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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Wilson) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. <u>Restrictions on the employment of ex-offenders;</u> legislative intent; state agency reporting requirements.—

(1) The Legislature declares that it is the goal of this state to provide to prospective employees a clear statement of which crimes would disqualify ex-offenders from which occupations. It is the intent of the Legislature to make opportunities for employment available to ex-offenders so that

12 they will be less likely to revert to criminal behavior, insofar

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| 13 | as the employment of such persons does not detract from the |
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| 14 | safety of the public. The Legislature further declares that |
| 15 | state agencies should identify all restrictions imposed by the |
| 16 | agencies or by boards that regulate professions and occupations |
| 17 | on employment and should make an effort to define each |
| 18 | restriction as narrowly as possible while continuing to maintain |
| 19 | public safety. |
| 20 | (2) Each state agency, including, but not limited to, |
| 21 | professional and occupational regulatory boards, shall, by |
| 22 | December 31, 2010, and every 8 years thereafter, submit to the |
| 23 | Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the |
| 24 | House of Representatives a report that includes: |
| 25 | (a) A list of all agency or board policies that disqualify |
| 26 | from employment or licensure persons who have been convicted of |
| 27 | a crime and have completed any incarceration and restitution to |
| 28 | which they have been sentenced for such a crime. |
| 29 | (b) A determination of whether the disqualifying policies |
| 30 | are readily available to prospective employers and licensees. |
| 31 | (c) The identification and evaluation of alternatives to |
| 32 | the disqualifying policies to promote the employment of ex- |
| 33 | offenders and protect the public. |
| 34 | (d) An evaluation of whether the disqualifying polices are |
| 35 | too broad and whether crimes or acts of moral turpitude that |
| 36 | disqualify a person from licensure should be more specifically |
| 37 | or narrowly identified. |
| 38 | Section 2. Section 112.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to |
| 39 | read: |
| 40 | 112.011 Disqualification from licensing and public |
| 41 | employment based on criminal conviction Felons; removal of |
| | |



42 disqualifications for employment, exceptions.-

43 (1) (a) Except as provided in s. 775.16, a person may shall not be disqualified from employment by the state, any of its 44 agencies or political subdivisions, or any municipality solely 45 because of a prior conviction for a crime. However, a person may 46 be denied employment by the state, any of its agencies or 47 political subdivisions, or any municipality by reason of the 48 49 prior conviction for a crime if the crime was a felony or first 50 degree misdemeanor and directly related to the position of 51 employment sought.

52 (b) Except as provided in s. 775.16, a person whose civil 53 rights have been restored shall not be disgualified to practice, pursue, or engage in any occupation, trade, vocation, 54 55 profession, or business for which a license, permit, or certificate is required to be issued by the state, any of its 56 57 agencies or political subdivisions, or any municipality solely 58 because of a prior conviction for a crime. However, a person whose civil rights have been restored may be denied a license, 59 permit, or certification to pursue, practice, or engage in an 60 61 occupation, trade, vocation, profession, or business by reason of the prior conviction for a crime if the crime was a felony or 62 63 first degree misdemeanor relevant to the standards normally associated with, or determined by the regulatory authority to be 64 65 necessary for the protection of the public or other parties for 66 and directly related to the specific occupation, trade, 67 vocation, profession, or business for which the license, permit, 68 or certificate is sought.

69 <u>(c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a state agency</u> 70 <u>may not deny an application for a license, permit, certificate,</u>

Page 3 of 24

321972

71 or employment based on the applicant's lack of civil rights.
72 However, this paragraph does not apply to applications for a
73 license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm under chapter
74 790.

75 (2) (a) This section <u>does</u> shall not <u>apply</u> be <u>applicable</u> to
76 any law enforcement or correctional agency.

77 (b) This section shall not be applicable to the employment 78 practices of any fire department relating to the hiring of 79 firefighters. An applicant for employment with any fire department who has with a prior felony conviction shall be 80 81 excluded from employment for a period of 4 years after 82 expiration of sentence or final release by the Parole Commission unless the applicant, prior to the expiration of the 4-year 83 84 period, has received a full pardon or has had his or her civil rights restored. 85

(c) This section <u>does</u> shall not <u>apply</u> be applicable to the employment practices of any county or municipality relating to the hiring of personnel for positions deemed to be critical to security or public safety pursuant to ss. 125.5801 and 166.0442.

