114TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1672

To provide for the sealing or expungement of records relating to Federal nonviolent criminal offenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 26, 2015

Mr. Fattah (for himself, Ms. Bass, Mr. Cárdenas, Mr. Clay, and Mr. Cummings) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the sealing or expungement of records relating to Federal nonviolent criminal offenses, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Record Expungement Designed to Enhance Employment
- 6 Act of 2015" or the "REDEEM Act".
- 7 (b) Table of Contents for
- 8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Sealing of criminal records.
- Sec. 3. Juvenile sealing and expungement.
- Sec. 4. Study and report on cost savings from sealing and expungement provisions.
- Sec. 5. TANF assistance and SNAP benefits.
- Sec. 6. State incentives.
- Sec. 7. Ensuring accuracy in the FBI background check system.
- Sec. 8. Report on statutory and regulatory restrictions and disqualifications based on criminal records.

1 SEC. 2. SEALING OF CRIMINAL RECORDS.

- 2 (a) In General.—Chapter 229 of title 18, United
- 3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 4 lowing:

5 "Subchapter D—Sealing of Criminal Records

6 "§ 3631. Definitions; eligible individuals

- 7 "(a) Definitions.—In this subchapter—
- 8 "(1) the term 'covered nonviolent offense'
- 9 means a Federal criminal offense that is not—
- 10 "(A) a crime of violence (as that term is
- 11 defined in section 16); or
- "(B) a sex offense (as that term is defined
- in section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration
- and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. 16911));
- 15 "(2) the term 'eligible individual' means an in-
- dividual who—
- 17 "(A) has been arrested for or convicted of
- a covered nonviolent offense;

[&]quot;Sec.

[&]quot;3631. Definitions; eligible individuals.

[&]quot;3632. Sealing petition.

[&]quot;3633. Effect of sealing order.

1	"(B) in the case of a conviction described
2	in subparagraph (A), has fulfilled each require-
3	ment of the sentence for the covered nonviolent
4	offense, including—
5	"(i) completing each term of imprison-
6	ment, probation, or supervised release; and
7	"(ii) satisfying each condition of im-
8	prisonment, probation, or supervised re-
9	lease;
10	"(C) subject to subsection (b), has not
11	been convicted of more than 2 felonies that are
12	covered nonviolent offenses, including any such
13	convictions that have been sealed; and
14	"(D) has not been convicted of any felony
15	that is not a covered nonviolent offense;
16	"(3) the term 'petitioner' means an individual
17	who files a sealing petition; and
18	"(4) the term 'protected information', with re-
19	spect to a covered nonviolent offense, means any ref-
20	erence to—
21	"(A) an arrest, conviction, or sentence of
22	an individual for the offense;
23	"(B) the institution of criminal pro-
24	ceedings against an individual for the offense;
25	or

1	"(C) the result of criminal proceedings de-
2	scribed in subparagraph (B);
3	"(5) the term 'seal'—
4	"(A) means—
5	"(i) to close a record from public
6	viewing so that the record cannot be exam-
7	ined except by court order; and
8	"(ii) to physically seal the record shut
9	and label the record 'SEALED' or, in the
10	case of an electronic record, the sub-
11	stantive equivalent; and
12	"(B) has the effect described in section
13	3633, including—
14	"(i) the right to treat the offense to
15	which a sealed record relates, and any ar-
16	rest, criminal proceeding, conviction, or
17	sentence relating to the offense, as if it
18	never occurred; and
19	"(ii) protection from civil and criminal
20	perjury, false swearing, and false state-
21	ment laws with respect to a sealed record;
22	"(6) the term 'sealing hearing' means a hearing
23	held under section 3632(b)(2); and
24	"(7) the term 'sealing petition' means a petition
25	for a sealing order filed under section 3632(a).

1	"(b) Eligible Individuals.—
2	"(1) Multiple convictions deemed to be
3	ONE CONVICTION.—For purposes of subsection
4	(a)(2)(C)—
5	"(A) multiple convictions shall be deemed
6	to be 1 conviction if the convictions result from
7	or relate to—
8	"(i) the same act; or
9	"(ii) acts committed at the same time;
10	and
11	"(B) subject to paragraph (2), multiple
12	convictions, not to exceed 3, that do not result
13	from or relate to the same act or acts com-
14	mitted at the same time shall be deemed to be
15	1 conviction if the convictions—
16	"(i) result from or relate to—
17	"(I) the same—
18	"(aa) indictment, informa-
19	tion, or complaint;
20	"(bb) plea of guilty; or
21	"(cc) official proceeding; or
22	"(II) related criminal acts that
23	were committed within a 3-month pe-
24	riod; or

1	"(ii) are determined to be directly re-
2	lated to addiction or a substance use dis-
3	order.
4	"(2) Discretion of court.—
5	"(A) In general.—A court reviewing a
6	sealing petition may determine that it is not in
7	the public interest to deem multiple convictions
8	described in paragraph (1)(B) to be 1 convic-
9	tion.
10	"(B) Reasoning.—If a court makes a de-
11	termination under subparagraph (A), the court
12	shall make available to the public the reasoning
13	for the determination.
14	"(C) Reporting.—Not later than 2 years
15	after the date of enactment of this subchapter
16	and each year thereafter, each district court of
17	the United States shall submit to the appro-
18	priate committees of Congress a report that de-
19	scribes the exercise of discretion by the court
20	under subparagraph (B), with all relevant data
21	disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and
22	the nature of the offense.
23	"§ 3632. Sealing petition
24	"(a) RIGHT TO FILE SEALING PETITION.—

1	"(1) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date de-
2	scribed in paragraph (2), an eligible individual may
3	file a petition for a sealing order with respect to a
4	covered nonviolent offense in a district court of the
5	United States.
6	"(2) Dates.—The date described in this para-
7	graph is—
8	"(A) for an eligible individual who is con-
9	victed of a covered nonviolent offense and sen-
10	tenced to a term of imprisonment, probation, or
11	supervised release, the date that is 1 year after
12	the date on which the eligible individual has
13	completed every such term of imprisonment,
14	probation, or supervised release; and
15	"(B) for an eligible individual not de-
16	scribed in subparagraph (A), the date on which
17	the case relating to the covered nonviolent of-
18	fense is disposed of.
19	"(3) Notice of opportunity to file peti-
20	TION.—
21	"(A) Convicted individuals.—
22	"(i) In general.—If an individual is
23	convicted of a covered nonviolent offense
24	and will potentially be eligible to file a
25	sealing petition with respect to the offense

1	upon fulfilling each requirement of the sen-
2	tence for the offense as described in sec-
3	tion 3631(a)(2)(B), the court in which the
4	individual is convicted shall, in writing, in-
5	form the individual, on each date described
6	in clause (ii), of—
7	"(I) that potential eligibility;
8	"(II) the necessary procedures
9	for filing the sealing petition; and
10	"(III) the benefits of sealing a
11	record, including protection from civil
12	and criminal perjury, false swearing,
13	and false statement laws with respect
14	to the record.
15	"(ii) Dates.—The dates described in
16	this clause are—
17	"(I) the date on which the indi-
18	vidual is convicted; and
19	"(II) the date on which the indi-
20	vidual has completed every term of
21	imprisonment, probation, or super-
22	vised release relating to the offense.
23	"(B) Individuals not convicted.—
24	"(i) Arrest only.—If an individual
25	is arrested for a covered nonviolent of-

