
HOUSE BILL No. 1482

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 35-38; IC 35-50-2-7.

Synopsis: Expungement. Requires a sentencing court to expunge the records of certain nonviolent Class D felony and misdemeanor convictions, and certain delinquency adjudications, if: (1) 10 years have passed since the person's conviction; (2) the person has not committed a new offense; and (3) no new charges are pending. Permits a court to expunge the records of certain nonviolent felony convictions, and certain delinquency adjudications, if: (1) the later of 10 years have passed since the person's conviction, or five years have passed since completion of the person's sentence; (2) the person has not committed a new offense; and (3) no new charges are pending. Requires a court to restrict disclosure of certain arrest records, if the arrest: (1) did not result in a conviction; or (2) resulted in a conviction that was vacated on appeal. Allows a prosecuting attorney to gain access to sealed records under certain circumstances. Provides that if a court orders a person's records to be expunged or restricted, the person: (1) shall be treated for all purposes as if the person had not been arrested for or convicted of the felony or misdemeanor recorded in the expunged or restricted records; and (2) may legally state on an application for employment or any other document that the person has not been arrested for or convicted of the felony or misdemeanor recorded in the expunged records. Specifies that orders restricting or expunging records apply to the bureau of motor vehicles. Permits a court to convert certain Class D felonies to Class A misdemeanors if at least three but less than eight years have elapsed since the person completed the sentence. (Current law permits conversion of certain Class D felonies if at least three years have elapsed.) Repeals superseded provisions concerning expungement and restricted disclosure of records.

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Effective: July 1, 2013.

McMillin, Turner, Porter, Summers

January 22, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.



First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1482



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 35-38-5-5.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
- 2 1, 2013]. Sec. 5-5: (a) If a person charged with a crime:
- 3 (1) is not prosecuted or if charges against the person are
- 4 dismissed;
- 5 (2) is acquitted of all criminal charges; or
- 6 (3) is convicted of the crime and the conviction is subsequently
- 7 vacated;
- 8 the person may petition a court to restrict disclosure of the records
- 9 related to the arrest to a noncriminal justice organization or an
- 10 individual.
- 11 (b) A petition under subsection (a) must be verified and filed in:
- 12 (1) the court in which the charges against the person were filed;
- 13 for a person described in subsection (a)(1); or
- 14 (2) the court in which the trial was held; for a person described in
- 15 subsection (a)(2) or (a)(3).
- 16 (c) A petition under subsection (a) must be filed not earlier than:
- 17 (1) if the person is acquitted, thirty (30) days after the person is



1 acquitted;

2 (2) if the person's conviction is vacated, three hundred sixty-five
3 (365) days after:

4 (A) the order vacating the person's conviction is final, if there
5 is no appeal or the appeal is terminated before entry of an
6 opinion or memorandum decision; or

7 (B) the opinion or memorandum decision vacating the person's
8 conviction is certified; or

9 (3) if the person is not prosecuted, thirty (30) days after charges
10 are dismissed; if the charges are not refiled:

11 (d) A petition under subsection (a) must set forth:

12 (1) the date of the arrest;

13 (2) the charge;

14 (3) the date charges were dismissed, if applicable;

15 (4) the date of conviction or acquittal, if applicable;

16 (5) the date the conviction was vacated, if applicable;

17 (6) the basis on which the conviction was vacated, if applicable;

18 (7) the law enforcement agency employing the arresting officer;

19 (8) any other known identifying information, such as the name of
20 the arresting officer, case number, or court cause number;

21 (9) the date of the petitioner's birth; and

22 (10) the petitioner's Social Security number.

23 (e) A copy of a petition under subsection (a) shall be served on the
24 prosecuting attorney and the state central repository for records:

25 (f) If the prosecuting attorney wishes to oppose a petition under
26 subsection (a), the prosecuting attorney shall, not later than thirty (30)
27 days after the petition is filed, file a notice of opposition with the court
28 setting forth reasons for opposing the petition. The prosecuting attorney
29 shall attach to the notice of opposition a certified copy of any
30 documentary evidence showing that the petitioner is not entitled to
31 relief. A copy of the notice of opposition and copies of any
32 documentary evidence shall be served on the petitioner in accordance
33 with the Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure. The court may:

34 (1) summarily grant the petition;

35 (2) set the matter for hearing; or

36 (3) summarily deny the petition, if the court determines that:

37 (A) the petition is insufficient; or

38 (B) based on documentary evidence submitted by the
39 prosecuting attorney, the petitioner is not entitled to have
40 access to the petitioner's arrest records restricted.

