

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1166

Introduced by

Representatives Pyle, O'Brien, Vetter, Berg

Senators Larson, Myrdal

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 12-60.1 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to sealing certain criminal records; to amend and reenact section
3 12-60.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to grounds to file a petition to seal a
4 criminal record; to provide for retroactive application; and to declare an emergency.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12-60.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **12-60.1-02. Grounds to file petition to seal criminal record.**

- 9 1. An individual may file a petition to seal a criminal record if:
- 10 a. The individual pled guilty to or was found guilty of a misdemeanor offense and
11 the individual has not been convicted of a new crime for at least three years
12 before filing the petition; or
- 13 b. The individual pled guilty to or was found guilty of a felony offense and the
14 individual has not been convicted of a new crime for at least five years before
15 filing the petition.
- 16 2. ~~This~~Except as provided under section 2 of this Act, this chapter does not apply to:
- 17 a. A felony offense involving violence or intimidation during the period in which the
18 offender is ineligible to possess a firearm under subdivision a of subsection 1 of
19 section 62.1-02-01; or

- 1 b. An offense for which an offender has been ordered to register under section
2 12.1-32-15.

3 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 12-60.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
4 and enacted as follows:

5 **Certain criminal records automatically sealed.**

- 6 1. The court shall seal any criminal record wherein:
7 a. An individual was found not guilty by a jury or at the conclusion of a bench trial;
8 b. All criminal charges in the criminal record were dismissed; or
9 c. An individual was granted a pardon by the governor of the criminal conviction.
10 2. The court shall seal a criminal record under subsection 1 within ninety-sixty-one days
11 after the judgment of acquittal, order to dismiss, or pardon was filed with the clerk of
12 court. A record of a closed criminal case if there was no conviction may not be
13 remotely accessed by a name search.

14 **SECTION 3. RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.** This Act applies to the criminal record of any
15 criminal case closed after March 1, 2017, for which there was no conviction or a pardon was
16 granted.

17 **SECTION 4. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.