1	fense, criminal proceedings are not insti-
2	tuted against the individual for the offense,
3	and the individual is potentially eligible to
4	file a sealing petition with respect to the
5	offense, on the date on which the case re-
6	lating to the offense is disposed of, the ar-
7	resting authority shall, in writing, inform
8	the individual of—
9	"(I) that potential eligibility;
10	(Π) the necessary procedures
11	for filing the sealing petition; and
12	"(III) the benefits of sealing a
13	record, including protection from civil
14	and criminal perjury, false swearing,
15	and false statement laws with respect
16	to the record.
17	"(ii) COURT PROCEEDINGS.—If an in-
18	dividual is arrested for a covered non-
19	violent offense, criminal proceedings are in-
20	stituted against the individual for the of-
21	fense, the individual is not convicted of the
22	offense, and the individual is potentially el-
23	igible to file a sealing petition with respect
24	to the offense, on the date on which the
25	case relating to the offense is disposed of,

1	the court in which the criminal proceedings
2	take place shall, in writing, inform the in-
3	dividual of—
4	"(I) that potential eligibility;
5	"(II) the necessary procedures
6	for filing the sealing petition; and
7	"(III) the benefits of sealing a
8	record, including protection from civil
9	and criminal perjury, false swearing,
10	and false statement laws with respect
11	to the record.
12	"(b) Procedures.—
13	"(1) Notification to prosecutor.—If an in-
14	dividual files a petition under subsection (a) with re-
15	spect to a covered nonviolent offense or arrest for a
16	covered nonviolent offense, the district court in
17	which the petition is filed shall provide notice of the
18	petition—
19	"(A) to the office of the United States at-
20	torney that prosecuted or would have pros-
21	ecuted the petitioner for the offense; and
22	"(B) upon the request of the petitioner, to
23	any other individual that the petitioner deter-
24	mines may testify as to the—

1	"(i) conduct of the petitioner since the
2	date of the offense or arrest; or
3	"(ii) reasons that the sealing order
4	should be entered.
5	"(2) Hearing.—
6	"(A) In General.—Not later than 6
7	months after the date on which an individual
8	files a sealing petition, the district court shall—
9	"(i) except as provided in subpara-
10	graph (D), conduct a hearing in accord-
11	ance with subparagraph (B); and
12	"(ii) determine whether to enter a
13	sealing order for the individual in accord-
14	ance with paragraph (3).
15	"(B) Opportunity to testify and
16	OFFER EVIDENCE.—
17	"(i) Petitioner.—The petitioner
18	may testify or offer evidence at the sealing
19	hearing in support of sealing.
20	"(ii) Prosecutor.—The office of a
21	United States attorney that receives notice
22	under paragraph (1)(A) may send a rep-
23	resentative to testify or offer evidence at
24	the sealing hearing in support of or
25	against sealing.

1	"(iii) OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—An indi-
2	vidual who receives notice under paragraph
3	(1)(B) may testify or offer evidence at the
4	sealing hearing as to the issues described
5	in clauses (i) and (ii) of that paragraph.
6	"(C) Magistrate judges.—A magistrate
7	judge may preside over a hearing under this
8	paragraph.
9	"(D) WAIVER OF HEARING.—If the peti-
10	tioner and the United States attorney that re-
11	ceives notice under paragraph (1)(A) so agree,
12	the court shall make a determination under
13	paragraph (3) without a hearing.
14	"(3) Basis for decision.—
15	"(A) In general.—In determining wheth-
16	er to enter a sealing order with respect to pro-
17	tected information relating to a covered non-
18	violent offense, the court—
19	"(i) shall consider—
20	"(I) the petition and any docu-
21	ments in the possession of the court;
22	and
23	"(II) all the evidence and testi-
24	mony presented at the sealing hear-
25	ing, if such a hearing is conducted;

1	"(ii) may not consider any non-Fed-
2	eral nonviolent crimes for which the peti-
3	tioner has been arrested or proceeded
4	against, or of which the petitioner has been
5	convicted; and
6	"(iii) shall balance—
7	"(I)(aa) the interest of public
8	knowledge and safety; and
9	"(bb) the legitimate interest, if
10	any, of the Government in maintain-
11	ing the accessibility of the protected
12	information, including any potential
13	impact of sealing the protected infor-
14	mation on Federal licensure, permit,
15	or employment restrictions; against
16	"(II)(aa) the conduct and dem-
17	onstrated desire of the petitioner to be
18	rehabilitated and positively contribute
19	to the community; and
20	"(bb) the interest of the peti-
21	tioner in having the protected infor-
22	mation sealed, including the harm of
23	the protected information to the abil-
24	ity of the petitioner to secure and
25	maintain employment.

- 1 "(B) BURDEN ON GOVERNMENT.—The
 2 burden shall be on the Government to show
 3 that the interests under subclause (I) of sub4 paragraph (A)(iii) outweigh the interests of the
 5 petitioner under subclause (II) of that subpara6 graph.
 - "(4) Waiting period after denial.—If the district court denies a sealing petition, the petitioner may not file a new sealing petition with respect to the same offense until the date that is 2 years after the date of the denial.
 - "(5) UNIVERSAL FORM.—The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall create a universal form, available over the Internet and in paper form, that an individual may use to file a sealing petition.
 - "(6) FEE WAIVER.—The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall by regulation establish a minimally burdensome process under which indigent petitioners may obtain a waiver of any fee for filing a sealing petition.
 - "(7) Reporting.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subchapter, and each year thereafter, each district court of the United States shall issue a public report that—

1	"(A) describes—
2	"(i) the number of sealing petitions
3	granted and denied under this section; and
4	"(ii) the number of instances in which
5	the office of a United States attorney sup-
6	ported or opposed a sealing petition;
7	"(B) includes any supporting data that the
8	court determines relevant and that does not
9	name any petitioner; and
10	"(C) disaggregates all relevant data by
11	race, ethnicity, gender, and the nature of the
12	offense.
13	"(8) Public defender eligibility.—
14	"(A) In General.—The district court
15	may, in its discretion, appoint counsel in ac-
16	cordance with the plan of the district court in
17	operation under section 3006A to represent a
18	petitioner for purposes of this section.
19	"(B) Considerations.—In making a de-
20	termination whether to appoint counsel under
21	subparagraph (A), the court shall consider—
22	"(i) the anticipated complexity of the
23	sealing hearing, including the number and
24	type of witnesses called to advocate against

1	the sealing of the protected information of
2	the petitioner; and
3	"(ii) the potential for adverse testi-
4	mony by a victim or a representative of the
5	office of the United States attorney.
6	"§ 3633. Effect of sealing order
7	"(a) In General.—Except as provided in this sec-
8	tion, if a district court of the United States enters a seal-
9	ing order with respect to a covered nonviolent offense, the
10	offense and any arrest, criminal proceeding, conviction, or
11	sentence relating to the offense shall be treated as if it
12	never occurred.
13	"(b) Verification of Sealing.—If a district court
14	of the United States enters a sealing order with respect
15	to a covered nonviolent offense, the court shall—
16	"(1) send a copy of the sealing order to each
17	entity or person known to the court that possesses
18	a record containing protected information that re-
19	lates to the offense, including each—
20	"(A) law enforcement agency; and
21	"(B) public or private correctional or de-
22	tention facility;
23	"(2) in the sealing order, require each entity or
24	person described in paragraph (1) to—

1	"(A) seal the record in accordance with
2	this section; and
3	"(B) submit a written certification to the
4	court, under penalty of perjury, that the entity
5	or person has sealed each paper and electronic
6	copy of the record;
7	"(3) seal each paper and electronic copy of the
8	record in the possession of the court; and
9	"(4) after receiving a written certification from
10	each entity or person under paragraph (2)(B), notify
11	the petitioner that each entity or person described in
12	paragraph (1) has sealed each paper and electronic
13	copy of the record.
14	"(c) Protection From Perjury Laws.—Except as
15	provided in subsection (f)(3)(A), a petitioner with respect
16	to whom a sealing order has been entered for a covered
17	nonviolent offense shall not be subject to prosecution
18	under any civil or criminal provision of Federal or State
19	law relating to perjury, false swearing, or making a false
20	statement, including section 1001, 1621, 1622, or 1623,
21	for failing to recite or acknowledge any protected informa-
22	tion with respect to the offense or respond to any inquiry
23	made of the petitioner, relating to the protected informa-
24	tion, for any purpose.

