

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1245 (Substitute for House Bill No. 91 by Representative Wiley)

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILEY AND CHASSION

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Provides relative to disclosure of certain law enforcement records

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 44:4(65), relative to disclosure of certain records; to prohibit the disclosure
3 of certain records pertaining to law enforcement; to provide for a definition; to
4 provide for a public records exception; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 44:4(65) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §4. Applicability

8 This Chapter shall not apply:

9 * * *

10 (65)(a) To the record of arrests and prosecutions, also known as the "rap
11 sheet", contained in the criminal history records of any person who serves as a
12 witness in a criminal proceeding and which records are in the custody of the clerk
13 of court, unless the records are voluntarily released by the person, otherwise
14 available to the general public, or released by court order.

15 (b) For purposes of this Paragraph, "criminal history records" means records
16 collected and maintained by the Criminal Justice Information Services Division of
17 the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Louisiana Computerized Criminal History
18 System operated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

 DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1245 Re-Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Wiley

Abstract: Prohibits the disclosure of the sealed record of arrests and prosecutions contained in the criminal history records of any person who serves as a witness in a criminal proceeding and which records are in the custody of the clerk of court.

Present law (Public Records Law) generally provides that any person of the age of majority may inspect, copy, or reproduce any public record, and places certain duties on the custodian of a public record to make such records available upon request.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 44:4) provides certain exceptions to the Public Records Law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides an exception for the record of arrests and prosecutions, also known as the "rap sheet", contained in the criminal history records of any person who serves as a witness in a criminal proceeding and which records are in the custody of the clerk of court, unless the records are voluntarily released by the person, otherwise available to the general public, or released by court order.

Present law defines "criminal history records".

Proposed law retains present law and applies the same definition to proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 44:4(65))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove a proposed law exception for records of certain prosecutive, investigative, and law enforcement agencies.
2. Remove a proposed law limitation of liability for the clerk of court as custodian of records.
3. Provide that the proposed law exception applies to the social security number, home address, and date of birth contained in the criminal history records of an employee of a criminal justice agency who serves as a witness in a criminal proceeding and which records are in the custody of the clerk of court.
4. Define "criminal justice agency".

The House Floor Amendments to the reengrossed bill:

1. Modify proposed law to provide that the proposed law exception applies to the record of arrests and prosecutions of any witness in a criminal proceeding and which records are in the custody of the clerk of court.

2. Remove the proposed law definition for "criminal justice agency".
3. Make technical changes.