

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2477

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES (Sponsor), BURNETT, LOW (39), BLAND, TALBOY,  
HOSKINS, NASHEED, BROWN (50) AND EL-AMIN (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time March 27, 2008 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

5422L.01I

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 610, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to expungement of certain criminal records.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 610, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 610.140, to read as follows:

**610.140. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to the**  
2 **provisions of this section, any person may apply to any court in which he or she plead**  
3 **guilty or was found guilty of any of the offenses specified in subsection 2 of this section for**  
4 **an order to expunge from all official records all recordations of his or her arrest, plea, trial,**  
5 **or conviction. A person may apply to have one or more offenses expunged so long as such**  
6 **person lists all the offenses he or she is seeking to have expunged in the same petition and**  
7 **so long as all such offenses are eligible under subsection 2 of this section.**

8 **2. The following offenses are eligible to be expunged:**

9 **(1) All nonviolent crimes;**

10 **(2) Any misdemeanor offense; and**

11 **(3) All nonviolent drug violations.**

12 **3. The court may order expungement under this section only when the following**  
13 **criteria is met for each of the offenses listed in the petition for expungement:**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

14           (1) At least four years has elapsed since the person making the application has  
15 completed:

16           (a) His or her imprisonment, if sentenced to jail or prison;

17           (b) His or her period of probation, if placed on probation; or

18           (c) His or her parole, if placed on parole; and

19           (2) The person has:

20           (a) Graduated from high school or has received a GED; and

21           (b) Graduated from an institution of higher education with at least an associate's  
22 degree or maintains employment with the same employer for at least two consecutive years  
23 prior to filing the petition for expungement;

24           (c) Completed seven hundred hours of community service; and

25           (d) Not been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, or been placed on probation for  
26 a misdemeanor or felony during the four-year period specified in subdivision (1) of this  
27 subsection. For purposes of this paragraph, any moving traffic violations shall not be  
28 considered.

29           4. If the court determines, after hearing, that such person meets all the criteria set  
30 forth in subsection 3 of this section for each of the offenses listed in the petition for  
31 expungement the court shall enter an order of expungement. If the court determines that  
32 such person has not met the criteria for any of the offenses listed in the petition for  
33 expungement the court shall enter an order dismissing the petition. Any person whose  
34 petition for expungement has been dismissed by the court for failure to meet the criteria  
35 set forth in subsection 3 of this section may refile such petition as soon as all the criteria has  
36 been met for each of the offenses listed in the petition.

37           5. Upon granting of the order of expungement, the records and files maintained in  
38 any administrative or court proceeding in an associate circuit or circuit court division of  
39 the circuit court for any offense ordered expunged under this section shall be confidential  
40 and only available to the parties or by order of the court for good cause shown. The effect  
41 of such order shall be to restore such person to the status he or she occupied prior to such  
42 arrests, pleas, trials, or convictions and as if such events had never taken place. No person  
43 as to whom such order has been entered shall be held thereafter under any provision of law  
44 to be guilty of perjury or otherwise giving a false statement by reason of his or her failure  
45 to recite or acknowledge such arrests, pleas, trials, convictions, or expungement in response  
46 to any inquiry made of him or her for any purpose whatsoever and no such inquiry shall  
47 be made for information relating to an expungement under this section.

48           6. Any person who wishes to have a record of arrests, pleas, trials, or convictions  
49 expunged under the provisions of this section may file a verified petition for expungement

50 in the civil division of the circuit court in any county where at least one of the arrests, pleas,  
51 trials, or convictions occurred as provided in subsection 1 of this section. The petition shall  
52 include the following information or shall be dismissed if the information is not given:

53 (1) The petitioner's:

54 (a) Full name;

55 (b) Sex;

56 (c) Race;

57 (d) Date of birth;

58 (e) Driver's license number;

59 (f) Social Security number; and

60 (g) Address at the time of the arrest for each offense listed in the petition;

61 (2) Each offense charged against the petitioner for which the petitioner is  
62 requesting expungement;

63 (3) The date the petitioner was arrested for each offense;

64 (4) The name of the county where the petitioner was arrested for each offense and  
65 if any of the offenses occurred in a municipality, the name of the municipality for each  
66 offense;

67 (5) The name of the agency that arrested the petitioner for each offense;

68 (6) The case number and court for each offense;

69 (7) Petitioner's fingerprints on a standard fingerprint card at the time of filing a  
70 petition for expungement which will be forwarded to the central repository for the sole  
71 purpose of positively identifying the petitioner.

72 7. The petition shall name as defendants all law enforcement agencies, courts,  
73 prosecuting attorneys, central state repositories of criminal records, or others who the  
74 petitioner has reason to believe may possess the records subject to expungement for each  
75 of the offenses listed in the petition. The court's order of expungement shall not affect any  
76 person or entity not named as a defendant in the action.

77 8. The court shall set a hearing on the matter no sooner than thirty days from the  
78 filing of the petition and shall give reasonable notice of the hearing to each official agency  
79 or other entity named in the petition.

80 9. If the court finds that the petitioner is entitled to expungement it shall enter an  
81 order directing expungement. A copy of the order shall be provided to each agency  
82 identified in the petition under the provisions of subsection 7 of this section.

83 10. The supreme court shall promulgate rules establishing procedures for the  
84 handling of cases filed under the provisions of this section. Such procedures shall be

85 similar to the procedures established in chapter 482, RSMo, for the handling of small  
86 claims.

87       **11. Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the court from maintaining such**  
88 **records as to ensure that an individual has only one petition for expungement granted**  
89 **under this section.**

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