1	"(d) Attorney General Nonpublic Records.—
2	The Attorney General—
3	"(1) shall maintain a nonpublic record of all
4	protected information that has been sealed under
5	this subchapter; and
6	"(2) may access or utilize protected information
7	only—
8	"(A) for legitimate investigative purposes;
9	"(B) in defense of any civil suit arising out
10	of the facts of the arrest or subsequent pro-
11	ceedings; or
12	"(C) if the Attorney General determines
13	that disclosure is necessary to serve the inter-
14	ests of justice, public safety, or national secu-
15	rity.
16	"(e) Law Enforcement Access.—A Federal or
17	State law enforcement agency may access a record that
18	is sealed under this subchapter solely—
19	"(1) to determine whether the individual to
20	whom the record relates is eligible for a first-time-
21	offender diversion program;
22	"(2) for investigatory, prosecutorial, or Federal
23	supervision purposes; or

1	"(3) for a background check that relates to law
2	enforcement employment or any employment that re-
3	quires a government security clearance.
4	"(f) Prohibition on Disclosure.—
5	"(1) Prohibition.—Except as provided in
6	paragraph (3), it shall be unlawful to intentionally
7	make or attempt to make an unauthorized disclosure
8	of any protected information from a record that has
9	been sealed under this subchapter.
10	"(2) Penalty.—Any person who violates para-
11	graph (1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned
12	for not more than 1 year, or both.
13	"(3) Exceptions.—
14	"(A) Background Checks.—An indi-
15	vidual who is the subject of a record sealed
16	under this subchapter shall, and a Federal or
17	State law enforcement agency that possesses
18	such a record may, disclose the record in the
19	case of a background check for—
20	"(i) law enforcement employment; or
21	"(ii) any position that a Federal agen-
22	cy designates as a—
23	"(I) national security position; or
24	$"(\Pi)$ high-risk, public trust posi-
25	tion.

1	"(B) DISCLOSURE TO ARMED FORCES.—A
2	person may disclose protected information from
3	a record sealed under this subchapter to the
4	Secretaries of the military departments (or the
5	Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to
6	the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a
7	service in the Navy) for the purpose of vetting
8	an enlistment or commission, or with regard to
9	any member of the Armed Forces.
10	"(C) Criminal and Juvenile Pro-
11	CEEDINGS.—A prosecutor may disclose pro-
12	tected information from a record sealed under
13	this subchapter if the information pertains to a
14	potential witness in a Federal or State—
15	"(i) criminal proceeding; or
16	"(ii) juvenile delinquency proceeding.
17	"(D) Authorization for individual to
18	DISCLOSE OWN RECORD.—An individual who is
19	the subject of a record sealed under this sub-
20	chapter may choose to disclose the record.".
21	(b) APPLICABILITY.—The right to file a sealing peti-
22	tion under section 3632(a) of title 18, United States Code,
23	as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to a
24	covered nonviolent offense (as defined in section 3631(a)
25	of such title) that is committed or alleged to have been

1	committed before, on, or after the date of enactment of
2	this Act.
3	(c) Transition Period for Hearings Dead-
4	LINE.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date
5	of enactment of this Act, section 3632(b)(2)(A) of title
6	18, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall
7	be applied by substituting "1 year" for "6 months".
8	(d) Technical and Conforming Amendment.—
9	The table of subchapters for chapter 229 of title 18,
10	United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
11	following:
	"D. Sealing of Criminal Records
	SEC. 3. JUVENILE SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT.
12	SEC. 5. 50 VENILE SEALING AND EXPUNCEMENT.
12 13	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to—
13	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to—
13 14	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to—(1) protect children and adults against damage
13 14 15	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to—(1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent
13 14 15 16	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforce-
13 14 15 16 17	(a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforcement, arrest, and court records; and
13 14 15 16 17 18	 (a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforcement, arrest, and court records; and (2) prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure
13 14 15 16 17	 (a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforcement, arrest, and court records; and (2) prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential juvenile delinquency records and any
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	 (a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforcement, arrest, and court records; and (2) prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential juvenile delinquency records and any potential employment, financial, psychological, or
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	 (a) Purpose.—The purpose of this section is to— (1) protect children and adults against damage stemming from their juvenile acts and subsequent juvenile delinquency records, including law enforcement, arrest, and court records; and (2) prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential juvenile delinquency records and any potential employment, financial, psychological, or other harm that would result from such unauthor-

"§ 5031. Definitions

2	"In this chapter—
3	"(1) the term 'adjudication' means a deter-
4	mination by a judge that a person committed an act
5	of juvenile delinquency;
6	"(2) the term 'conviction' means a judgment or
7	disposition in criminal court against a person fol-
8	lowing a finding of guilt by a judge or jury;
9	"(3) the term 'destroy' means to render a file
10	unreadable, whether paper, electronic, or otherwise
11	stored, by shredding, pulverizing, pulping, incin-
12	erating, overwriting, reformatting the media, or
13	other means;
14	"(4) the term 'expunge'—
15	"(A) means to destroy a record and oblit-
16	erate the name of the person to whom the
17	record pertains from each official index or pub-
18	lic record; and
19	"(B) has the effect described in section
20	5044(c), including—
21	"(i) the right to treat an offense to
22	which an expunged record relates, and any
23	arrest, juvenile delinquency proceeding, ad-
24	judication, or other result of such pro-
25	ceeding relating to the offense, as if it
26	never occurred: and

1	"(ii) protection from civil and criminal
2	perjury, false swearing, and false state-
3	ment laws with respect to an expunged
4	record;
5	"(5) the term 'expungement hearing' means a
6	hearing held under section 5044(b)(2)(B);
7	"(6) the term 'expungement petition' means a
8	petition for expungement filed under section
9	5044(b);
10	"(7) the term 'juvenile' means—
11	"(A) except as provided in subparagraph
12	(B), a person who has not attained the age of
13	18; and
14	"(B) for the purpose of proceedings and
15	disposition under this chapter for an alleged act
16	of juvenile delinquency, a person who has not
17	attained the age of 21;
18	"(8) the term 'juvenile delinquency' means the
19	violation of a law of the United States committed by
20	a person before attaining the age of 18 which would
21	have been a crime if committed by an adult, or a
22	violation by such a person of section 922(x);
23	"(9) the term 'juvenile nonviolent offense'
24	means an act of juvenile delinquency that is not—

1	"(A) a violent crime (as defined in section
2	103 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
3	Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5603)); or
4	"(B) a sex offense (as that term is defined
5	in section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration
6	and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. 16911));
7	"(10) the term 'juvenile record'—
8	"(A) means a record maintained by a
9	court, the probation system, a law enforcement
10	agency, or any other government agency, of the
11	juvenile delinquency proceedings of a person;
12	and
13	"(B) includes—
14	"(i) a juvenile legal file, including a
15	formal document such as a petition, notice,
16	motion, legal memorandum, order, or de-
17	cree;
18	"(ii) a social record, including—
19	"(I) a record of a probation offi-
20	$\operatorname{cer};$
21	"(II) a record of any government
22	agency that keeps records relating to
23	juvenile delinquency;
24	"(III) a medical record;

