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4 5 CHAMBER ACTION

The Criminal Justice Committee recommends the following:

## Council/Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to the sealing and expunction of criminal 7 records; amending s. 943.0585, F.S.; clarifying that a criminal record that relates to certain offenses may not 8 be expunded, regardless of whether adjudication was 9 10 withheld, if the defendant was found quilty of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense; amending s. 11 943.059, F.S.; clarifying that a criminal record that 12 relates to certain offenses may not be sealed, regardless 13 14 of whether adjudication was withheld, if the defendant was found quilty of or pled quilty or nolo contendere to the 15 offense; providing that a certificate of eligibility for 16 17 sealing is available if the person seeking the certificate has never secured a prior sealing or expunction of a 18 19 criminal history record under specified provisions 20 involving an offense for which he or she was found guilty 21 or pled guilty or nolo contendere; providing an effective date. 22

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HB 719
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24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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26 Section 1. Section 943.0585, Florida Statutes, is amended 27 to read:

943.0585 Court-ordered expunction of criminal history 28 29 records. -- The courts of this state have jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the maintenance, expunction, and 30 correction of judicial records containing criminal history 31 information to the extent the such procedures are not 32 inconsistent with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties 33 established by this section. Any court of competent jurisdiction 34 35 may order a criminal justice agency to expunge the criminal history record of a minor or an adult who complies with the 36 requirements of this section. The court shall not order a 37 38 criminal justice agency to expunge a criminal history record until the person seeking to expunge a criminal history record 39 has applied for and received a certificate of eligibility for 40 expunction pursuant to subsection (2). A criminal history record 41 42 that relates to a violation of s. 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, s. 796.03, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 43 825.1025, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 44 45 847.0145, s. 893.135, s. 916.1075, or a violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be expunded, if eligible under subsections 46 (1) and (2). If, without regard to whether adjudication was 47 withheld, if the defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or 48 nolo contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, 49 was found to have committed, or pled guilty or nolo contendere 50 51 to committing, the offense as a delinquent act, a record that Page 2 of 19

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52 relates to any of the violations specified above may not be 53 sealed or expunged. The court may only order expunction of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident 54 55 of alleged criminal activity, except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole discretion, order the 56 57 expunction of a criminal history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests directly relate to the 58 59 original arrest. If the court intends to order the expunction of 60 records pertaining to the such additional arrests, the such 61 intent must be specified in the order. A criminal justice agency 62 may not expunge any record pertaining to the such additional arrests if the order to expunge does not articulate the 63 64 intention of the court to expunge a record pertaining to more 65 than one arrest. This section does not prevent the court from 66 ordering the expunction of only a portion of a criminal history 67 record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a 68 69 criminal justice agency may comply with laws, court orders, and 70 official requests of other jurisdictions relating to expunction, correction, or confidential handling of criminal history records 71 or information derived therefrom. This section does not confer 72 73 any right to the expunction of any criminal history record, and any request for expunction of a criminal history record may be 74 75 denied at the sole discretion of the court.

76 (1) PETITION TO EXPUNCE A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD.--Each
77 petition to a court to expunge a criminal history record is
78 complete only when accompanied by:

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(a) A certificate of eligibility for expunction issued bythe department pursuant to subsection (2).

81 (b) The petitioner's sworn statement attesting that the 82 petitioner:

1. Has never, prior to the date on which the petition is filed, been adjudicated guilty of a criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation or adjudicated delinquent for committing a felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 943.051(3)(b).

88 2. Has not been adjudicated guilty of, or adjudicated 89 delinquent for committing, any of the acts stemming from the 90 arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition 91 pertains.

3. Has never secured a prior sealing or expunction of a criminal history record under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058, or from any jurisdiction outside the state.

96 4. Is eligible for such an expunction to the best of his
97 or her knowledge or belief and does not have any other petition
98 to expunge or any petition to seal pending before any court.