41 (g) If a notice of opposition is filed under subsection (f) and the
42 court does not summarily grant or summarily deny the petition, the

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1 court shall set the matter for a hearing:

2 (h) After a hearing is held under subsection (g), the court shall grant
3 the petition filed under subsection (a), unless the petitioner is being
4 reprosecuted on charges related to the original conviction.

5 (i) If the court grants a petition filed under subsection (a), the court
6 shall order the state police department not to disclose or permit
7 disclosure of the petitioner's limited criminal history information to a
8 noncriminal justice organization or an individual under IC 10-13-3-27.

9 SECTION 2. IC 35-38-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
10 2013]. (Restricted Access to Conviction Records).

11 SECTION 3. IC 35-38-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
12 A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
13 1, 2013]:

14 **Chapter 9. Expungement of Conviction Records**

15 **Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), this section**
16 **applies to:**

17 **(1) a person convicted of a misdemeanor or Class D felony, if:**

18 **(A) the misdemeanor or Class D felony is not excluded**
19 **under subsection (b); and**

20 **(B) at least ten (10) years have passed from the date the**
21 **person was convicted of the offense;**

22 **(2) a person adjudicated as a delinquent child for committing**
23 **an act that, if committed by an adult, would be a**
24 **misdemeanor or Class D felony that did not result in injury to**
25 **a person if at least ten (10) years have passed from the date**
26 **the child was adjudicated for the delinquent act; and**

27 **(3) arrest records:**

28 **(A) for any arrest that did not result in a conviction or**
29 **juvenile adjudication; or**

30 **(B) concerning an arrest that resulted in a conviction or**
31 **juvenile adjudication and the conviction or adjudication**
32 **was vacated on appeal;**

33 **regardless of the time that has passed since the time of the**
34 **arrest.**

35 **(b) This section does not apply to the following:**

36 **(1) A sex or violent offender (as defined in IC 11-8-8-5), unless**
37 **the offender was convicted of sexual misconduct with a minor**
38 **(IC 35-42-4-9) and the offender proves that the defense**
39 **described in IC 35-42-4-9(e) applies to the offender.**

40 **(2) A person convicted of perjury (IC 35-44.1-2-1) or official**
41 **misconduct (IC 35-44.1-1-1).**

42 **(3) Records and information required by IC 11-8-8.**



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1 (c) Ten (10) years after the date a person was convicted in a case
 2 described in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(2), the person may
 3 petition a sentencing court to expunge from:

- 4 (1) a court's files;
 5 (2) the files of the department of correction;
 6 (3) the files of the bureau of motor vehicles; and
 7 (4) the files of any other person who provided treatment or
 8 services to the petitioning person under a court order;

9 the records concerning the person's involvement in criminal or
 10 juvenile court proceedings.

11 (d) If the court finds that:

- 12 (1) ten (10) years have elapsed since the person was convicted;
 13 (2) the person has not committed a new crime in the ten (10)
 14 years since the conviction;
 15 (3) no charges are pending against the person; and
 16 (4) this section applies to the person;

17 the court shall grant the expungement petition.

18 (e) At any time after the arrest of a person described in
 19 subsection (a)(3), the person may petition the sentencing court (if
 20 the person was sentenced), the court in which the person was
 21 charged (if the person was charged), or any court exercising
 22 criminal jurisdiction in Indiana (if the person was not charged or
 23 convicted) to restrict disclosure of records contained in:

- 24 (1) a court's files;
 25 (2) the files of the department of correction;
 26 (3) the files of the bureau of motor vehicles; and
 27 (4) the files of any other person who provided treatment or
 28 services to the petitioning person under a court order;

29 that relate to the person's arrest.

30 (f) If the court finds that:

- 31 (1) the person's arrest:
 32 (A) did not result in a conviction or juvenile adjudication;
 33 or
 34 (B) resulted in a conviction or juvenile adjudication and
 35 the conviction or adjudication was vacated on appeal; and
 36 (2) no charges are pending against the person;

37 the court shall order disclosure of the arrest records restricted so
 38 that only a criminal justice agency may access the records.

