## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## State of Illinois

## 2013 and 2014

#### HB2978

by Rep. Camille Y. Lilly

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

See Index

Makes changes in Sections concerning criminal history records checks and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database. With respect to employees of person or firms holding contracts with more than one school district, adds a reference to the Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database. Removes provisions concerning fingerprint-based criminal history records checks and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database for student teachers in the public schools. Provides instead that, beginning on January 1, 2014, the provisions of these Sections shall apply to all student teachers assigned to public schools or nonpublic schools recognized by the State Board of Education. Provides that student teachers must undergo a Department of State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint-based criminal history records check, with authorization to conduct the criminal history records check furnished by the student teacher to the school to which the student teacher is assigned. Provides that the Department of State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall furnish records of convictions, until expunded, to the president of the school board for the school district that requested the check or the chief administrative officer of the nonpublic school that requested the check. Provides that the student teacher shall be required to pay all fees associated with conducting the criminal history records check. Provides that results of the check must also be furnished to the higher education institution where the student teacher is enrolled. Provides that no one may begin student teaching until results have been returned.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

HB2978

1

AN ACT concerning education.

# 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
10-21.9 and 34-18.5 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-21.9)

Sec. 10-21.9. Criminal history records checks and checks of
the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Murderer and
Violent Offender Against Youth Database.

(a) Certified and noncertified applicants for employment 10 with a school district, except school bus driver applicants, 11 are required as a condition of employment to authorize a 12 fingerprint-based criminal history records check to determine 13 14 if such applicants have been convicted of any of the enumerated criminal or drug offenses in subsection (c) of this Section or 15 16 have been convicted, within 7 years of the application for 17 employment with the school district, of any other felony under the laws of this State or of any offense committed or attempted 18 19 in any other state or against the laws of the United States 20 that, if committed or attempted in this State, would have been 21 punishable as a felony under the laws of this State. 22 Authorization for the check shall be furnished by the applicant to the school district, except that if the applicant is a 23

substitute teacher seeking employment in more than one school 1 2 district, a teacher seeking concurrent part-time employment 3 positions with more than one school district (as a reading specialist, special education teacher or otherwise), or an 4 5 educational support personnel employee seeking employment positions with more than one district, any such district may 6 7 require the applicant to furnish authorization for the check to the regional superintendent of the educational service region 8 9 in which are located the school districts in which the 10 applicant is seeking employment as a substitute or concurrent 11 part-time teacher or concurrent educational support personnel 12 employee. Upon receipt of this authorization, the school 13 district or the appropriate regional superintendent, as the 14 case may be, shall submit the applicant's name, sex, race, date 15 of birth, social security number, fingerprint images, and other 16 identifiers, as prescribed by the Department of State Police, 17 to the Department. The regional superintendent submitting the requisite information to the Department of State Police shall 18 19 promptly notify the school districts in which the applicant is seeking employment as a substitute or concurrent part-time 20 teacher or concurrent educational support personnel employee 21 22 that the check of the applicant has been requested. The 23 Department of State Police and the Federal Bureau of 24 Investigation shall furnish, pursuant to a fingerprint-based 25 criminal history records check, records of convictions, until 26 expunded, to the president of the school board for the school

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district that requested the check, or to the 1 regional 2 superintendent who requested the check. The Department shall 3 charge the school district or the appropriate regional superintendent a fee for conducting such check, which fee shall 4 5 be deposited in the State Police Services Fund and shall not 6 exceed the cost of the inquiry; and the applicant shall not be 7 charged a fee for such check by the school district or by the 8 regional superintendent, except that those applicants seeking 9 employment as a substitute teacher with a school district may 10 be charged a fee not to exceed the cost of the inquiry. Subject 11 to appropriations for these purposes, the State Superintendent of Education shall reimburse school districts and regional 12 13 superintendents for fees paid to obtain criminal history records checks under this Section. 14

15 (a-5) The school district or regional superintendent shall 16 further perform a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database, 17 as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law, 18 for each applicant.

19 (a-6) The school district or regional superintendent shall 20 further perform a check of the Statewide Murderer and Violent 21 Offender Against Youth Database, as authorized by the Murderer 22 and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law, 23 for each applicant.