Any person who knowingly provides false information on <u>the</u> such sworn statement to the court commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(2) CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXPUNCTION.--Prior to petitioning the court to expunge a criminal history record, a person seeking to expunge a criminal history record shall apply Page 4 of 19

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107 to the department for a certificate of eligibility for 108 expunction. The department shall, by rule adopted pursuant to 109 chapter 120, establish procedures pertaining to the application 100 for and issuance of certificates of eligibility for expunction. 111 The department shall issue a certificate of eligibility for 112 expunction to a person who is the subject of a criminal history 113 record if that person:

(a) Has obtained, and submitted to the department, a
written, certified statement from the appropriate state attorney
or statewide prosecutor which indicates:

That an indictment, information, or other charging
 document was not filed or issued in the case.

119 2. That an indictment, information, or other charging 120 document, if filed or issued in the case, was dismissed or nolle 121 prosequi by the state attorney or statewide prosecutor, or was 122 dismissed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

123 That the criminal history record does not relate to a 3. violation of s. 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, 124 125 s. 796.03, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 825.1025, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0145, s. 893.135, 126 s. 916.1075, or a violation enumerated in s. 907.041, where the 127 128 defendant was found guilty of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any such offense, or that the defendant, as a minor, was 129 found to have committed, or pled quilty or nolo contendere to 130 131 committing, such an offense as a delinquent act, without regard to whether adjudication was withheld. 132

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(b) Remits a \$75 processing fee to the department for
placement in the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust
Fund, unless the such fee is waived by the executive director.

(c) Has submitted to the department a certified copy of
the disposition of the charge to which the petition to expunge
pertains.

(d) Has never, prior to the date on which the application for a certificate of eligibility is filed, been adjudicated guilty of a criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation or adjudicated delinquent for committing a felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 943.051(3)(b).

(e) Has not been adjudicated guilty of, or adjudicated
delinquent for committing, any of the acts stemming from the
arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to
expunge pertains.

(f) Has never secured a prior sealing or expunction of a
criminal history record under this section, former s. 893.14,
former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058.

(g) Is no longer under court supervision applicable to the disposition of the arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to expunge pertains.

154 (h) Is not required to wait a minimum of 10 years prior to being eligible for an expunction of such records because all 155 156 charges related to the arrest or criminal activity to which the 157 petition to expunge pertains were dismissed prior to trial, adjudication, or the withholding of adjudication. Otherwise, 158 159 such criminal history record must be sealed under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 for at 160 Page 6 of 19

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161 least 10 years before the such record is eligible for 162 expunction.

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(3) PROCESSING OF A PETITION OR ORDER TO EXPUNGE. --

164 (a) In judicial proceedings under this section, a copy of 165 the completed petition to expunge shall be served upon the 166 appropriate state attorney or the statewide prosecutor and upon 167 the arresting agency; however, it is not necessary to make any agency other than the state a party. The appropriate state 168 169 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency 170 may respond to the court regarding the completed petition to 171 expunge.

If relief is granted by the court, the clerk of the 172 (b) 173 court shall certify copies of the order to the appropriate state 174 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency. The arresting agency is responsible for forwarding the order to 175 any other agency to which the arresting agency disseminated the 176 criminal history record information to which the order pertains. 177 178 The department shall forward the order to expunge to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The clerk of the court shall certify a 179 copy of the order to any other agency which the records of the 180 court reflect has received the criminal history record from the 181 182 court.

(c) For an order to expunge entered by a court prior to
July 1, 1992, the department shall notify the appropriate state
attorney or statewide prosecutor of an order to expunge which is
contrary to law because the person who is the subject of the
record has previously been convicted of a crime or comparable
ordinance violation or has had a prior criminal history record
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189 sealed or expunged. Upon receipt of <u>the</u> such notice, the 190 appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor shall take 191 action, within 60 days, to correct the record and petition the 192 court to void the order to expunge. The department shall seal 193 the record until such time as the order is voided by the court.

