1, 27:20.1, and R.S. 47:9065(C) and (D))