(b) Any information concerning the record of convictions
 obtained by the president of the school board or the regional
 superintendent shall be confidential and may only be

transmitted to the superintendent of the school district or his 1 2 designee, the appropriate regional superintendent if the check was requested by the school district, the presidents of the 3 appropriate school boards if the check was requested from the 4 5 Department of State Police by the regional superintendent, the 6 of State Superintendent Education, the State Teacher 7 Certification Board, any other person necessary to the decision 8 of hiring the applicant for employment, or for clarification 9 purposes the Department of State Police or Statewide Sex 10 Offender Database, or both. A copy of the record of convictions 11 obtained from the Department of State Police shall be provided 12 to the applicant for employment. Upon the check of the 13 Statewide Sex Offender Database, the school district or 14 regional superintendent shall notify an applicant as to whether 15 or not the applicant has been identified in the Database as a 16 sex offender. If a check of an applicant for employment as a 17 substitute or concurrent part-time teacher or concurrent educational support personnel employee in more than one school 18 19 district was requested by the regional superintendent, and the 20 Department of State Police upon a check ascertains that the applicant has not been convicted of any of the enumerated 21 22 criminal or drug offenses in subsection (c) or has not been 23 convicted, within 7 years of the application for employment with the school district, of any other felony under the laws of 24 25 this State or of any offense committed or attempted in any 26 other state or against the laws of the United States that, if

committed or attempted in this State, would have been 1 2 punishable as a felony under the laws of this State and so 3 notifies the regional superintendent and if the regional superintendent upon a check ascertains that the applicant has 4 5 not been identified in the Sex Offender Database as a sex 6 offender, then the regional superintendent shall issue to the 7 applicant a certificate evidencing that as of the date 8 specified by the Department of State Police the applicant has 9 not been convicted of any of the enumerated criminal or drug 10 offenses in subsection (c) or has not been convicted, within 7 11 years of the application for employment with the school 12 district, of any other felony under the laws of this State or 13 of any offense committed or attempted in any other state or 14 against the laws of the United States that, if committed or 15 attempted in this State, would have been punishable as a felony 16 under the laws of this State and evidencing that as of the date 17 that the regional superintendent conducted a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database, the applicant has not been 18 identified in the Database as a sex offender. The school board 19 20 of any school district may rely on the certificate issued by 21 any regional superintendent to that substitute teacher, 22 concurrent part-time teacher, or concurrent educational 23 support personnel employee or may initiate its own criminal 24 history records check of the applicant through the Department 25 of State Police and its own check of the Statewide Sex Offender 26 Database as provided in subsection (a). Any person who releases

any confidential information concerning any criminal
 convictions of an applicant for employment shall be guilty of a
 Class A misdemeanor, unless the release of such information is
 authorized by this Section.

5 (c) No school board shall knowingly employ a person who has 6 been convicted of any offense that would subject him or her to 7 license suspension or revocation pursuant to Section 21B-80 of 8 this Code. Further, no school board shall knowingly employ a 9 person who has been found to be the perpetrator of sexual or 10 physical abuse of any minor under 18 years of age pursuant to 11 proceedings under Article II of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

12 (d) No school board shall knowingly employ a person for 13 whom a criminal history records check and a Statewide Sex 14 Offender Database check has not been initiated.

(e) Upon receipt of the record of a conviction of or a finding of child abuse by a holder of any certificate issued pursuant to Article 21 or Section 34-8.1 or 34-83 of the School Code, the State Superintendent of Education may initiate certificate suspension and revocation proceedings as authorized by law.

(e-5) The superintendent of the employing school board shall, in writing, notify the State Superintendent of Education and the applicable regional superintendent of schools of any certificate holder whom he or she has reasonable cause to believe has committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect with the result of making a child an abused child or a

neglected child, as defined in Section 3 of the Abused and 1 2 Neglected Child Reporting Act, and that act resulted in the certificate holder's dismissal or resignation from the school 3 district. This notification must be submitted within 30 days 4 5 after the dismissal or resignation. The certificate holder must also be contemporaneously sent a copy of the notice by the 6 superintendent. All correspondence, documentation, and other 7 8 information so received by the regional superintendent of 9 schools, the State Superintendent of Education, the State Board 10 of Education, or the State Teacher Certification Board under 11 this subsection (e-5) is confidential and must not be disclosed 12 to third parties, except (i) as necessary for the State 13 Superintendent of Education or his or her designee to investigate and prosecute pursuant to Article 21 of this Code, 14 (ii) pursuant to a court order, (iii) for disclosure to the 15 16 certificate holder or his or her representative, or (iv) as 17 otherwise provided in this Article and provided that any such information admitted into evidence in a hearing is exempt from 18 this confidentiality and non-disclosure requirement. Except 19 20 for an act of willful or wanton misconduct, any superintendent who provides notification as required in this subsection (e-5) 21 22 shall have immunity from any liability, whether civil or 23 criminal or that otherwise might result by reason of such 24 action.