194 (d) On or after July 1, 1992, the department or any other 195 criminal justice agency is not required to act on an order to expunge entered by a court when the such order does not comply 196 197 with the requirements of this section. Upon receipt of such an 198 order, the department must notify the issuing court, the 199 appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor, the 200 petitioner or the petitioner's attorney, and the arresting 201 agency of the reason for noncompliance. The appropriate state 202 attorney or statewide prosecutor shall take action within 60 days to correct the record and petition the court to void the 203 order. No cause of action, including contempt of court, shall 204 arise against any criminal justice agency for failure to comply 205 206 with an order to expunge when the petitioner for the such order 207 failed to obtain the certificate of eligibility as required by this section or the such order does not otherwise comply with 208 the requirements of this section. 209

210 (4)EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD EXPUNCTION. -- Any criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered 211 212 expunded by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this 213 section must be physically destroyed or obliterated by any criminal justice agency having custody of the such record; 214 except that any criminal history record in the custody of the 215 216 department must be retained in all cases. A criminal history Page 8 of 19

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record ordered expunged that is retained by the department is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and not available to any person or entity except upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction. A criminal justice agency may retain a notation indicating compliance with an order to expunge.

(a) The person who is the subject of a criminal history
record that is expunged under this section or under other
provisions of law, including former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33,
and former s. 943.058, may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge
the arrests covered by the expunged record, except when the
subject of the record:

1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justiceagency;

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2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;

232 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under
233 this section or s. 943.059;

Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar; 234 4. 235 5. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Children and Family Services or the 236 Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by the 237 238 such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having direct contact with children, the developmentally disabled, the 239 aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063, 240 s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 241 242 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 916.106(10) and (13), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or 243

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6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the Department of Education, any district school board, any university laboratory school, any charter school, any private or parochial school, or any local governmental entity that licenses child care facilities.

(b) Subject to the exceptions in paragraph (a), a person
who has been granted an expunction under this section, former s.
893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 may not be held
under any provision of law of this state to commit perjury or to
be otherwise liable for giving a false statement by reason of
<u>the such person's failure to recite or acknowledge an expunged</u>
criminal history record.

256 Information relating to the existence of an expunded (C) 257 criminal history record which is provided in accordance with paragraph (a) is confidential and exempt from the provisions of 258 259 s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, 260 except that the department shall disclose the existence of a criminal history record ordered expunded to the entities set 261 forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., and 6. for their 262 respective licensing and employment purposes, and to criminal 263 justice agencies for their respective criminal justice purposes. 264 265 It is unlawful for any employee of an entity set forth in subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)4., subparagraph (a)5., or 266 267 subparagraph (a)6. to disclose information relating to the 268 existence of an expunged criminal history record of a person seeking employment or licensure with the such entity or 269 270 contractor, except to the person to whom the criminal history record relates or to persons having direct responsibility for 271 Page 10 of 19

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employment or licensure decisions. Any person who violates this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(5) STATUTORY REFERENCES.--Any reference to any other
chapter, section, or subdivision of the Florida Statutes in this
section constitutes a general reference under the doctrine of
incorporation by reference.

279 Section 2. Section 943.059, Florida Statutes, is amended 280 to read:

943.059 Court-ordered sealing of criminal history 281 282 records. -- The courts of this state shall continue to have jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the 283 284 maintenance, sealing, and correction of judicial records 285 containing criminal history information to the extent the such procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions, 286 responsibilities, and duties established by this section. Any 287 288 court of competent jurisdiction may order a criminal justice agency to seal the criminal history record of a minor or an 289 290 adult who complies with the requirements of this section. The court shall not order a criminal justice agency to seal a 291 criminal history record until the person seeking to seal a 292 293 criminal history record has applied for and received a 294 certificate of eligibility for sealing pursuant to subsection 295 (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of s. 296 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, s. 796.03, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 825.1025, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 297 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0145, s. 893.135, s. 916.1075, or 298 a violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be sealed, if 299 Page 11 of 19

