

HB 75 -- Expungement of Certain Criminal Records

Sponsor: Curls

This bill authorizes the expungement of certain criminal records including convictions for any nonviolent felony crime or any misdemeanor, municipal, or traffic offense. The expungement of a record is allowed when at least eight years have elapsed since the person requesting expungement has completed his or her imprisonment, period of probation, or period of parole and the person has not been convicted of or been placed on probation for any misdemeanor or felony during that time.

Any individual wanting to expunge a criminal record is required to file a petition in the civil division of the circuit court in a county where any of the arrests, pleas, trials, or convictions occurred. The petition must name as defendants all entities whom the petitioner has reason to believe may possess the records subject to expungement. The court is required to schedule a hearing on the expungement petition no sooner than 30 days from the filing of the petition and must give reasonable notice of the hearing to each official agency or other entity named in the petition. If a court grants the order of expungement, the court records and files maintained in any administrative or court proceeding for any offense ordered expunged will be confidential and only available to the parties or by order of the court for good cause shown. A surcharge of \$500 must be assessed and collected on all petitions for expungement. Moneys collected from the surcharge will be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.