

FACT SHEET (June 2005) IN SUPPORT OF

Senate Bill 1076 PURGING OF JUVENILE RECORDS

PROBLEM:

Information from “sealed” juvenile records routinely leaks out, unfairly causing people who had contact with the juvenile justice system to lose employment, housing and educational opportunities.

SOLUTION:

Grant juvenile court judges the discretion to purge certain juvenile records.

**WHAT DOES
PURGING ENTAIL?**

Purging removes and destroys records, leaving no trace of a person’s identifying information. A person whose records have been purged may consider the purged case never to have occurred.

SB 1076 would:

**WHAT WOULD
SB 1076 PROVIDE?**

- Under appropriate circumstances, allow the purging of juveniles’ delinquency records, including probation, court and law enforcement records;
- Offer judges a series of important factors to consider in deciding whether to purge records;
- Establish a rebuttable presumption in favor of purging for youth whose cases have been dismissed with prejudice or *nolle pross’d*;
- Offer limited relief to juveniles indicted and tried as youthful offenders but found not delinquent and/or not guilty;
- Keep juveniles’ information available in statistical form to the Department of Probation and the courts so the system can accurately track caseloads and court activity.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Make your voice heard in **support** of giving juvenile courts the discretion to purge the records of certain juveniles! Contact the Chairmen of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary:

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