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300 eligible under subsections (1) and (2), unless, without regard to whether adjudication was withheld, if the defendant was found 301 quilty of or pled quilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or 302 303 if the defendant, as a minor, was found to have committed or 304 pled guilty or nolo contendere to committing the offense as a 305 delinquent act. If the defendant was found quilty of or pled 306 quilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, 307 as a minor, was found to have committed or pled guilty or nolo 308 contendere to committing the offense as a delinquent act, a record that relates to any of the violations specified above may 309 310 not be sealed, without regard to whether adjudication was 311 withheld. The court may only order sealing of a criminal history 312 record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged 313 criminal activity, except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole discretion, order the sealing of a criminal 314 history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the 315 additional arrests directly relate to the original arrest. If 316 the court intends to order the sealing of records pertaining to 317 the such additional arrests, the such intent must be specified 318 in the order. A criminal justice agency may not seal any record 319 pertaining to the such additional arrests if the order to seal 320 321 does not articulate the intention of the court to seal records pertaining to more than one arrest. This section does not 322 323 prevent the court from ordering the sealing of only a portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one 324 incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any law 325 to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply with laws, 326 court orders, and official requests of other jurisdictions 327 Page 12 of 19

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relating to sealing, correction, or confidential handling of criminal history records or information derived therefrom. This section does not confer any right to the sealing of any criminal history record, and any request for sealing a criminal history record may be denied at the sole discretion of the court.

(1) PETITION TO SEAL A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD.--Each
petition to a court to seal a criminal history record is
complete only when accompanied by:

(a) A certificate of eligibility for sealing issued by thedepartment pursuant to subsection (2).

338 (b) The petitioner's sworn statement attesting that the 339 petitioner:

340 1. Has never, prior to the date on which the petition is 341 filed, been adjudicated guilty of a criminal offense or 342 comparable ordinance violation or adjudicated delinquent for 343 committing a felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 344 943.051(3)(b).

345 2. Has not been adjudicated guilty of or adjudicated 346 delinquent for committing any of the acts stemming from the 347 arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to 348 seal pertains.

349 3. Except as otherwise provided in this section, has never 350 secured a prior sealing or expunction of a criminal history 351 record under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, 352 former s. 943.058, or from any jurisdiction outside the state.

4. Is eligible for such a sealing to the best of his or
her knowledge or belief and does not have any other petition to
seal or any petition to expunge pending before any court.
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Any person who knowingly provides false information on <u>the</u> <del>such</del> sworn statement to the court commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SEALING. -- Prior to 361 (2)362 petitioning the court to seal a criminal history record, a 363 person seeking to seal a criminal history record shall apply to the department for a certificate of eligibility for sealing. The 364 department shall, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120, 365 366 establish procedures pertaining to the application for and issuance of certificates of eligibility for sealing. The 367 368 department shall issue a certificate of eliqibility for sealing 369 to a person who is the subject of a criminal history record provided that the such person: 370

(a) Has submitted to the department a certified copy of
the disposition of the charge to which the petition to seal
pertains.

(b) Remits a \$75 processing fee to the department for
placement in the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust
Fund, unless the such fee is waived by the executive director.

(c) Has never, prior to the date on which the application for a certificate of eligibility is filed, been adjudicated guilty of a criminal offense or comparable ordinance violation or adjudicated delinquent for committing a felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 943.051(3)(b).

 (d) Has not been adjudicated guilty of or adjudicated
 delinquent for committing any of the acts stemming from the Page 14 of 19

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384 arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to 385 seal pertains.

(e) Has never secured a prior sealing or expunction of a
criminal history record under this section, former s. 893.14,
former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 <u>involving an offense for</u>
which the defendant has been found guilty or pled guilty or nolo
contendere.

(f) Is no longer under court supervision applicable to the
disposition of the arrest or alleged criminal activity to which
the petition to seal pertains.

394

(3) PROCESSING OF A PETITION OR ORDER TO SEAL.--

395 (a) In judicial proceedings under this section, a copy of 396 the completed petition to seal shall be served upon the 397 appropriate state attorney or the statewide prosecutor and upon the arresting agency; however, it is not necessary to make any 398 agency other than the state a party. The appropriate state 399 400 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency may respond to the court regarding the completed petition to 401 seal. 402

(b) If relief is granted by the court, the clerk of the 403 court shall certify copies of the order to the appropriate state 404 405 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and to the arresting 406 agency. The arresting agency is responsible for forwarding the 407 order to any other agency to which the arresting agency 408 disseminated the criminal history record information to which the order pertains. The department shall forward the order to 409 410 seal to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The clerk of the court shall certify a copy of the order to any other agency 411 Page 15 of 19

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412 which the records of the court reflect has received the criminal413 history record from the court.

