

081089608

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1258

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 9, 2008

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 16.1-306 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the destruction of juvenile records and notification of expungement.*

---

Patron—Marsden

---

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 16.1-306 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 16.1-306. Expungement of court records.

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 16.1-69.55, the clerk of the juvenile and domestic relations district court *and the clerk of the circuit court* shall, on January 2 of each year or on a date designated by the court, destroy its files, papers and records, *including electronic records*, connected with any proceeding concerning a juvenile in *juvenile and domestic relations district court and in circuit court if the juvenile was tried as a juvenile on a de novo appeal from a juvenile and domestic relations district court pursuant to § 16.1-296*, if such juvenile has attained the age of nineteen years and five years have elapsed since the date of the last hearing in any case of the juvenile which is subject to this section. However, if the juvenile was found guilty of an offense for which the clerk is required by § 46.2-383 to furnish an abstract to the Department of Motor Vehicles, the records shall be destroyed when the juvenile has attained the age of twenty-nine. If the juvenile was found guilty of a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by an adult, the records shall be retained.

B. In all files in which the court records concerning a juvenile contain a finding of guilty of a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by an adult or an offense for which the clerk is required by § 46.2-383 to furnish an abstract to the Department of Motor Vehicles together with findings of not innocent of other acts, all of the records of such juvenile subject to this section shall be retained and available for inspection as provided in § 16.1-305.

C. A person who has been the subject of a delinquency or traffic proceeding and (i) has been found innocent thereof or (ii) such proceeding was otherwise dismissed, may file a motion requesting the destruction of all records pertaining to the charge of such an act of delinquency. Notice of such motion shall be given to the attorney for the Commonwealth. Unless good cause is shown why such records should not be destroyed, the court shall grant the motion, and shall send copies of the order to all officers or agencies that are repositories of such records, and all such officers and agencies shall comply with the order.

D. Each person shall be notified of his rights under subsections A and C of this section at the time of his dispositional hearing.

E. Upon destruction of the records of a proceeding as provided in subsections A, B, and C, the violation of law shall be treated as if it never occurred. All index references shall be deleted and the court and law-enforcement officers and agencies shall reply and the person may reply to any inquiry that no record exists with respect to such person.

F. All docket sheets shall be destroyed in the sixth year after the last hearing date recorded on the docket sheet.

G. *Whenever a clerk destroys files, papers, or records connected with any proceeding concerning a juvenile under subsection A, the clerk shall obtain an order from the court requiring that all local and state law-enforcement agencies, court service unit offices, detention homes, juvenile correctional centers, and Commonwealth's attorneys' offices that may have records concerning the proceedings destroy the fingerprint cards, all copies of the fingerprints, all photographs, and any other records, including electronic records, relating to the charge. The Central Criminal Records Exchange shall notify all federal criminal justice agencies known to have previously received any information relating to this charge of the expungement, and shall destroy all electronic records pertaining to the juvenile.*

INTRODUCED

HB1258