(f) After January 1, 1990 the provisions of this Sectionshall apply to all employees of persons or firms holding

contracts with any school district including, but not limited 1 2 to, food service workers, school bus drivers and other transportation employees, who have direct, daily contact with 3 4 the pupils of any school in such district. For purposes of 5 criminal history records checks and checks of the Statewide Sex 6 Offender Database on employees of persons or firms holding 7 contracts with more than one school district and assigned to more than one school district, the regional superintendent of 8 9 the educational service region in which the contracting school 10 districts are located may, at the request of any such school 11 district, be responsible for receiving the authorization for a 12 criminal history records check prepared by each such employee 13 and submitting the same to the Department of State Police and for conducting a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database 14 and the Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against 15 Youth Database for each employee. Any information concerning 16 17 the record of conviction and identification as a sex offender of any such employee obtained by the regional superintendent 18 shall be promptly reported to the president of the appropriate 19 20 school board or school boards.

(g) <u>Beginning on January 1, 2014, the provisions of this</u> <u>Section shall apply to all student teachers, as defined by</u> <u>State Board of Education rule, assigned to public schools or</u> <u>nonpublic schools recognized by the State Board pursuant to</u> <u>Section 2-3.250 of this Code. Student teachers must undergo a</u> <u>Department of State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation</u>

1	fingerprint-based criminal history records check.			
2	Authorization to conduct the criminal history records check			
3	must be furnished by the student teacher to the school to which			
4	the student teacher is assigned. The Department of State Police			
5	and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall furnish, pursuant			
6	to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, records			
7	of convictions, until expunged, to the president of the school			
8	board for the school district that requested the check or the			
9	chief administrative officer of the nonpublic school that			
10	requested the check. The Department of State Police shall			
11	charge a fee for conducting the check, which fee must be			
12	deposited into the State Police Services Fund and must not			
13	exceed the cost of the inquiry. The student teacher shall be			
14	required to pay all fees associated with conducting the			
15	criminal history records check, as well as any other			
16	application fees as established by rule including, but not			
17	limited to, the fee established by the Department of State			
18	Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to process			
19	fingerprint-based criminal history records checks. Results of			
20	the check must also be furnished by the school district or			
21	nonpublic school to the higher education institution where the			
22	student teacher is enrolled. No one may begin student teaching			
23	until the results of the criminal history records check have			
24	been returned to the school district or nonpublic school. In			
25	order to student teach in the public schools, a person is			
26	required to authorize a fingerprint based criminal history			

records check and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database 1 2 and Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database prior to participating in any field experiences in the 3 public schools. Authorization for and payment of the costs of 4 5 the checks must be furnished by the student teacher. Results of the checks must be furnished to the higher education 6 7 institution where the student teacher is enrolled and the 8 superintendent of the school district where the student is 9 assigned.

10 (h) Upon request of a school, school district, community 11 college district, or private school, any information obtained 12 by a school district pursuant to subsection (f) of this Section 13 within the last year must be made available to that school, 14 school district, community college district, or private 15 school.

16 (Source: P.A. 96-431, eff. 8-13-09; 96-1452, eff. 8-20-10; 17 96-1489, eff. 1-1-11; 97-154, eff. 1-1-12; 97-248, eff. 1-1-12; 18 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-813, eff. 7-13-12.)

19 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.5) (from Ch. 122, par. 34-18.5)

Sec. 34-18.5. Criminal history records checks and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database.

(a) Certified and noncertified applicants for employment
 with the school district are required as a condition of
 employment to authorize a fingerprint-based criminal history

records check to determine if such applicants have been 1 2 convicted of any of the enumerated criminal or drug offenses in subsection (c) of this Section or have been convicted, within 7 3 years of the application for employment with the school 4 5 district, of any other felony under the laws of this State or of any offense committed or attempted in any other state or 6 7 against the laws of the United States that, if committed or 8 attempted in this State, would have been punishable as a felony 9 under the laws of this State. Authorization for the check shall 10 be furnished by the applicant to the school district, except 11 that if the applicant is a substitute teacher seeking 12 employment in more than one school district, or a teacher 13 seeking concurrent part-time employment positions with more 14 than one school district (as a reading specialist, special 15 education teacher or otherwise), or an educational support 16 personnel employee seeking employment positions with more than 17 one district, any such district may require the applicant to 18 authorization for the check the furnish to regional superintendent of the educational service region in which are 19 20 located the school districts in which the applicant is seeking employment as a substitute or concurrent part-time teacher or 21 22 concurrent educational support personnel employee. Upon 23 receipt of this authorization, the school district or the 24 appropriate regional superintendent, as the case may be, shall 25 submit the applicant's name, sex, race, date of birth, social 26 security number, fingerprint images, and other identifiers, as