39 Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), this section
 40 applies to:

- 41 (1) a person convicted of a felony, if:
 42 (A) the felony is not excluded under subsection (b); and

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- 1 **(B) at least:**
 2 (i) ten (10) years have passed since the person was
 3 convicted; or
 4 (ii) five (5) years have passed since the person completed
 5 the sentence for the felony, including any other
 6 obligations imposed on the person as a part of the
 7 sentence;
 8 whichever is later; or
 9 **(2) a person adjudicated as a child for committing an act that,**
 10 **if committed by an adult, would be a felony, if at least:**
 11 **(A) ten (10) years have passed since the child was**
 12 **adjudicated a delinquent child for committing an act that,**
 13 **if committed by an adult, would be a felony; or**
 14 **(B) five (5) years have passed since the child completed the**
 15 **disposition for the act and satisfied any other obligations**
 16 **imposed on the child as a part of the disposition;**
 17 whichever is later.
 18 **(b) This section does not apply to the following:**
 19 **(1) A sex or violent offender (as defined in IC 11-8-8-5), unless**
 20 **the offender was convicted of sexual misconduct with a minor**
 21 **(IC 35-42-4-9) and the offender proves that the defense**
 22 **described in IC 35-42-4-9(e) applies to the offender.**
 23 **(2) A person convicted of a felony that resulted in serious**
 24 **bodily injury to another person.**
 25 **(3) A person convicted of perjury (IC 35-44.1-2-1) or official**
 26 **misconduct (IC 35-44.1-1-1).**
 27 **(4) Records and information required by IC 11-8-8.**
 28 **(c) After the time period described in subsection (a) has elapsed,**
 29 **the person may petition a sentencing court to expunge from:**
 30 **(1) a court's files;**
 31 **(2) the files of the department of correction;**
 32 **(3) the files of the bureau of motor vehicles; and**
 33 **(4) the files of any other person who provided treatment or**
 34 **services to the petitioning person under a court order;**
 35 **the records concerning the person's involvement in criminal court**
 36 **proceedings.**
 37 **(d) If the court finds that:**
 38 **(1) the period described in subsection (a) has elapsed from the**
 39 **date the person completed the person's sentence and satisfied**
 40 **any other obligations imposed on the person as a part of the**
 41 **sentence;**
 42 **(2) the person has not committed a new crime in the period**

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1 described in subsection (a);
 2 (3) no charges are pending against the person; and
 3 (4) this section applies to the person;
 4 the court may grant the expungement petition.

5 Sec. 3. This section does not apply to a petition to restrict
 6 disclosure of arrest records under section 1 of this chapter. If the
 7 court grants the expungement petition of a person under this
 8 chapter, the court shall do the following:

9 (1) Order:

- 10 (A) the department of correction;
 11 (B) the bureau of motor vehicles; and
 12 (C) each:
 13 (i) law enforcement agency; and
 14 (ii) other person;

15 who incarcerated, provided treatment for, or provided
 16 other services for the person under an order of the court;
 17 to prohibit the release of the person's records or information
 18 in the person's records to anyone without a court order.

19 (2) Order any:

- 20 (A) state;
 21 (B) regional; or
 22 (C) local;

23 central repository for criminal history information to send the
 24 person's records to the court.

25 (3) Seal any court records related to the allegation referred to
 26 in section 1 or 2 of this chapter on which a conviction was
 27 based and any proceeding related to the allegation.

28 (4) Notify the clerk of the supreme court to seal any records
 29 in the clerk's possession concerning:

- 30 (A) the allegation described in subdivision (3); or
 31 (B) any proceeding related to the allegation;

32 if an appeal was taken.

33 Sec. 4. If an expungement petition of a person is granted under
 34 this chapter, information concerning the person's conviction may
 35 not be placed or retained in any state central repository for
 36 criminal history information.

37 Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to a petition to restrict
 38 disclosure of arrest records under section 1 of this chapter. If an
 39 expungement petition of a person is granted under this chapter, the
 40 records of:

- 41 (1) the sentencing court;
 42 (2) a juvenile court;

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1 (3) a court of appeals; and
 2 (4) the supreme court;
 3 concerning the person shall be permanently sealed. Other records
 4 concerning the person may be given to the person or destroyed.

5 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a prosecuting attorney may
 6 submit a written application to a court that granted an
 7 expungement petition under this chapter to gain access to any
 8 records that were permanently sealed under subsection (a), if the
 9 records are relevant in a new prosecution of the person. If a
 10 prosecuting attorney who submits a written application under this
 11 subsection shows that the records are relevant for a new
 12 prosecution of the person, the court that granted the expungement
 13 petition shall:

- 14 (1) order the records to be unsealed; and
 15 (2) allow the prosecuting attorney who submitted the written
 16 application to have access to the records.

17 If a court orders records to be unsealed under this subsection, the
 18 court shall order the records to be permanently resealed at the
 19 earliest possible time after the reasons for unsealing the records
 20 cease to exist. However, if the records are admitted as evidence
 21 against the person in a new prosecution or are used to enhance a
 22 sentence imposed on the person in a new prosecution, the court is
 23 not required to reseat the records.

24 Sec. 6. (a) If a person whose records are expunged or restricted
 25 under this chapter brings a civil action that might be defended with
 26 the contents of the records, the defendant is presumed to have a
 27 complete defense to the action.

