

Fifty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1090

Introduced by

Judiciary Committee

(At the request of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 27-20-51 and section 27-20-52
2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to juvenile records.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 27-20-51 of the North Dakota
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 6 1. Except as provided in this section, all files and records of the juvenile court,
7 whether in the office of the clerk of district court or juvenile court, of a proceeding
8 under this chapter are closed to the public. Juvenile court files and records are
9 open to inspection only by:
- 10 a. The judge and staff of the juvenile court.
 - 11 b. The parties to the proceeding or their counsel or the guardian ad litem of any
12 party.
 - 13 c. A public or private agency or institution providing supervision or having
14 custody of the child under order of the juvenile court, which must be given a
15 copy of the findings and order of disposition when it receives custody of the
16 child.
 - 17 d. Any court and its probation and other officials or professional staff and the
18 attorney for the defendant for use in preparing a presentence report in a
19 criminal case in which the defendant is convicted and who, prior to the
20 criminal case, had been a party to the proceeding in juvenile court.
 - 21 e. The professional staff of the uniform crime victims compensation program
22 when necessary for the discharge of their duties pursuant to chapter 54-23.4.
 - 23 f. A staff member of the division of children and family services of the
24 department of human services or a law enforcement officer when necessary

for the performance of that person's duties under section 50-11.1-06.2 or the National Child Protection Act of 1993 [Pub. L. 103-209; 107 Stat. 2490; 42 U.S.C. 5119 et seq.].

g. An employee or agent of the department of human services when necessary for performance of that individual's duty under chapter 50-11 or 50-11.1 to investigate the background of an individual living or working in the facility, home, or residence for which licensure is sought.

h. A criminal justice agency if the juvenile is required to register under section 12.1-32-15.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 27-20-52 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

27-20-52. Law enforcement and correctional facility records. Law enforcement and correctional facility records and files of a child alleged or found to be delinquent, unruly, or deprived must be kept separate from the records and files of arrests of adults. Unless a charge of delinquency is transferred for criminal prosecution under section 27-20-34, the interest of national security requires, or the court otherwise orders in the interest of the child, these records and files may not be open to public inspection; but inspection of these records and files is permitted by:

1. A juvenile court having the child before it in any proceeding;
2. Counsel for a party to the proceeding;
3. The officers of public institutions or agencies to whom the child is or may be committed;
4. Law enforcement officers of other jurisdictions when necessary for the discharge of their official duties;
5. A court in which the child is convicted of a criminal offense for the purpose of a presentence report or other dispositional proceeding, or by officials of ~~penal institutions and other penal~~ correctional facilities to which the child is detained or committed, or by the parole board, the governor, or the pardon advisory board, if one has been appointed, in considering the child's parole or discharge or in exercising supervision over the child;

- 1 6. The professional staff of the uniform crime victims compensation program when
- 2 necessary for the discharge of their duties pursuant to chapter 54-23.4; and
- 3 7. A superintendent or principal of the school in which the child is currently enrolled or
- 4 of a school in which the child wishes to enroll.
- 5 Notwithstanding that law enforcement records and files of a child alleged or found to be
- 6 delinquent, unruly, or deprived are not open to public inspection, nothing in this section may be
- 7 construed to limit the release of general information not identifying the identity of the child.