

HB 2521 - S AMD 952

By Senator Fortunato

NOT ADOPTED 03/09/2026

1 On page 6, after line 36, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 3. RCW 43.43.585 and 2020 c 28 s 2 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) There is created the Washington background check advisory
5 board. The board shall consist of the following members, appointed by
6 the governor:

7 (a) The chief of the Washington state patrol or the chief's
8 designee;

9 (b) The executive director of the Washington association of
10 sheriffs and police chiefs or the executive director's designee;

11 (c) One sheriff;

12 (d) One police chief;

13 (e) One person engaged in the business of lawfully selling
14 firearms at retail in this state who holds a federal firearms license
15 under 18 U.S.C. Sec. 923(a); (~~and~~)

16 (f) Three active federal firearms licensees;

17 (g) One independent third party firearms compliance expert; and

18 (h) One member of the general public.

19 (2) The primary purpose of the board is to ensure that the
20 Washington state patrol firearms background check (~~unit~~) program
21 established in RCW 43.43.580 is administered efficiently and
22 effectively, and in a manner that honors individual firearms rights
23 while preventing prohibited persons from obtaining firearms.

24 (3) The board shall initially convene within ninety days of June
25 11, 2020, and shall meet not less than monthly until such time that
26 the Washington state patrol deems the firearms background check
27 (~~unit~~) program is operational. After the Washington state patrol
28 deems the firearms background check (~~unit~~) program is operational,
29 the board shall meet quarterly, unless the board has no business to
30 conduct during that quarter.

1 (4) The board shall elect from among its membership a chairperson
2 and other such officers from among its membership as it deems
3 appropriate.

4 (5) Members of the board shall serve terms of four years each on
5 a staggered schedule to be established by the first board. For
6 purposes of initiating a staggered schedule of terms, some members of
7 the first board may initially serve two years and some members may
8 initially serve four years.

9 (6) The board shall:

10 (a) Provide input and feedback regarding the establishment and
11 operation of the firearms background check (~~(unit)~~) program
12 established in RCW 43.43.580;

13 (b) Provide input on the development of the firearms background
14 check (~~(unit)~~) program budget prior to its formal submission to the
15 office of financial management pursuant to RCW 43.88.030;

16 (c) Be consulted with prior to the proposal of any rule relating
17 to the firearms background check (~~(unit)~~) program and prior to the
18 adoption of any rule relating to the firearms background check
19 (~~(unit)~~) program;

20 (d) Require reports from the chief of the Washington state patrol
21 on matters pertaining to the firearms background check (~~(unit)~~)
22 program; and

23 (e) Report to the governor and appropriate committees of the
24 legislature on or before December 31st of each year on the activities
25 of the board and the firearms background check (~~(unit)~~) program for
26 the preceding fiscal year. The Washington state patrol must respond
27 to any reports made by the board with recommendations related to the
28 firearms background check program, or fees required under RCW
29 43.43.580.

30 (7) Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but
31 shall be reimbursed for travel expenses pursuant to RCW 43.03.050 and
32 43.03.060.

33 (8) The Washington state patrol shall provide the staffing and
34 budgetary resources necessary for the board to properly fulfill its
35 duties.

36 (9) Members serving in their official capacity on the Washington
37 background check advisory board, or either their employer or
38 employers or other entity that selected the members to serve, are
39 immune from a civil action based on an act performed in good faith."

NOT ADOPTED 03/09/2026

1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "43.43.580" strike "and
2 43.43.580" and insert ", 43.43.580, and 43.43.585"

EFFECT: • Adds the following members to the Washington background check advisory board:

- o Three active federal firearms licensees; and
- o One independent third-party firearms compliance expert.
- Requires the Washington state patrol to respond to any reports made by the board with recommendations related to the firearms background check program, or fees required under the bill.

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