

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 644**

Introduced by Lautenbaugh, 18.

Read first time January 19, 2011

Committee: Judiciary

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to attorneys; to amend section 7-102, Reissue
- 2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change requirements for
- 3 licensure; to provide for a fee; and to repeal the
- 4 original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 7-102, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3           7-102 (1) Admission to the Nebraska bar shall be governed  
4 by admission standards and procedures established by rules adopted by  
5 the Supreme Court. Such standards may include, ~~without limitation,~~  
6 educational requirements, character and fitness standards, and  
7 satisfactory performance on a bar examination testing the applicant's  
8 knowledge of such legal principles as the court may determine. No  
9 person shall be admitted to the Nebraska bar, nor permitted to retain  
10 such admittance, unless it is shown to the satisfaction of the  
11 Supreme Court that such person is of good moral character. The  
12 Supreme Court may appoint a bar commission, designated as the  
13 Nebraska State Bar Commission, composed of not less than six persons  
14 learned in the law to assist in or conduct any bar examination and,  
15 by rule of court, to assist the Supreme Court in matters pertaining  
16 to bar admission.

17           (2) The application for admission to the bar shall  
18 include the applicant's social security number. Each applicant shall  
19 submit to the bar commission with the application for admission a  
20 complete set of his or her legible fingerprints along with written  
21 permission authorizing the set of fingerprints to be forwarded to the  
22 Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
23 through the Nebraska State Patrol. Upon request by the bar  
24 commission, the Nebraska State Patrol shall undertake a search for  
25 criminal history record information relating to the applicant,

1 including transmittal of the applicant's fingerprints to the  
2 Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a  
3 national criminal history record information check. The criminal  
4 history record information check shall include information concerning  
5 the applicant from federal repositories of such information and  
6 repositories of such information in other states if authorized by  
7 federal law. The Nebraska State Patrol shall issue a report to the  
8 bar commission and to the applicant which includes the criminal  
9 history record information concerning the applicant. The fingerprint  
10 record check provided for in this subsection shall be solely for the  
11 purpose of evaluating and confirming information provided by the  
12 applicant for admission, except that if the applicant appeals a  
13 denial of admission to the bar or a refusal of permission to take the  
14 bar examination, the filing of such an appeal with the Supreme Court  
15 shall constitute a release of the information obtained from such a  
16 fingerprint record check for purposes of the appeal.

17 (3) The Supreme Court shall not require payment of a fee  
18 or application for admission to the Nebraska State Bar Association as  
19 a condition of membership in the bar or to be licensed to practice  
20 law in the State of Nebraska.

21 (4) The Supreme Court may collect a fee for membership in  
22 the bar for purposes of professional responsibility and regulation of  
23 the profession and for purposes of funding the Nebraska State Bar  
24 Commission.

25 Sec. 2. Original section 7-102, Reissue Revised Statutes

1 of Nebraska, is repealed.