A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to the rights of former felons; 3 amending s. 97.041, F.S.; providing for automatic restoration of former felons' right 4 5 to vote following completion and satisfaction of sentence of incarceration and community 6 7 supervision; providing conditions on such 8 automatic restoration; creating the "Nathan McCall and Anderson C. Hill II Forgiveness 9 Act"; creating s. 943.0587, F.S.; providing for 10 11 mandatory expunction of certain felony offense 12 records upon application to the Department of 13 Law Enforcement under specified circumstances 14 when the offenses were committed by a person under 22 years of age who has not committed any 15 16 additional felony offenses for at least 6 years; providing an exception for capital 17 felonies, life felonies, and felonies of the 18 first degree; providing for application for 19 20 expunction; providing for an application fee; 21 providing for adoption of rules by the 22 Department of Law Enforcement; providing for construction; providing effective dates. 23

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Effective on the effective date of House Joint Resolution No. , or another amendment to the State Constitution which authorizes, or removes impediments to, enactment of this section, paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of 31 | section 97.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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97.041 Qualifications to register or vote.--
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           (2) The following persons, who might be otherwise
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   qualified, are not entitled to register or vote:
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           (b) A person who has been convicted of any felony by
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   any court of record; however, such a person's right to
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   register or vote is automatically restored by operation of law
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   1 year after completion and satisfaction of all sentences
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   imposed upon such person. For the purposes of this paragraph,
   completion and satisfaction of all sentences occurs when a
   person is released from incarceration upon expiration of
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   sentence and has achieved or completed all other nonmonetary
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   terms and conditions of the sentence or subsequent supervision
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   or, if the person has not been incarcerated for the felony
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   offense, has achieved or completed all nonmonetary terms and
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   conditions of community supervision imposed by a court and who
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   has not had his or her right to vote restored pursuant to law.
   If a majority of the Board of Executive Clemency objects
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   before the automatic restoration of the right to register or
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   vote, such rights shall be restored only upon application to,
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   and approval by, the Board of Executive Clemency.
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           Section 2. Section 943.0587, Florida Statutes, as
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   created by this act may be cited as the "Nathan McCall and
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   Anderson C. Hill II Forgiveness Act."
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           Section 3. Section 943.0587, Florida Statutes, is
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   created to read:
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           943.0587 Mandatory expunction of certain felony
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   records upon application to department. --
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          (1) APPLICATION; REQUIREMENTS. -- Notwithstanding s.
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   943.0585, s. 943.059, or any other provision of law or rule to
   the contrary, a person may seek to expunge criminal history
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   records of felony offenses by making application to the
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 Department of Law Enforcement for mandatory expunction of the felony records when all of the following requirements are met:

- (a) Each of the felony offenses for which expunction of the criminal history record is sought is a felony of the second degree or felony of the third degree for which the person was convicted or had adjudication withheld. This section does not apply to criminal history records for offenses which are capital felonies, life felonies, or felonies of the first degree.
- (b) The person was under 22 years of age when the person committed any of the felonies for which expunction of the criminal history records is sought.
- (c) The person has not committed any additional felony offense for a minimum period of 6 years since the date of adjudication or adjudication withheld for the most recent felony or the date the person was released from confinement for the most recent felony from a detention facility, jail, prison, or other correctional facility, whichever date is later. The 6-year period shall be deemed to include periods during which the person was under any form of postrelease correctional supervision.
- (d) The person has remitted a \$75 processing fee to the department for placement in the Department of Law Enforcement Operating Trust Fund, unless such fee is waived by the executive director.
- (2) APPLICATION GRANT; EFFECT.--Upon verification that the requirements of subsection (1) have been met, the department shall grant the application to expunge, and provide for expungement of the records. The department shall act upon the application to expunge the felony records, when granted,

as it would act upon an order to expunge the records had it been entered by a court.

- (3) RULEMAKING.--The department shall, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120, establish procedures to implement this section, including procedures pertaining to verification and notification of the application for mandatory expunction of felony records.
- (4) CONSTRUCTION.--This section shall be construed so that the courts of this state continue to have jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the maintenance, expunction, sealing, and correction of judicial records containing criminal history information to the extent such procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties established by this section.

Section 4. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Provides that a convicted felon who is incarcerated or is on probation, parole, or community control may not vote. Provides for restoration of that right 1 year after completion of the sentence, unless automatic restoration is objected to by a majority of the Board of Executive Clemency.

Creates the "Nathan McCall and Anderson C. Hill II Forgiveness Act." Provides for mandatory expunction of certain felony records upon application to the Department of Law Enforcement, under specified circumstances when the offenses were committed by a person under 22 years of age who has not committed any additional felony offense for at least 6 years. Provides an exception for capital felonies, life felonies, and felonies of the first degree. Provides for application for expunction. Provides for an application fee. Provides for adoption of rules by the Department of Law Enforcement. Provides for construction.