



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1028

Introduced by: The Chair of the Committee on Health and Human Services at the request of the South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners

1 **An Act to establish a criminal background check requirement for multistate**
 2 **licensure under the social work licensure compact.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That § 36-26-13 be AMENDED:**

5 **36-26-13.** The board shall issue a license as a certified social worker, a social
 6 worker, or a social work associate, or a multistate license as provided in § 36-26A-1.

7 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 36-26:**

8 An applicant for a multistate license, as provided in § 36-26A-1, shall submit to
 9 the board a full set of the applicant's fingerprints in a form and manner prescribed by the
 10 board. The board shall deliver the fingerprints to the Division of Criminal Investigation for
 11 a state and federal criminal background check by the division and the Federal Bureau of
 12 Investigation. The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board, and pay any
 13 fees charged for the fingerprinting and the background check.

14 Upon completion of the background check, the division shall deliver to the board
 15 the applicant's criminal history record information. The board shall consider this
 16 information in determining whether to issue a multistate license to the applicant. The
 17 board may not issue a multistate license to the applicant before receiving this information.
 18 The board may not disseminate any information obtained under this section to a person
 19 not employed by the board.