1	"(IV) a psychiatric or psycho-
2	logical record;
3	"(V) a birth certificate;
4	"(VI) an education record, in-
5	cluding an individualized education
6	plan;
7	"(VII) a detention record;
8	"(VIII) demographic information
9	that identifies a juvenile or the family
10	of a juvenile; or
11	"(IX) any other record that in-
12	cludes personally identifiable informa-
13	tion that may be associated with a ju-
14	venile delinquency proceeding, an act
15	of juvenile delinquency, or an alleged
16	act of juvenile delinquency;
17	"(iii) a law enforcement record, in-
18	cluding—
19	"(I) fingerprints;
20	"(II) a DNA sample; or
21	"(III) a photograph; and
22	"(iv) a State criminal justice informa-
23	tion system record;
24	"(11) the term 'petitioner' means a person who
25	files an expungement petition or a sealing petition;

1	"(12) the term 'seal'—
2	"(A) means—
3	"(i) to close a record from public
4	viewing so that the record cannot be exam-
5	ined except by court order; and
6	"(ii) to physically seal the record shut
7	and label the record 'SEALED' or, in the
8	case of an electronic record, the sub-
9	stantive equivalent; and
10	"(B) has the effect described in section
11	5043(e), including—
12	"(i) the right to treat an offense to
13	which a sealed record relates, and any ar-
14	rest, juvenile delinquency proceeding, adju-
15	dication, or other result of such proceeding
16	relating to the offense, as if it never oc-
17	curred; and
18	"(ii) protection from civil and criminal
19	perjury, false swearing, and false state-
20	ment laws with respect to a sealed record;
21	"(13) the term 'sealing hearing' means a hear-
22	ing held under section 3632(b)(2)(B); and
23	"(14) the term 'sealing petition' means a peti-
24	tion for a sealing order filed under section
25	5043(b).".

(c) Confidentiality.—Section 5038 of title 18, 1 2 United States Code, is amended— 3 (1) in subsection (a), in the flush text following paragraph (6), by inserting after "bonding," the fol-4 5 lowing: "participation in an educational system,"; 6 and 7 (2) in subsection (b), by striking "District 8 courts exercising jurisdiction over any juvenile" and 9 inserting the following: "Not later than 7 days after 10 the date on which a district court exercises jurisdic-11 tion over a juvenile, the district court". 12 (d) Sealing; Expungement.— 13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 403 of title 18, 14 United States Code, is amended by adding at the 15 end the following: 16 "§ 5043. Sealing 17 "(a) Automatic Sealing of Nonviolent Of-18 FENSES.— 19 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Three years after the date 20 on which a person who is adjudicated delinquent 21 under this chapter for a juvenile nonviolent offense 22 completes every term of probation, official detention, 23 or juvenile delinquent supervision ordered by the 24 court with respect to the offense, the court shall

1	order the sealing of each juvenile record or portion
2	thereof that relates to the offense if the person—
3	"(A) has not been convicted of a crime or
4	adjudicated delinquent for an act of juvenile de-
5	linquency since the date of the disposition; and
6	"(B) is not engaged in active criminal
7	court proceedings or juvenile delinquency pro-
8	ceedings.
9	"(2) AUTOMATIC NATURE OF SEALING.—The
10	order of sealing under paragraph (1) shall require
11	no action by the person whose juvenile records are
12	to be sealed.
13	"(3) Notice of automatic sealing.—A
14	court that orders the sealing of a juvenile record of
15	a person under paragraph (1) shall, in writing, in-
16	form the person of the sealing and the benefits of
17	sealing the record, including protection from civil
18	and criminal perjury, false swearing, and false state-
19	ment laws with respect to the record.
20	"(b) Petitioning for Early Sealing of Non-
21	VIOLENT OFFENSES.—
22	"(1) Right to file sealing petition.—
23	"(A) In general.—During the 3-year pe-
24	riod beginning on the date on which a person
25	who is adjudicated delinquent under this chap-

ter for a juvenile nonviolent offense completes every term of probation, official detention, or juvenile delinquent supervision ordered by the court with respect to the offense, the person may petition the court to seal the juvenile records that relate to the offense.

"(B) Notice of opportunity to file petition.—If a person is adjudged delinquent for a juvenile nonviolent offense, the court in which the person is adjudged delinquent shall, in writing, inform the person of the potential eligibility of the person to file a sealing petition with respect to the offense upon completing every term of probation, official detention, or juvenile delinquent supervision ordered by the court with respect to the offense, and the necessary procedures for filing the sealing petition—

"(i) on the date on which the individual is adjudged delinquent; and

"(ii) on the date on which the individual has completed every term of probation, official detention, or juvenile delinquent supervision ordered by the court with respect to the offense.

1	"(2) Procedures.—
2	"(A) Notification to prosecutor.—If
3	a person files a sealing petition with respect to
4	a juvenile nonviolent offense, the court in which
5	the petition is filed shall provide notice of the
6	petition—
7	"(i) to the Attorney General; and
8	"(ii) upon the request of the peti-
9	tioner, to any other individual that the pe-
10	titioner determines may testify as to—
11	"(I) the conduct of the petitioner
12	since the date of the offense; or
13	"(II) the reasons that the sealing
14	order should be entered.
15	"(B) Hearing.—
16	"(i) In general.—Not later than 6
17	months after the date on which a person
18	files a sealing petition, the court shall—
19	"(I) except as provided in clause
20	(iii), conduct a hearing in accordance
21	with clause (ii); and
22	"(II) determine whether to enter
23	a sealing order for the person in ac-
24	cordance with subparagraph (C).

1	"(ii) Opportunity to testify and
2	OFFER EVIDENCE.—
3	"(I) Petitioner.—The peti-
4	tioner may testify or offer evidence at
5	the sealing hearing in support of seal-
6	ing.
7	"(II) Prosecutor.—The Attor-
8	ney General may send a representa-
9	tive to testify or offer evidence at the
10	sealing hearing in support of or
11	against sealing.
12	"(III) OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—An
13	individual who receives notice under
14	subparagraph (A)(ii) may testify or
15	offer evidence at the sealing hearing
16	as to the issues described in sub-
17	clauses (I) and (II) of that subpara-
18	graph.
19	"(iii) Waiver of Hearing.—If the
20	petitioner and the Attorney General so
21	agree, the court shall make a determina-
22	tion under subparagraph (C) without a
23	hearing.