90 (3) Any complaint concerning the violation of this section
91 shall be adjudicated in accordance with the procedures set forth
92 in chapter 120 for administrative and judicial review.

93 Section 3. Section 943.0585, Florida Statutes, is amended 94 to read:

95 943.0585 Court-ordered expunction of criminal history 96 records.—The courts of this state have jurisdiction over their 97 own procedures, including the maintenance, expunction, and 98 correction of judicial records containing criminal history 99 information to the extent such procedures are not inconsistent

Page 4 of 24



100 with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties established by this section. Any court of competent jurisdiction may order a 101 102 criminal justice agency to expunge the criminal history record 103 of a minor or an adult who complies with the requirements of this section. The court shall not order a criminal justice 104 105 agency to expunge a criminal history record until the person 106 seeking to expunge a criminal history record has applied for and 107 received a certificate of eligibility for expunction pursuant to 108 subsection (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of s. 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, 109 110 s. 796.03, s. 800.04, s. 810.14, s. 817.034, s. 825.1025, s. 111 827.071, chapter 839, s. 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0145, s. 893.135, s. 916.1075, a violation enumerated in s. 907.041, or 112 113 any violation specified as a predicate offense for registration 114 as a sexual predator pursuant to s. 775.21, without regard to whether that offense alone is sufficient to require such 115 registration, or for registration as a sexual offender pursuant 116 to s. 943.0435, may not be expunded, without regard to whether 117 adjudication was withheld, if the defendant was found quilty of 118 119 or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or if the 120 defendant, as a minor, was found to have committed, or pled 121 quilty or nolo contendere to committing, the offense as a 122 delinquent act. The court may only order expunction of a 123 criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident 124 of alleged criminal activity, except as provided in this 125 section. The court may, at its sole discretion, order the 126 expunction of a criminal history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests directly relate to the 127 128 original arrest. If the court intends to order the expunction of



129 records pertaining to such additional arrests, such intent must be specified in the order. A criminal justice agency may not 130 131 expunge any record pertaining to such additional arrests if the 132 order to expunge does not articulate the intention of the court 133 to expunge a record pertaining to more than one arrest. This 134 section does not prevent the court from ordering the expunction 135 of only a portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. 136 137 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a criminal justice 138 agency may comply with laws, court orders, and official requests of other jurisdictions relating to expunction, correction, or 139 140 confidential handling of criminal history records or information derived therefrom. This section does not confer any right to the 141 142 expunction of any criminal history record, and any request for expunction of a criminal history record may be denied at the 143 144 sole discretion of the court.

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

(a) A valid certificate of eligibility for expunctionissued by the department pursuant to subsection (2).

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

152 1. Has never, prior to the date on which the petition is 153 filed, been adjudicated guilty of a criminal offense or 154 comparable ordinance violation, or been adjudicated delinquent 155 for committing any felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 156 943.051(3)(b).

2. Has not been adjudicated guilty of, or adjudicated

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delinquent for committing, any of the acts stemming from the arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition pertains.

161 3. Has never secured a prior sealing or expunction of a 162 criminal history record under this section, former s. 893.14, 163 former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058, or from any jurisdiction 164 outside the state, unless expunction is sought of a criminal 165 history record previously sealed for 10 years pursuant to 166 paragraph (2)(h) and the record is otherwise eligible for 167 expunction.

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

Any person who knowingly provides false information on 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.

176 (2) CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR EXPUNCTION.-Prior to petitioning the court to expunge a criminal history record, a 177 person seeking to expunge a criminal history record shall apply 178 179 to the department for a certificate of eligibility for 180 expunction. The department shall, by rule adopted pursuant to 181 chapter 120, establish procedures pertaining to the application 182 for and issuance of certificates of eligibility for expunction. 183 A certificate of eligibility for expunction is valid for 12 184 months after the date stamped on the certificate when issued by the department. After that time, the petitioner must reapply to 185 186 the department for a new certificate of eligibility. Eligibility

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187 for a renewed certification of eligibility must be based on the 188 status of the applicant and the law in effect at the time of the 189 renewal application. The department shall issue a certificate of 190 eligibility for expunction to a person who is the subject of a 191 criminal history 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:

195 1. That an indictment, information, or other charging196 document was not filed or issued in the case.