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Police, 1 prescribed by the Department of State to the 2 Department. The regional superintendent submitting the requisite information to the Department of State Police shall 3 promptly notify the school districts in which the applicant is 4 5 seeking employment as a substitute or concurrent part-time 6 teacher or concurrent educational support personnel employee 7 that the check of the applicant has been requested. The 8 Department of State Police and the Federal Bureau 9 Investigation shall furnish, pursuant to a fingerprint-based 10 criminal history records check, records of convictions, until 11 expunded, to the president of the school board for the school 12 district that requested the check, or to the regional 13 superintendent who requested the check. The Department shall 14 charge the school district or the appropriate regional 15 superintendent a fee for conducting such check, which fee shall 16 be deposited in the State Police Services Fund and shall not 17 exceed the cost of the inquiry; and the applicant shall not be charged a fee for such check by the school district or by the 18 regional superintendent. Subject to appropriations for these 19 20 purposes, the State Superintendent of Education shall reimburse the school district and regional superintendent for 21 22 fees paid to obtain criminal history records checks under this 23 Section.

(a-5) The school district or regional superintendent shall 24 25 further perform a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database, 26 as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law,

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1 for each applicant.

(a-6) The school district or regional superintendent shall
further perform a check of the Statewide Murderer and Violent
Offender Against Youth Database, as authorized by the Murderer
and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law,
for each applicant.

(b) Any information concerning the record of convictions 7 8 obtained by the president of the board of education or the 9 regional superintendent shall be confidential and may only be 10 transmitted to the general superintendent of the school 11 district or his designee, the appropriate regional 12 superintendent if the check was requested by the board of 13 education for the school district, the presidents of the appropriate board of education or school boards if the check 14 was requested from the Department of State Police by the 15 16 regional superintendent, the State Superintendent of 17 Education, the State Teacher Certification Board or any other person necessary to the decision of hiring the applicant for 18 employment. A copy of the record of convictions obtained from 19 20 the Department of State Police shall be provided to the applicant for employment. Upon the check of the Statewide Sex 21 22 Offender Database, the school district regional or 23 superintendent shall notify an applicant as to whether or not the applicant has been identified in the Database as a sex 24 25 offender. If a check of an applicant for employment as a 26 substitute or concurrent part-time teacher or concurrent

educational support personnel employee in more than one school 1 2 district was requested by the regional superintendent, and the Department of State Police upon a check ascertains that the 3 applicant has not been convicted of any of the enumerated 4 5 criminal or drug offenses in subsection (c) or has not been 6 convicted, within 7 years of the application for employment 7 with the school district, of any other felony under the laws of this State or of any offense committed or attempted in any 8 9 other state or against the laws of the United States that, if 10 committed or attempted in this State, would have been 11 punishable as a felony under the laws of this State and so 12 notifies the regional superintendent and if the regional 13 superintendent upon a check ascertains that the applicant has not been identified in the Sex Offender Database as a sex 14 15 offender, then the regional superintendent shall issue to the 16 applicant a certificate evidencing that as of the date 17 specified by the Department of State Police the applicant has not been convicted of any of the enumerated criminal or drug 18 offenses in subsection (c) or has not been convicted, within 7 19 years of the application for employment with the school 20 district, of any other felony under the laws of this State or 21 22 of any offense committed or attempted in any other state or 23 against the laws of the United States that, if committed or 24 attempted in this State, would have been punishable as a felony 25 under the laws of this State and evidencing that as of the date 26 that the regional superintendent conducted a check of the

Statewide Sex Offender Database, the applicant has not been 1 2 identified in the Database as a sex offender. The school board 3 of any school district may rely on the certificate issued by any regional superintendent to that substitute teacher, 4 5 concurrent part-time teacher, or concurrent educational support personnel employee or may initiate its own criminal 6 7 history records check of the applicant through the Department of State Police and its own check of the Statewide Sex Offender 8 9 Database as provided in subsection (a). Any person who releases 10 confidential information concerning anv criminal anv 11 convictions of an applicant for employment shall be quilty of a 12 Class A misdemeanor, unless the release of such information is 13 authorized by this Section.

(c) The board of education shall not knowingly employ a 14 15 person who has been convicted of any offense that would subject 16 him or her to license suspension or revocation pursuant to 17 Section 21B-80 of this Code. Further, the board of education shall not knowingly employ a person who has been found to be 18 the perpetrator of sexual or physical abuse of any minor under 19 20 18 years of age pursuant to proceedings under Article II of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. 21

(d) The board of education shall not knowingly employ a
person for whom a criminal history records check and a
Statewide Sex Offender Database check has not been initiated.