1	"(C) Basis for decision.—The court
2	shall determine whether to grant the sealing pe-
3	tition after considering—
4	"(i) the sealing petition and any docu-
5	ments in the possession of the court;
6	"(ii) all the evidence and testimony
7	presented at the sealing hearing, if such a
8	hearing is conducted;
9	"(iii) the best interests of the peti-
10	tioner;
11	"(iv) the age of the petitioner during
12	his or her contact with the court or any
13	law enforcement agency;
14	"(v) the nature of the juvenile non-
15	violent offense;
16	"(vi) the disposition of the case;
17	"(vii) the manner in which the peti-
18	tioner participated in any court-ordered re-
19	habilitative programming or supervised
20	services;
21	"(viii) the length of the time period
22	during which the petitioner has been with-
23	out contact with any court or law enforce-
24	ment agency;

1	"(ix) whether the petitioner has had
2	any criminal or juvenile delinquency in-
3	volvement since the disposition of the juve-
4	nile delinquency proceeding; and
5	"(x) the adverse consequences the pe-
6	titioner may suffer if the petition is not
7	granted.
8	"(D) Waiting Period After Denial.—If
9	the court denies a sealing petition, the peti-
10	tioner may not file a new sealing petition with
11	respect to the same juvenile nonviolent offense
12	until the date that is 2 years after the date of
13	the denial.
14	"(E) Universal form.—The Director of
15	the Administrative Office of the United States
16	Courts shall create a universal form, available
17	over the Internet and in paper form, that an in-
18	dividual may use to file a sealing petition.
19	"(F) No fee for sealing.—There shall
20	be no cost for filing a sealing petition.
21	"(G) Reporting.—Not later than 2 years
22	after the date of enactment of this section, and
23	each year thereafter, each district court of the
24	United States shall issue a public report that—
25	"(i) describes—

1	"(I) the number of sealing peti-
2	tions granted and denied under this
3	subsection; and
4	"(II) the number of instances in
5	which the Attorney General supported
6	or opposed a sealing petition;
7	"(ii) includes any supporting data
8	that the court determines relevant and that
9	does not name any petitioner; and
10	"(iii) disaggregates all relevant data
11	by race, ethnicity, gender, and the nature
12	of the offense.
13	"(H) Public defender eligibility.—
14	"(i) Petitioners under age 18.—
15	The district court shall appoint counsel in
16	accordance with the plan of the district
17	court in operation under section 3006A to
18	represent a petitioner for purposes of this
19	subsection if the petitioner is less than 18
20	years of age.
21	"(ii) Petitioners age 18 and
22	OLDER.—
23	"(I) Discretion of court.—In
24	the case of a petitioner who not less
25	than 18 years of age, the district

1	court may, in its discretion, appoint
2	counsel in accordance with the plan of
3	the district court in operation under
4	section 3006A to represent the peti-
5	tioner for purposes of this subsection.
6	"(II) Considerations.—In de-
7	termining whether to appoint counsel
8	under subclause (I), the court shall
9	consider—
10	"(aa) the anticipated com-
11	plexity of the sealing hearing, in-
12	cluding the number and type of
13	witnesses called to advocate
14	against the sealing of the records
15	of the petitioner; and
16	"(bb) the potential for ad-
17	verse testimony by a victim or a
18	representative of the Attorney
19	General.
20	"(c) Effect of Sealing Order.—
21	"(1) In general.—Except as provided in this
22	subsection, if a court orders the sealing of a juvenile
23	record under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a
24	juvenile nonviolent offense, the offense and any ar-
25	rest, juvenile delinquency proceeding, adjudication.

1	or other result of such proceeding relating to the of-
2	fense shall be treated as if it never occurred.
3	"(2) Verification of sealing.—If a court
4	orders the sealing of a juvenile record under sub-
5	section (a) or (b) with respect to a juvenile non-
6	violent offense, the court shall—
7	"(A) send a copy of the sealing order to
8	each entity or person known to the court that
9	possesses a record relating to the offense, in-
10	cluding each—
11	"(i) law enforcement agency; and
12	"(ii) public or private correctional or
13	detention facility;
14	"(B) in the sealing order, require each en-
15	tity or person described in subparagraph (A)
16	to—
17	"(i) seal the record; and
18	"(ii) submit a written certification to
19	the court, under penalty of perjury, that
20	the entity or person has sealed each paper
21	and electronic copy of the record;
22	"(C) seal each paper and electronic copy of
23	the record in the possession of the court; and
24	"(D) after receiving a written certification
25	from each entity or person under subparagraph

1	(B)(11), notify the petitioner that each entity or
2	person described in subparagraph (A) has
3	sealed each paper and electronic copy of the
4	record.
5	"(3) Protection from Perjury Laws.—Ex-
6	cept as provided in paragraph (5)(C)(i), the person
7	who is the subject of a juvenile record sealed under
8	subsection (a) or (b) or a parent of the person shall
9	not be subject to prosecution under any civil or
10	criminal provision of Federal or State law relating to
11	perjury, false swearing, or making a false statement
12	including section 1001, 1621, 1622, or 1623, for
13	failing to acknowledge the record or respond to any
14	inquiry made of the person or the parent, relating
15	to the record, for any purpose.
16	"(4) Law enforcement access to sealed
17	RECORDS.—A law enforcement agency may access a
18	sealed juvenile record of a person solely—
19	"(A) to determine whether the person is el-
20	igible for a first-time-offender diversion pro-
21	gram;
22	"(B) for investigatory or prosecutorial pur-
23	poses within the juvenile justice system; or
24	"(C) for a background check that relates
25	to—

1	"(i) law enforcement employment; or
2	"(ii) any position that a Federal agen-
3	cy designates as a—
4	"(I) national security position; or
5	"(II) high-risk, public trust posi-
6	tion.
7	"(5) Prohibition on disclosure.—
8	"(A) Prohibition.—Except as provided
9	in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful to in-
10	tentionally make or attempt to make an unau-
11	thorized disclosure of any information from a
12	sealed juvenile record in violation of this sec-
13	tion.
14	"(B) Penalty.—Any person who violates
15	subparagraph (A) shall be fined under this title,
16	imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.
17	"(C) Exceptions.—
18	"(i) Background Checks.—A per-
19	son who is the subject of a juvenile record
20	sealed under this section shall, and a Fed-
21	eral or State law enforcement agency that
22	possesses such a record may, disclose the
23	record in the case of a background check
24	for—

1	"(I) law enforcement employ-
2	ment; or
3	"(II) any employment that re-
4	quires a government security clear-
5	ance.
6	"(ii) Disclosure to Armed
7	FORCES.—A person may disclose informa-
8	tion from a sealed juvenile record to the
9	Secretaries of the military departments (or
10	the Secretary of Homeland Security with
11	respect to the Coast Guard when it is not
12	operating as a service in the Navy) for the
13	purpose of vetting an enlistment or com-
14	mission, or with regard to any member of
15	the Armed Forces.
16	"(iii) Criminal and Juvenile pro-
17	CEEDINGS.—A prosecutor may disclose in-
18	formation from a juvenile record sealed
19	under this section if the information per-
20	tains to a potential witness in a Federal or
21	State—
22	"(I) criminal proceeding; or
23	"(II) juvenile delinquency pro-
24	ceeding.

1 "(iv) AUTHORIZATION FOR PERSON
2 TO DISCLOSE OWN RECORD.—A person
3 who is the subject of a juvenile record
4 sealed under this section may choose to
5 disclose the record.

6 "§ 5044. Expungement

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- 7 "(a) Automatic Expundement of Certain 8 Records.—
- 9 "(1) Attorney general motion.—
 - "(A) NONVIOLENT OFFENSES COMMITTED
 BEFORE A PERSON TURNED 15.—If a person is
 adjudicated delinquent under this chapter for a
 juvenile nonviolent offense committed before the
 person attained 15 years of age, on the date on
 which the person attains 18 years of age, the
 Attorney General shall file a motion in the district court of the United States in which the
 person was adjudicated delinquent requesting
 that each juvenile record of the person that relates to the offense be expunged.
 - "(B) Arrests.—If a juvenile is arrested for an offense for which a juvenile delinquency proceeding is not instituted under this subchapter, the Attorney General shall file a motion in the district court of the United States

that would have had jurisdiction of the proceeding requesting that each juvenile record relating to the arrest be expunged.