197 2. That an indictment, information, or other charging 198 document, if filed or issued in the case, was dismissed or nolle prosequi by the state attorney or statewide prosecutor, or was 199 200 dismissed by a court of competent jurisdiction, and that none of the charges related to the arrest or alleged criminal activity 201 202 to which the petition to expunge pertains resulted in a trial, 203 without regard to whether the outcome of the trial was other than an adjudication of guilt. 204

205 3. That the criminal history record does not relate to a 206 violation of s. 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, 207 s. 796.03, s. 800.04, s. 810.14, s. 817.034, s. 825.1025, s. 208 827.071, chapter 839, s. 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0145, s. 209 893.135, s. 916.1075, a violation enumerated in s. 907.041, or 210 any violation specified as a predicate offense for registration 211 as a sexual predator pursuant to s. 775.21, without regard to 212 whether that offense alone is sufficient to require such 213 registration, or for registration as a sexual offender pursuant to s. 943.0435, where the defendant was found quilty of, or pled 214 215 guilty or nolo contendere to any such offense, or that the



216 defendant, as a minor, was found to have committed, or pled 217 guilty or nolo contendere to committing, such an offense as a 218 delinquent act, without regard to whether adjudication was 219 withheld.

(b) Remits 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.

(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 been adjudicated delinquent for committing any 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, unless expunction is sought of a criminal history record previously sealed for 10 years pursuant to paragraph (h) and the record is otherwise eligible for expunction.

(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.

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(h) Has previously obtained a court order sealing the



245 record under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 for a minimum of 10 years because 246 247 adjudication was withheld or because all charges related to the 248 arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to 249 expunge pertains were not dismissed prior to trial, without 250 regard to whether the outcome of the trial was other than an 251 adjudication of guilt. The requirement for the record to have 252 previously been sealed for a minimum of 10 years does not apply 253 when a plea was not entered or all charges related to the arrest 254 or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to expunge 255 pertains were dismissed prior to trial.

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

257 (a) In judicial proceedings under this section, a copy of 258 the completed petition to expunge shall be served upon the 259 appropriate state attorney or the statewide prosecutor and upon 260 the arresting agency; however, it is not necessary to make any 261 agency other than the state a party. The appropriate state 262 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency 263 may respond to the court regarding the completed petition to 264 expunge.

265 (b) If relief is granted by the court, the clerk of the 266 court shall certify copies of the order to the appropriate state 267 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency. 268 The arresting agency is responsible for forwarding the order to 269 any other agency to which the arresting agency disseminated the 270 criminal history record information to which the order pertains. 271 The department shall forward the order to expunge to the Federal 272 Bureau of Investigation. The clerk of the court shall certify a 273 copy of the order to any other agency which the records of the



274 court reflect has received the criminal history record from the 275 court.

276 (c) For an order to expunde entered by a court prior to 277 July 1, 1992, the department shall notify the appropriate state 278 attorney or statewide prosecutor of an order to expunge which is 279 contrary to law because the person who is the subject of the 280 record has previously been convicted of a crime or comparable 281 ordinance violation or has had a prior criminal history record 2.82 sealed or expunded. Upon receipt of such notice, the appropriate 283 state attorney or statewide prosecutor shall take action, within 284 60 days, to correct the record and petition the court to void 285 the order to expunge. The department shall seal the record until 286 such time as the order is voided by the court.

287 (d) On or after July 1, 1992, the department or any other criminal justice agency is not required to act on an order to 288 289 expunge entered by a court when such order does not comply with 290 the requirements of this section. Upon receipt of such an order, 291 the department must notify the issuing court, the appropriate 292 state attorney or statewide prosecutor, the petitioner or the 293 petitioner's attorney, and the arresting agency of the reason 294 for noncompliance. The appropriate state attorney or statewide 295 prosecutor shall take action within 60 days to correct the 296 record and petition the court to void the order. No cause of 297 action, including contempt of court, shall arise against any 298 criminal justice agency for failure to comply with an order to 299 expunge when the petitioner for such order failed to obtain the 300 certificate of eligibility as required by this section or such order does not otherwise comply with the requirements of this 301 302 section.



