

Senate Bill No. 1774

An act relating to persons appointed or employed to work with children; requiring that each state or governmental subdivision search the records of sexual predators and sexual offenders maintained by the Department of Law Enforcement before appointing or employing a person to work or volunteer at a park, playground, day care center, or other place where children regularly congregate; authorizing use of the department's Internet site to conduct the search; providing an exception; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Search of registration information regarding sexual predators and sexual offenders required prior to appointment or employment.—A state agency or governmental subdivision, prior to making any decision to appoint or employ a person to work, whether for compensation or as a volunteer, at any park, playground, day care center, or other place where children regularly congregate, must conduct a search of that person's name or other identifying information against the registration information regarding sexual predators and sexual offenders maintained by the Department of Law Enforcement under section 943.043, Florida Statutes. The agency or governmental subdivision may conduct the search using the Internet site maintained by the Department of Law Enforcement. This section does not apply to those positions or appointments within a state agency or governmental subdivision for which a state and national criminal history background check is conducted.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 21, 2004.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 21, 2004.