- "(C) EXPUNGEMENT ORDER.—Upon the filing of a motion in a district court of the United States with respect to a juvenile non-violent offense under subparagraph (A) or an arrest for an offense under subparagraph (B), the court shall grant the motion and order that each juvenile record relating to the offense or arrest, as applicable, be expunged.
- "(2) DISMISSED CASES.—If a district court of the United States dismisses an information with respect to a juvenile under this subchapter or finds a juvenile not to be delinquent in a juvenile delinquency proceeding under this subchapter, the court shall concurrently order that each juvenile record relating to the applicable proceeding be expunged.
- "(3) AUTOMATIC NATURE OF EXPUNGEMENT.—
 An order of expungement under paragraph (1)(C) or
 (2) shall not require any action by the person whose records are to be expunged.
- "(4) NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC EXPUNGEMENT.—
 A court that orders the expungement of a juvenile record of a person under paragraph (1)(C) or (2)

1	shall, in writing, inform the person of the
2	expungement and the benefits of expunging the
3	record, including protection from civil and criminal
4	perjury, false swearing, and false statement laws
5	with respect to the record.
6	"(b) Petitioning for Expundement of Non-
7	VIOLENT OFFENSES.—
8	"(1) In general.—A person who is adjudged
9	delinquent under this chapter for a juvenile non-
10	violent offense committed on or after the date on
11	which the person attained 15 years of age may peti-
12	tion the court in which the proceeding took place to
13	order the expungement of the juvenile record that
14	relates to the offense.
15	"(2) Procedures.—
16	"(A) Notification of prosecutor and
17	VICTIMS.—If a person files an expungement pe-
18	tition with respect to a juvenile nonviolent of-
19	fense, the court in which the petition is filed
20	shall provide notice of the petition—
21	"(i) to the Attorney General; and
22	"(ii) upon the request of the peti-
23	tioner, to any other individual that the pe-
24	titioner determines may testify as to—

1	"(I) the conduct of the petitioner
2	since the date of the offense; or
3	(Π) the reasons that the
4	expungement order should be entered.
5	"(B) Hearing.—
6	"(i) In general.—Not later than 6
7	months after the date on which a person
8	files an expungement petition, the court
9	shall—
10	"(I) except as provided in clause
11	(iii), conduct a hearing in accordance
12	with clause (ii); and
13	"(II) determine whether to enter
14	an expungement order for the person
15	in accordance with subparagraph (C).
16	"(ii) Opportunity to testify and
17	OFFER EVIDENCE.—
18	"(I) Petitioner.—The peti-
19	tioner may testify or offer evidence at
20	the expungement hearing in support
21	of expungement.
22	"(II) Prosecutor.—The Attor-
23	ney General may send a representa-
24	tive to testify or offer evidence at the

1	expungement hearing in support of or
2	against expungement.
3	"(III) OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—An
4	individual who receives notice under
5	subparagraph (A)(ii) may testify or
6	offer evidence at the expungement
7	hearing as to the issues described in
8	subclauses (I) and (II) of that sub-
9	paragraph.
10	"(C) Basis for decision.—The court
11	shall determine whether to grant an
12	expungement petition after considering—
13	"(i) the petition and any documents in
14	the possession of the court;
15	"(ii) all the evidence and testimony
16	presented at the expungement hearing, if
17	such a hearing is conducted;
18	"(iii) the best interests of the peti-
19	tioner;
20	"(iv) the age of the petitioner during
21	his or her contact with the court or any
22	law enforcement agency;
23	"(v) the nature of the juvenile non-
24	violent offense;
25	"(vi) the disposition of the case;

1	"(vii) the manner in which the peti-
2	tioner participated in any court-ordered re-
3	habilitative programming or supervised
4	services;
5	"(viii) the length of the time period
6	during which the petitioner has been with-
7	out contact with any court or any law en-
8	forcement agency;
9	"(ix) whether the petitioner has had
10	any criminal or juvenile delinquency in-
11	volvement since the disposition of the juve-
12	nile delinquency proceeding; and
13	"(x) the adverse consequences the pe-
14	titioner may suffer if the petition is not
15	granted.
16	"(D) Waiting period after denial.—If
17	the court denies an expungement petition, the
18	petitioner may not file a new expungement peti-
19	tion with respect to the same offense until the
20	date that is 2 years after the date of the denial.
21	"(E) Universal form.—The Director of
22	the Administrative Office of the United States
23	Courts shall create a universal form, available
24	over the Internet and in paper form, that an in-

1	dividual may use to file an expungement peti-
2	tion.
3	"(F) No fee for expundement.—There
4	shall be no cost for filing an expungement peti-
5	tion.
6	"(G) Reporting.—Not later than 2 years
7	after the date of enactment of this section, and
8	each year thereafter, each district court of the
9	United States shall issue a public report that—
10	"(i) describes—
11	"(I) the number of expungement
12	petitions granted and denied under
13	this subsection; and
14	"(II) the number of instances in
15	which the Attorney General supported
16	or opposed an expungement petition;
17	"(ii) includes any supporting data
18	that the court determines relevant and that
19	does not name any petitioner; and
20	"(iii) disaggregates all relevant data
21	by race, ethnicity, gender, and the nature
22	of the offense.
23	"(H) Public defender eligibility.—
24	"(i) Petitioners under age 18.—
25	The district court shall appoint counsel in

1	accordance with the plan of the district
2	court in operation under section 3006A to
3	represent a petitioner for purposes of this
4	subsection if the petitioner is less than 18
5	years of age.
6	"(ii) Petitioners age 18 and
7	OLDER.—
8	"(I) Discretion of court.—In
9	the case of a petitioner who not less
10	than 18 years of age, the district
11	court may, in its discretion, appoint
12	counsel in accordance with the plan of
13	the district court in operation under
14	section 3006A to represent the peti-
15	tioner for purposes of this subsection.
16	"(II) Considerations.—In de-
17	termining whether to appoint counsel
18	under subclause (I), the court shall
19	consider—
20	"(aa) the anticipated com-
21	plexity of the expungement hear-
22	ing, including the number and
23	type of witnesses called to advo-
24	cate against the expungement of
25	the records of the petitioner: and

1	"(bb) the potential for ad-
2	verse testimony by a victim or a
3	representative of the Attorney
4	General.
5	"(c) Effect of Expunded Juvenile Record.—
6	"(1) In general.—Except as provided in this
7	subsection, if a court orders the expungement of a
8	juvenile record under subsection (a) or (b) with re-
9	spect to a juvenile nonviolent offense—
10	"(A) the offense and any arrest, juvenile
11	delinquency proceeding, adjudication, or other
12	result of such proceeding relating to the offense
13	shall be treated as if it never occurred; and
14	"(B) the person to whom the record per-
15	tains shall not be required to disclose the exist-
16	ence of the record.
17	"(2) Verification of expundement.—If a
18	court orders the expungement of a juvenile record
19	under subsection (a) or (b) with respect to a juvenile
20	nonviolent offense, the court shall—
21	"(A) send a copy of the expungement order
22	to each entity or person known to the court
23	that possesses a record relating to the offense,
24	including each—
25	"(i) law enforcement agency; and

1	"(ii) public or private correctional or
2	detention facility;
3	"(B) in the expungement order, require
4	each entity or person described in subparagraph
5	(A) to—
6	"(i) destroy the record; and
7	"(ii) submit a written certification to
8	the court, under penalty of perjury, that
9	the entity or person has destroyed each
10	paper and electronic copy of the record;
11	"(C) destroy each paper and electronic
12	copy of the record in the possession of the
13	court; and
14	"(D) after receiving a written certification
15	from each entity or person under subparagraph
16	(B)(ii), notify the petitioner that each entity or
17	person described in subparagraph (A) has de-
18	stroyed each paper and electronic copy of the
19	record.
20	"(3) Reply to inquiries.—In the case of an
21	inquiry relating to a juvenile record of a person that
22	is expunged under this section, the court in which
23	the proceeding took place, each law enforcement offi-
24	cer, any agency that provided treatment or rehabili-
25	tation services to the person, and the person (except

as provided in paragraph (6)) shall reply to the inquiry that no such juvenile record exists.

