

Fairness & Accuracy in Employment Background Checks Act (H.R. 5300)

On May 13, 2010, [Congressman Bobby Scott](#), Chair of the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, introduced the Fairness & Accuracy in Employment Background Checks Act ([H.R. 5300](#)) with strong bipartisan support. The legislation goes a long way to clean up the FBI's faulty criminal records system that ends up denying employment to thousands of deserving workers.

The FBI conducts nearly six million criminal background checks a year for employment and occupational licensing purposes at the request of the states, federal agencies and private employers who can access the FBI's criminal records pursuant to federal laws. As documented by the U.S. Attorney General in 2006, about 50 percent of the FBI's records are incomplete or inaccurate, mostly due to arrests that have not been updated by state and local authorities. As a result of these inaccuracies, workers lose much needed jobs and employers lose out on qualified employees.

The Fairness & Accuracy in Employment Background Check Acts takes simple, important steps to significantly improve the reliability of FBI rap sheets produced for employment or occupational licensing purposes. Modeled on the Brady Act, this legislation requires the FBI to locate missing information prior to releasing criminal records information for employment screening purposes, just as they are currently required to do for gun purchases. It also includes integrates key consumer protections found in the Fair Credit Reporting Act, ensuring workers are guarded against potential abuses.

Your support is critical to this effort. Learn more about H.R. 5300, and help educate your Senators and Congressional Representative to ensure its passage.

H.R. 5300 Fact Sheet ([click here](#)) and Supporting Organizations ([click here](#))

Organizational Letters of Support

- [Letter from Supporting Organizations](#)
- [American Bar Association](#)
- [Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights](#)
- [NAACP](#)
- [Transportation Trades Department \(AFL-CIO\)](#)

Take Action

- [NAACP Action Alert](#)
- You can call the Capitol switchboard at **(202) 224-3121** and they will put you through to the right office.

Press Clips

- [The New York Times Endorses H.R. 5300](#)
- [The Griot](#)
- [In These Times](#)