303 (4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD EXPUNCTION.-Any 304 criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered 305 expunded by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this 306 section must be physically destroyed or obliterated by any 307 criminal justice agency having custody of such record; except 308 that any criminal history record in the custody of the 309 department must be retained in all cases. A criminal history record ordered expunded that is retained by the department is 310 311 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and 312 s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and not available to 313 any person or entity except upon order of a court of competent 314 jurisdiction. A criminal justice agency may retain a notation indicating compliance with an order to expunge. 315

(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 <u>and subsequent dispositions</u> covered by the expunged record, except when the subject of the record:

322 1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justice 323 agency;

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2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;

325 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under 326 this section or s. 943.059;

327 328 4. Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar;

328 5. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract 329 with the Department of Children and Family Services, the Agency 330 for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with 331 Disabilities, or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be



332 employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive 333 position having direct contact with children, the 334 developmentally disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided 335 in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063, s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 336 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), 337 chapter 916, s. 985.644, chapter 400, or chapter 429;

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; or

343 7. Is seeking authorization from a Florida seaport
344 identified in s. 311.09 for employment within or access to one
345 or more of such seaports pursuant to s. 311.12 or s. 311.125.

(b) Subject to the exceptions in paragraph (a), a person 346 347 who has been granted an expunction under this section, former s. 348 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 may not be held 349 under any provision of law of this state to commit perjury or to 350 be otherwise liable for giving a false statement by reason of 351 such person's failure to recite or acknowledge an expunged 352 criminal history record, including a failure to recite or 353 acknowledge on an employment application.

(c) Information relating to the existence of an expunged criminal history record which is provided in accordance with paragraph (a) is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, except that the department shall disclose the existence of a criminal history record ordered expunged to the entities set forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., 6., and 7. for their

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2009 Bill No. SB 706



361 respective licensing, access authorization, and employment 362 purposes, and to criminal justice agencies for their respective criminal justice purposes. It is unlawful for any employee of an 363 364 entity set forth in subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)4., 365 subparagraph (a)5., subparagraph (a)6., or subparagraph (a)7. to 366 disclose information relating to the existence of an expunged 367 criminal history record of a person seeking employment, access 368 authorization, or licensure with such entity or contractor, 369 except to the person to whom the criminal history record relates 370 or to persons having direct responsibility for employment, 371 access authorization, or licensure decisions. Any person who 372 violates this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first 373 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

374 <u>(d) The department may disclose the contents of an expunged</u> 375 record to the subject of the record upon the receipt of a 376 written, notarized request from the subject of the record.

377 (5) Each website for the office of a clerk of court must
 378 include information relating to procedures to seal or expunge
 379 criminal history records. This information must include the link
 380 to related information on the website of the department.

381 <u>(6) (5)</u> STATUTORY REFERENCES.—Any reference to any other 382 chapter, section, or subdivision of the Florida Statutes in this 383 section constitutes a general reference under the doctrine of 384 incorporation by reference.

385 Section 4. Section 943.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to 386 read:

943.059 Court-ordered sealing of criminal history records.The courts of this state shall continue to have jurisdiction
over their own procedures, including the maintenance, sealing,



390 and correction of judicial records containing criminal history 391 information to the extent such procedures are not inconsistent 392 with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties established by 393 this section. Any court of competent jurisdiction may order a criminal justice agency to seal the criminal history record of a 394 395 minor or an adult who complies with the requirements of this 396 section. The court shall not order a criminal justice agency to 397 seal a criminal history record until the person seeking to seal 398 a criminal history record has applied for and received a 399 certificate of eligibility for sealing pursuant to subsection 400 (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of s. 401 393.135, s. 394.4593, s. 787.025, chapter 794, s. 796.03, s. 402 800.04, s. 810.14, s. 817.034, s. 825.1025, s. 827.071, chapter 403 839, s. 847.0133, s. 847.0135, s. 847.0145, s. 893.135, s. 404 916.1075, a violation enumerated in s. 907.041, or any violation 405 specified as a predicate offense for registration as a sexual 406 predator pursuant to s. 775.21, without regard to whether that 407 offense alone is sufficient to require such registration, or for 408 registration as a sexual offender pursuant to s. 943.0435, may 409 not be sealed, without regard to whether adjudication was 410 withheld, if the defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, 411 412 was found to have committed or pled guilty or nolo contendere to 413 committing the offense as a delinquent act. The court may only 414 order sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to one 415 arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity, except as 416 provided in this section. The court may, at its sole discretion, order the sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to 417 418 more than one arrest if the additional arrests directly relate



419 to the original arrest. If the court intends to order the 420 sealing of records pertaining to such additional arrests, such 421 intent must be specified in the order. A criminal justice agency 422 may not seal any record pertaining to such additional arrests if 423 the order to seal does not articulate the intention of the court 424 to seal records pertaining to more than one arrest. This section 425 does not prevent the court from ordering the sealing of only a 426 portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or 427 one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any 428 law to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply with laws, court orders, and official requests of other jurisdictions 429 430 relating to sealing, correction, or confidential handling of 431 criminal history records or information derived therefrom. This 432 section does not confer any right to the sealing of any criminal history record, and any request for sealing a criminal history 433 record may be denied at the sole discretion of the court. 434

(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 valid certificate of eligibility for sealing issuedby the department pursuant to subsection (2).