"(4) Protection from Perjury Laws.—Except as provided in paragraph (5), if a juvenile record of a person is expunged under this section, the person who is the subject of the record or a parent of the person shall not be subject to prosecution under any civil or criminal provision of Federal or State law relating to perjury, false swearing, or making a false statement, including section 1001, 1621, 1622, or 1623, for failing to acknowledge the record or respond to any inquiry made of the person or the parent, relating to the record, for any purpose.

"(5) CIVIL ACTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If a person whose juvenile record is expunged under this section brings an action that might be defended with the contents of the record, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the defendant has a complete defense to the action.

"(B) Showing by Plaintiff.—In an action described in subparagraph (A), the plaintiff may rebut the presumption of a complete defense by showing that the contents of the ex-

1	punged record would not prevent the defendant
2	from being liable.
3	"(C) Duty to testify as to existence
4	OF RECORD.—The court in which an action de-
5	scribed in subparagraph (A) is filed may re-
6	quire the plaintiff to state under oath whether
7	the plaintiff had a juvenile record and whether
8	the record was expunged.
9	"(D) Proof of existence of Juvenile
10	RECORD.—If the plaintiff in an action described
11	in subparagraph (A) denies the existence of a
12	juvenile record, the defendant may prove the ex-
13	istence of the record in any manner compatible
14	with the applicable laws of evidence.
15	"(6) Criminal and Juvenile Pro-
16	CEEDINGS.—A prosecutor may disclose information
17	from a juvenile record expunged under this section
18	if the information pertains to a potential witness in
19	a Federal or State—
20	"(A) criminal proceeding; or
21	"(B) juvenile delinquency proceeding.
22	"(7) Authorization for person to dis-
23	CLOSE OWN RECORD.—A person who is the subject
24	of a juvenile record expunged under this section may
25	choose to disclose the record.".

1	(2) Technical and conforming amend-
2	MENT.—The table of sections for chapter 403 of
3	title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding
4	at the end the following:
	"5043. Sealing. "5044. Expungement.".
5	(3) Applicability.—Sections 5043 and 5044
6	of title 18, United States Code, as added by para-
7	graph (1), shall apply with respect to a juvenile non-
8	violent offense (as defined in section 5031 of such
9	title, as amended by subsection (b)) that is com-
10	mitted or alleged to have been committed before, on,
11	or after the date of enactment of this Act.
12	(e) JUVENILE SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.—
13	(1) In General.—Chapter 403 of title 18,
14	United States Code, as amended by subsection (d),
15	is amended by adding at the end the following:
16	"§ 5045. Juvenile solitary confinement
17	"(a) Definitions.—In this section—
18	"(1) the term 'juvenile detention facility' means
19	any facility—
20	"(A) to which juveniles are committed,
21	whether pursuant to an adjudication of delin-
22	quency under this subchapter or conviction for
23	an offense; or

1	"(B) where juveniles are detained prior to
2	disposition or conviction; and
3	"(2) the term 'room confinement' means the in-
4	voluntary restriction of a juvenile alone in a cell,
5	room, or other area for any reason.
6	"(b) Prohibition.—
7	"(1) In general.—The use of room confine-
8	ment at a juvenile detention facility for discipline,
9	punishment, retaliation, staffing shortages, adminis-
10	trative convenience, or any reason other than as a
11	temporary response to the behavior of a juvenile that
12	poses a serious and immediate risk of physical harm
13	to the juvenile, to others, or to the juvenile and oth-
14	ers, is prohibited.
15	"(2) Juveniles posing risk of harm.—
16	"(A) REQUIREMENT TO USE LEAST RE-
17	STRICTIVE TECHNIQUES.—
18	"(i) In general.—Before a staff
19	member of a juvenile detention facility
20	places a juvenile in room confinement, the
21	staff member shall attempt to use less re-
22	strictive techniques, including—
23	"(I) talking with the juvenile to
24	de-escalate the situation; and

1	"(II) when possible, bringing in
2	other staff members, qualified mental
3	health professionals, or other juveniles
4	to talk with the juvenile.
5	"(ii) Explanation.—Before a staff
6	member of a juvenile facility places a juve-
7	nile in room confinement, or immediately
8	after doing so, the staff member shall ex-
9	plain to the juvenile—
10	"(I) the reasons for the room
11	confinement; and
12	"(II) the fact that the juvenile
13	will be released from room confine-
14	ment—
15	"(aa) immediately upon re-
16	gaining self-control, as described
17	in clause (i)(I) or (ii)(I) of sub-
18	paragraph (B), as applicable; and
19	"(bb) not later than after
20	the expiration of the time period
21	described in clause (i)(II) or
22	(ii)(II) of subparagraph (B), as
23	applicable.
24	"(B) Maximum period of confine-
25	MENT —

1	"(i) Risk of harm to others or to
2	SELF AND OTHERS.—If a juvenile is placed
3	in room confinement because the juvenile
4	poses a serious and immediate risk of
5	physical harm to others or to the juvenile
6	and others, the juvenile shall be released—
7	"(I) immediately when the juve-
8	nile has sufficiently gained control so
9	as to no longer engage in behavior
10	that threatens serious and immediate
11	risk of physical harm to others or to
12	the juvenile or others; and
13	"(II) not later than 3 hours after
14	being placed in room confinement.
15	"(ii) Risk of harm to self only.—
16	If a juvenile is placed in room confinement
17	because the juvenile poses a serious and
18	immediate risk of physical harm to himself
19	or herself, the juvenile shall be released—
20	"(I) immediately when the juve-
21	nile has sufficiently gained control so
22	as to no longer engage in behavior
23	that threatens serious and immediate
24	risk of physical harm to himself or
25	herself; and

1	"(II) not later than 30 minutes
2	after being placed in room confine-
3	ment.
4	"(C) Risk of harm after maximum pe-
5	RIOD OF CONFINEMENT.—If, after the applica-
6	ble maximum period of confinement under
7	clause (i)(II) or (ii)(II) of subparagraph (B)
8	has expired, a juvenile continues to pose a seri-
9	ous and immediate risk of physical harm de-
10	scribed in clause (i) or (ii) of that subpara-
11	graph, as applicable—
12	"(i) the juvenile shall be transferred
13	to another juvenile detention facility or in-
14	ternal location where services can be pro-
15	vided to the juvenile without relying on
16	room confinement; or
17	"(ii) if the juvenile cannot be trans-
18	ferred to another juvenile detention facility
19	or internal location in accordance with
20	clause (i), and a qualified medical or men-
21	tal health professional believes the level of
22	crisis service needed is not available in the
23	current environment, a staff member of the
24	juvenile detention facility shall initiate a

1	referral to a location that can meet the
2	needs of the juvenile.
3	"(D) Spirit and purpose.—The use of
4	consecutive periods of room confinement to
5	evade the spirit and purpose of this subsection
6	shall be prohibited.
7	"(E) CONDITIONS.—A room used for room
8	confinement for a juvenile shall—
9	"(i) have not less than 80 square feet
10	of floor space;
11	"(ii) have adequate lighting, heating
12	or cooling (as applicable), and ventilation
13	for the comfort of the juvenile;
14	"(iii) be suicide-resistant and protru-
15	sion-free; and
16	"(iv) have reasonable access to water,
17	toilet facilities, and hygiene supplies.
18	"(F) Access to services.—A juvenile
19	placed in room confinement shall—
20	"(i) have access to appropriate med-
21	ical and psychological services; and
22	"(ii) receive crisis intervention and
23	one-on-one observation.
24	"(c) Study and Report.—Not later than 2 years
25	after the date of enactment of this section, and each year

1	thereafter, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress
2	a report that—
3	"(1) contains a detailed description of the type

of physical force, restraints, and room confinement used at juvenile detention facilities; and

6 "(2) describes the number of instances physical 7 force, restraints, or room confinement are used at 8 juvenile detention facilities, disaggregated by race, 9 ethnicity, and gender.".