(e) Upon receipt of the record of a conviction of or afinding of child abuse by a holder of any certificate issued

pursuant to Article 21 or Section 34-8.1 or 34-83 of the School Code, the State Superintendent of Education may initiate certificate suspension and revocation proceedings as authorized by law.

5 (e-5) The general superintendent of schools shall, in writing, notify the State Superintendent of Education of any 6 7 certificate holder whom he or she has reasonable cause to believe has committed an intentional act of abuse or neglect 8 9 with the result of making a child an abused child or a 10 neglected child, as defined in Section 3 of the Abused and 11 Neglected Child Reporting Act, and that act resulted in the 12 certificate holder's dismissal or resignation from the school 13 district. This notification must be submitted within 30 days 14 after the dismissal or resignation. The certificate holder must 15 also be contemporaneously sent a copy of the notice by the 16 superintendent. All correspondence, documentation, and other 17 information so received by the State Superintendent of Education, the State Board of Education, or the State Teacher 18 Certification 19 Board under this subsection (e-5) is 20 confidential and must not be disclosed to third parties, except (i) as necessary for the State Superintendent of Education or 21 22 his or her designee to investigate and prosecute pursuant to 23 Article 21 of this Code, (ii) pursuant to a court order, (iii) for disclosure to the certificate holder or his or her 24 25 representative, or (iv) as otherwise provided in this Article 26 and provided that any such information admitted into evidence

hearing is exempt from this confidentiality and 1 in а 2 non-disclosure requirement. Except for an act of willful or 3 wanton misconduct, any superintendent who provides notification as required in this subsection (e-5) shall have 4 5 immunity from any liability, whether civil or criminal or that 6 otherwise might result by reason of such action.

7 (f) After March 19, 1990, the provisions of this Section 8 shall apply to all employees of persons or firms holding 9 contracts with any school district including, but not limited 10 to, food service workers, school bus drivers and other 11 transportation employees, who have direct, daily contact with 12 the pupils of any school in such district. For purposes of 13 criminal history records checks and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database on employees of persons or firms holding 14 15 contracts with more than one school district and assigned to more than one school district, the regional superintendent of 16 17 the educational service region in which the contracting school districts are located may, at the request of any such school 18 district, be responsible for receiving the authorization for a 19 20 criminal history records check prepared by each such employee 21 and submitting the same to the Department of State Police and 22 for conducting a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database 23 and the Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database for each employee. Any information concerning 24 25 the record of conviction and identification as a sex offender 26 of any such employee obtained by the regional superintendent

shall be promptly reported to the president of the appropriate
 school board or school boards.

3 (g) Beginning on January 1, 2014, the provisions of this Section shall apply to all student teachers, as defined by 4 5 State Board of Education rule, assigned to public schools. Student teachers must undergo a Department of State Police and 6 7 Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint-based criminal 8 history records check. Authorization to conduct the criminal 9 history records check must be furnished by the student teacher 10 to the school to which the student teacher is assigned. The 11 Department of State Police and the Federal Bureau of 12 Investigation shall furnish, pursuant to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, records of convictions, until 13 14 expunged, to the president of the Chicago Board of Education. The Department of State Police shall charge a fee for 15 conducting the check, which fee must be deposited into the 16 17 State Police Services Fund and must not exceed the cost of the inquiry. The student teacher shall be required to pay all fees 18 19 associated with conducting the criminal history records check, 20 as well as any other application fees as established by rule including, but not limited to, the fee established by the 21 Department of State Police and the Federal Bureau of 22 23 Investigation to process fingerprint-based criminal history 24 records checks. Results of the check must also be furnished by the school district to the higher education institution where 25 the student teacher is enrolled. No one may begin student 26

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teaching until the results of the criminal history records 1 2 check have been returned to the school district. In order to student teach in the public schools, a person is required to 3 authorize a fingerprint-based criminal history records check 4 5 and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide 6 Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database prior to 7 participating in any field experiences in the public schools. 8 Authorization for and payment of the costs of the checks must 9 be furnished by the student teacher. Results of the checks must 10 be furnished to the higher education institution where the 11 student teacher is enrolled and the general superintendent of 12 schools.

(h) Upon request of a school, school district, community college district, or private school, any information obtained by the school district pursuant to subsection (f) of this Section within the last year must be made available to that school, school district, community college district, or private school.

19 (Source: P.A. 96-431, eff. 8-13-09; 96-1452, eff. 8-20-10; 20 97-154, eff. 1-1-12; 97-248, eff. 1-1-12; 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 21 97-813, eff. 7-13-12.)

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