
DIGEST

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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.