28 (b) For the plaintiff to recover in an action described in
 29 subsection (a), the plaintiff must show that the contents of the
 30 expunged or restricted records would not exonerate the defendant.

31 (c) In an action described in subsection (a), the plaintiff may be
 32 required to state under oath whether:

- 33 (1) the plaintiff had records in the criminal justice system;
 34 and
 35 (2) those records were expunged or restricted.

36 (d) In an action described in subsection (a), if the plaintiff denies
 37 the existence of the records, the defendant may prove the existence
 38 of the records in any manner compatible with the law of evidence.

39 Sec. 7. If a court orders a person's records to be expunged under
 40 this chapter, the person:

- 41 (1) shall be treated for all purposes as if the person had not
 42 been arrested for or convicted of the felony or misdemeanor

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1 recorded in the expunged records; and
 2 (2) may legally state on an application for employment or any
 3 other document that the person has not been arrested for or
 4 convicted of the felony or misdemeanor recorded in the
 5 expunged records.

6 Sec. 8. If a court orders a person's arrest records restricted
 7 under this chapter, the person:

8 (1) shall be treated for all purposes as if the person had not
 9 been arrested for the felony or misdemeanor recorded in the
 10 restricted records; and

11 (2) may legally state on an application for employment or any
 12 other document that the person has not been arrested for the
 13 felony or misdemeanor recorded in the restricted records.

14 SECTION 4. IC 35-50-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.69-2012,
 15 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 16 JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 7. (a) A person who commits a Class D felony
 17 shall be imprisoned for a fixed term of between six (6) months and
 18 three (3) years, with the advisory sentence being one and one-half (1
 19 1/2) years. In addition, the person may be fined not more than ten
 20 thousand dollars (\$10,000).

21 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), if a person has committed a
 22 Class D felony, the court may enter judgment of conviction of a Class
 23 A misdemeanor and sentence accordingly. However, the court shall
 24 enter a judgment of conviction of a Class D felony if:

- 25 (1) the court finds that:
- 26 (A) the person has committed a prior, unrelated felony for
 - 27 which judgment was entered as a conviction of a Class A
 - 28 misdemeanor; and
 - 29 (B) the prior felony was committed less than three (3) years
 - 30 before the second felony was committed;
- 31 (2) the offense is domestic battery as a Class D felony under
- 32 IC 35-42-2-1.3; or
- 33 (3) the offense is possession of child pornography
- 34 (IC 35-42-4-4(c)).

35 The court shall enter in the record, in detail, the reason for its action
 36 whenever it exercises the power to enter judgment of conviction of a
 37 Class A misdemeanor granted in this subsection.

38 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the sentencing court may
 39 convert a Class D felony conviction to a Class A misdemeanor
 40 conviction if, after receiving a verified petition as described in
 41 subsection (d) and after conducting a hearing of which the prosecuting
 42 attorney has been notified, the court makes the following findings:

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- 1 (1) The person is not a sex or violent offender (as defined in
 2 IC 11-8-8-5).
- 3 (2) The person was not convicted of a Class D felony that resulted
 4 in bodily injury to another person.
- 5 (3) The person has not been convicted of perjury under
 6 ~~IC 35-44-2-1~~ **IC 35-44.1-2-1** or official misconduct under
 7 ~~IC 35-44-1-2~~ **IC 35-44.1-1-1**.
- 8 (4) At least three (3) years, **but not more than eight (8) years**,
 9 have passed since the person:
 10 (A) completed the person's sentence; and
 11 (B) satisfied any other obligation imposed on the person as
 12 part of the sentence;
 13 for the Class D felony.
- 14 (5) The person has not been convicted of a felony since the
 15 person:
 16 (A) completed the person's sentence; and
 17 (B) satisfied any other obligation imposed on the person as
 18 part of the sentence;
 19 for the Class D felony.
- 20 (6) No criminal charges are pending against the person.
- 21 (d) A petition filed under subsection (c) **or (e)** must be verified and
 22 set forth:
 23 (1) the crime the person has been convicted of;
 24 (2) the date of the conviction;
 25 (3) the date the person completed the person's sentence;
 26 (4) any obligations imposed on the person as part of the sentence;
 27 (5) the date the obligations were satisfied; and
 28 (6) a verified statement that there are no criminal charges pending
 29 against the person.
- 30 (e) If a person whose Class D felony conviction has been converted
 31 to a Class A misdemeanor conviction under subsection (c) is convicted
 32 of a felony **within not later than** five (5) years after the conversion
 33 under subsection (c), a prosecuting attorney may petition a court to
 34 convert the person's Class A misdemeanor conviction back to a Class
 35 D felony conviction.

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