For an order to seal entered by a court prior to July 414 (C) 415 1, 1992, the department shall notify the appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor of any order to seal which is 416 417 contrary to law because the person who is the subject of the record has previously been convicted of a crime or comparable 418 ordinance violation or has had a prior criminal history record 419 420 sealed or expunged. Upon receipt of the such notice, the 421 appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor shall take 422 action, within 60 days, to correct the record and petition the 423 court to void the order to seal. The department shall seal the 424 record until such time as the order is voided by the court.

On or after July 1, 1992, the department or any other 425 (d) 426 criminal justice agency is not required to act on an order to seal entered by a court when the such order does not comply with 427 428 the requirements of this section. Upon receipt of such an order, 429 the department must notify the issuing court, the appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor, the petitioner or the 430 petitioner's attorney, and the arresting agency of the reason 431 for noncompliance. The appropriate state attorney or statewide 432 433 prosecutor shall take action within 60 days to correct the record and petition the court to void the order. No cause of 434 action, including contempt of court, shall arise against any 435 criminal justice agency for failure to comply with an order to 436 seal when the petitioner for the such order failed to obtain the 437 certificate of eligibility as required by this section or when 438

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439 <u>the such order does not comply with the requirements of this</u> 440 section.

(e) An order sealing a criminal history record pursuant to
this section does not require that <u>the</u> such record be
surrendered to the court, and <u>the</u> such record shall continue to
be maintained by the department and other criminal justice
agencies.

EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD SEALING .-- A criminal 446 (4)447 history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered sealed by 448 a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this section is 449 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and is available only 450 451 to the person who is the subject of the record, to the subject's attorney, to criminal justice agencies for their respective 452 criminal justice purposes, or to those entities set forth in 453 subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., and 6. for their respective 454 455 licensing and employment purposes.

(a) The subject of a criminal history record sealed under
this section or under other provisions of law, including former
s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, and former s. 943.058, may lawfully
deny or fail to acknowledge the arrests covered by the sealed
record, except when the subject of the record:

1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justiceagency;

463 2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;
464 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under
465 this section or s. 943.0585;
466 4. Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar;

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467 Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract 5. with the Department of Children and Family Services or the 468 Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by the 469 470 such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having 471 direct contact with children, the developmentally disabled, the 472 aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063, s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 473 474 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.103, s. 916.106(10) and 475 (13), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or

6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the Department
of Education, any district school board, any university
laboratory school, any charter school, any private or parochial
school, or any local governmental entity that licenses child
care facilities.

(b) Subject to the exceptions in paragraph (a), a person
who has been granted a sealing under this section, former s.
893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 may not be held
under any provision of law of this state to commit perjury or to
be otherwise liable for giving a false statement by reason of
the such person's failure to recite or acknowledge a sealed
criminal history record.

488 (C) Information relating to the existence of a sealed 489 criminal record provided in accordance with the provisions of 490 paragraph (a) is confidential and exempt from the provisions of 491 s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, except that the department shall disclose the sealed criminal 492 history record to the entities set forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 493 4., 5., and 6. for their respective licensing and employment 494 Page 18 of 19

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495 purposes. It is unlawful for any employee of an entity set forth in subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)4., subparagraph (a)5., 496 497 or subparagraph (a)6. to disclose information relating to the 498 existence of a sealed criminal history record of a person 499 seeking employment or licensure with the such entity or 500 contractor, except to the person to whom the criminal history 501 record relates or to persons having direct responsibility for 502 employment or licensure decisions. Any person who violates the 503 provisions of this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 504

505 (5) STATUTORY REFERENCES.--Any reference to any other
506 chapter, section, or subdivision of the Florida Statutes in this
507 section constitutes a general reference under the doctrine of
508 incorporation by reference.

509

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.