(b) The petitioner's sworn statement attesting that the 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 been adjudicated delinquent for committing any felony or a misdemeanor specified in s. 943.051(3)(b).

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2. Has not been adjudicated guilty of or adjudicated

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448 delinquent for committing any of the acts stemming from the 449 arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to 450 seal pertains.

3. Has never secured a prior sealing, except as provided in
subsection (6), or expunction of a criminal history record under
this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, 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.

Any person who knowingly provides false information on 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.

463 (2) CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SEALING.-Prior to petitioning the court to seal a criminal history record, a 464 465 person seeking to seal a criminal history record shall apply to 466 the department for a certificate of eligibility for sealing. The 467 department shall, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120, 468 establish procedures pertaining to the application for and 469 issuance of certificates of eligibility for sealing. A 470 certificate of eligibility for sealing is valid for 12 months 471 after the date stamped on the certificate when issued by the 472 department. After that time, the petitioner must reapply to the 473 department for a new certificate of eligibility. Eligibility for 474 a renewed certification of eligibility must be based on the 475 status of the applicant and the law in effect at the time of the 476 renewal application. The department shall issue a certificate of

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2009 Bill No. SB 706



477 eligibility for sealing to a person who is the subject of a 478 criminal history record provided that such person:

(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 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 been adjudicated delinquent for committing any 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
arrest or alleged criminal activity to which the petition to
seal pertains.

(e) Has never secured a prior sealing, except as provided
in subsection (6), or expunction of a criminal history record
under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, or
former s. 943.058.

(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.

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

(a) In judicial proceedings under this section, a copy of
the completed petition to seal shall be served upon the
appropriate state attorney or the statewide prosecutor and upon
the arresting agency; however, it is not necessary to make any

Page 18 of 24

321972

agency other than the state a party. The appropriate state attorney or the statewide prosecutor and the arresting agency may respond to the court regarding the completed petition to seal.

510 (b) If relief is granted by the court, the clerk of the 511 court shall certify copies of the order to the appropriate state 512 attorney or the statewide prosecutor and to the arresting agency. The arresting agency is responsible for forwarding the 513 514 order to any other agency to which the arresting agency 515 disseminated the criminal history record information to which 516 the order pertains. The department shall forward the order to 517 seal to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The clerk of the court shall certify a copy of the order to any other agency 518 519 which the records of the court reflect has received the criminal 520 history record from the court.

(c) For an order to seal entered by a court prior to July 521 522 1, 1992, the department shall notify the appropriate state attorney or statewide prosecutor of any order to seal which is 523 524 contrary to law because the person who is the subject of the 525 record has previously been convicted of a crime or comparable 526 ordinance violation or has had a prior criminal history record 527 sealed, except as provided in subsection (6), or expunged. Upon 528 receipt of such notice, the appropriate state attorney or 529 statewide prosecutor shall take action, within 60 days, to 530 correct the record and petition the court to void the order to 531 seal. The department shall seal the record until such time as 532 the order is voided by the court.

533 (d) On or after July 1, 1992, the department or any other 534 criminal justice agency is not required to act on an order to



535 seal entered by a court when such order does not comply with the 536 requirements of this section. Upon receipt of such an order, the 537 department must notify the issuing court, the appropriate state 538 attorney or statewide prosecutor, the petitioner or the 539 petitioner's attorney, and the arresting agency of the reason 540 for noncompliance. The appropriate state attorney or statewide 541 prosecutor shall take action within 60 days to correct the 542 record and petition the court to void the order. No cause of 543 action, including contempt of court, shall arise against any 544 criminal justice agency for failure to comply with an order to 545 seal when the petitioner for such order failed to obtain the 546 certificate of eligibility as required by this section or when 547 such order does not comply with the requirements of this 548 section.

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

553 (4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD SEALING.-A criminal 554 history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered sealed by 555 a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this section is 556 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and 557 s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and is available only 558 to the person who is the subject of the record, to the subject's 559 attorney, to criminal justice agencies for their respective 560 criminal justice purposes, which include conducting a criminal 561 history background check for approval of firearms purchases or transfers as authorized by state or federal law, to judges in 562 563 the state courts system for the purpose of assisting them in

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2009 Bill No. SB 706



| their case-related decisionmaking responsibilities, as set forth |
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| in s. 943.053(5), or to those entities set forth in |
| subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., 6., and 8. for their respective |
| licensing, access authorization, 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 and subsequent |
| dispositions covered by the sealed record, except when the |
| subject of the record: |
| 1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justice |
| agency; |
| 2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution; |
| 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under |
| this section or s. 943.0585; |
| 4. Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar; |
| 5. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract |
| with the Department of Children and Family Services, the Agency |
| for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with |
| Disabilities, or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be |
| employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive |
| position having direct contact with children, the |
| developmentally disabled, the 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. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. |
| 415.103, chapter 916, s. 985.644, chapter 400, or chapter 429; |
| 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 |
| |



593 school, or any local governmental entity that licenses child 594 care facilities;

595 7. Is attempting to purchase a firearm from a licensed 596 importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer and is 597 subject to a criminal history background check under state or 598 federal law; or

599 8. Is seeking authorization from a Florida seaport
600 identified in s. 311.09 for employment within or access to one
601 or more of such seaports pursuant to s. 311.12 or s. 311.125.

602 (b) Subject to the exceptions in paragraph (a), a person 603 who has been granted a sealing under this section, former s. 604 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 may not be held 605 under any provision of law of this state to commit perjury or to 606 be otherwise liable for giving a false statement by reason of 607 such person's failure to recite or acknowledge a sealed criminal 608 history record, including failure to recite or acknowledge on an 609 employment application.

(c) Information relating to the existence of a sealed 610 611 criminal record provided in accordance with the provisions of 612 paragraph (a) is confidential and exempt from the provisions of 613 s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, 614 except that the department shall disclose the sealed criminal 615 history record to the entities set forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 616 4., 5., 6., and 8. for their respective licensing, access 617 authorization, and employment purposes. It is unlawful for any 618 employee of an entity set forth in subparagraph (a)1., 619 subparagraph (a)4., subparagraph (a)5., subparagraph (a)6., or 620 subparagraph (a)8. to disclose information relating to the 621 existence of a sealed criminal history record of a person



622 seeking employment, access authorization, or licensure with such 623 entity or contractor, except to the person to whom the criminal 624 history record relates or to persons having direct 625 responsibility for employment, access authorization, or 626 licensure decisions. Any person who violates the provisions of 627 this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, 628 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 629 (5) STATUTORY REFERENCES. - Any reference to any other 630 chapter, section, or subdivision of the Florida Statutes in this 631 section constitutes a general reference under the doctrine of 632 incorporation by reference. 633 (6) SEALING OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD AFTER PRIOR SEALING 634 OR EXPUNCTION.-A court may seal a person's criminal history 635 record after a prior criminal history record has been sealed or 636 expunded only if the person obtains a certificate from the 637 department to seal the criminal history record. The department 638 shall issue the certificate only if the person has not been 639 arrested during the 5-year period following the date of the 640 court order for the initial expunction or sealing of his or her 641 criminal history record. All other provisions and requirements 642 of this section apply to an application to seal a criminal 643 history record after a prior criminal history record has been 644 sealed or expunged. 645 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009. 646 647 648 And the title is amended as follows: 649 Delete everything before the enacting clause 650 and insert:



651 A bill to be entitled 652 An act relating to criminal justice; providing legislative 653 intent; requiring state agencies and regulatory boards to 654 prepare reports that identify and evaluate restrictions on 655 licensing and employment; amending s. 112.011, F.S.; prohibiting 656 state agencies from denying an application for a license, 657 permit, certificate, or employment based on a person's lack of 658 civil rights; providing an exception; amending s. 943.0585, 659 F.S.; clarifying under what circumstances a person may legally 660 deny the existence of an expunded criminal history record; 661 authorizing the disclosure of the contents of an expunged record 662 upon receipt of a written, notarized request from the record 663 subject; requiring clerks of the court to post information 664 relating to procedures to seal or expunge criminal history 665 records on the clerk's website; amending s. 943.059, F.S.; 666 clarifying under what circumstances a person may legally deny 667 the existence of a sealed criminal history record; authorizing a 668 court to seal a criminal history record of a person who had a 669 prior criminal history record sealed or expunded; providing an 670 effective date.