10 (2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND11 MENT.—The table of sections for chapter 403 of
12 title 18, United States Code, as amended by sub13 section (d), is amended by adding at the end the fol14 lowing:

"5045. Juvenile solitary confinement.".

15 SEC. 4. STUDY AND REPORT ON COST SAVINGS FROM SEAL-

- 16 ING AND EXPUNGEMENT PROVISIONS.
- 17 (a) STUDY.—
- 18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after 19 the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-20 eral, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and 21 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-22 et, shall conduct a study on the cost savings and 23 broader economic impact of the sealing 24 expungement provisions in the amendments made by 25 sections 2, 3, and 6 of this Act.

1	(2) Considerations.—In conducting the study
2	under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall
3	consider—
4	(A) the reduction in recidivism and associ-
5	ated cost savings related to corrections and
6	public safety;
7	(B) increased economic activity by former
8	offenders, including by conducting an analysis
9	of the tax revenue generated by that activity;
10	and
11	(C) the economic impact on the household
12	of former offenders and the children of former
13	offenders.
14	(b) Report.—Not later than 5 years after the date
15	of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall sub-
16	mit to Congress a report on the study conducted under
17	subsection (a).
18	SEC. 5. TANF ASSISTANCE AND SNAP BENEFITS.
19	(a) Amendment to Ban on Assistance.—Section
20	115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
21	Reconciliation Act of 1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a) is amend-
22	ed—
23	(1) in subsection (a)—

1	(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and
2	(2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively,
3	and adjusting the margins accordingly;
4	(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph
5	(A), as redesignated—
6	(i) by striking "An individual" and in-
7	serting the following:
8	"(1) Denial of assistance and benefits.—
9	Except as provided in paragraph (2), an individual";
10	and
11	(ii) by striking "possession, use, or";
12	and
13	(C) by adding at the end the following:
14	"(2) Exception for individuals who re-
15	CEIVE TREATMENT AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—The
16	prohibition under paragraph (1) shall not apply to
17	an individual convicted of an offense described in
18	paragraph (1) who—
19	"(A)(i) has successfully completed a cer-
20	tified substance abuse treatment program; and
21	"(ii) has not committed a subsequent of-
22	fense described in paragraph (1);
23	"(B) is participating in a certified sub-
24	stance abuse treatment program;

1	"(C)(i) is eligible for and has sought to
2	participate in a certified substance abuse treat-
3	ment program; and
4	"(ii) agrees to immediately enroll and par-
5	ticipate in a certified substance abuse treatment
6	program once a slot becomes available for the
7	individual;
8	"(D) is a custodial parent;
9	"(E)(i) is suffering from a serious illness,
10	other than a substance abuse disorder; and
11	"(ii) provides documentation of the illness
12	described in clause (i) with a letter of diagnosis
13	from a medical provider;
14	"(F) is pregnant; or
15	"(G) is in compliance with the terms of the
16	sentence imposed on the individual for the con-
17	viction.";
18	(2) in subsection (d), by striking "the date of
19	the enactment of this Act" each place that term ap-
20	pears and inserting "the date of enactment of the
21	Record Expungement Designed to Enhance Employ-
22	ment Act of 2015";
23	(3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
24	following:
25	"(e) Definitions.—For purposes of this section—

1	"(1) the term 'certified substance abuse treat-
2	ment program' means a course of substance abuse
3	disorder treatment prescribed by a qualified behav-
4	ioral health provider;
5	"(2) the term 'custodial parent' means an indi-
6	vidual who has custody of, and lives in the same
7	household as—
8	"(A) a dependent child who is less than 18
9	years of age; or
10	"(B) a disabled child of the individual who
11	is not less than 18 years of age;
12	"(3) the term 'State' has the meaning given the
13	term—
14	"(A) in section 419(5) of the Social Secu-
15	rity Act, when referring to assistance provided
16	under a State program funded under part A of
17	title IV of the Social Security Act; and
18	"(B) in section 3 of the Food and Nutri-
19	tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), when refer-
20	ring to the supplemental nutrition assistance
21	program (as defined in that section) or any
22	State program carried out under that Act; and
23	"(4) the term 'successfully completed', with re-
24	spect to an individual who participates in a certified
25	substance abuse treatment program, means the indi-

1	vidual has completed the prescribed course of treat-
2	ment for a substance abuse disorder."; and
3	(4) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (5)
4	and inserting the following:
5	"(5) Employment services, including job train-
6	ing programs and any other employment services
7	that are funded using assistance or benefits referred
8	to in subsection (a).".
9	(b) EFFECT ON STATE ELECTIONS TO OPT OUT OR
10	LIMIT PERIOD OF PROHIBITION.—
11	(1) Definitions.—In this subsection—
12	(A) the term "State" has the meaning
13	given the term in section 115(e) of the Personal
14	Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconcili-
15	ation Act of 1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a(e)); and
16	(B) the term "TANF assistance or SNAP
17	benefits' means assistance or benefits referred
18	to in section 115(a) of the Personal Responsi-
19	bility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
20	of 1996.
21	(2) Effect.—A law enacted by a State under
22	the authority under subparagraph (A) or (B) of sub-
23	section $(d)(1)$ of section 115 of the Personal Respon-
24	sibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of
25	1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a) (as in effect on the day be-

1	fore the date of enactment of this Act), and any
2	State law or regulation enacted to carry out the re-
3	quirements of such section (as in effect on the day
4	before the date of enactment of this Act), that im-
5	poses conditions on eligibility for TANF assistance
6	or SNAP benefits that are more restrictive than the
7	conditions on eligibility for TANF assistance or
8	SNAP benefits under such section as amended by
9	subsection (a) shall have no force or effect.
10	SEC. 6. STATE INCENTIVES.
11	(a) COPS Grants Priority.—Section 1701(c) of
12	the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968
13	(42 U.S.C. 3796dd(c)) is amended—
14	(1) by striking "In" and inserting the following
15	"(1) In general.—In";
16	(2) by striking "where feasible" and all that fol-
17	lows, and inserting the following: "where feasible, to
18	an application—
19	"(A) for hiring and rehiring additional ca-
20	reer law enforcement officers that involves ϵ
21	non-Federal contribution exceeding the 25 per-
22	cent minimum under subsection (g); or
23	"(B) from an applicant in a State that has
24	in effect—

1	"(i) a law relating to the confiden-
2	tiality, sealing, and expungement of juve-
3	nile records that is substantially similar to,
4	or more generous to the former offender
5	than, the amendments made by subsections
6	(b) through (d) of section 3 of the Record
7	Expungement Designed to Enhance Em-
8	ployment Act of 2015;
9	"(ii) a law prohibiting juvenile solitary
10	confinement that is substantially similar
11	to, or more restrictive than, the amend-
12	ment made by subsection (e) of section 3
13	of the Record Expungement Designed to
14	Enhance Employment Act of 2015;
15	"(iii) a law relating to the sealing of
16	adult records that is substantially similar
17	to, or more generous to the former of-
18	fender than, the amendments made by sec-
19	tion 2 of the Record Expungement De-
20	signed to Enhance Employment Act of
21	2015;
22	"(iv) subject to paragraph (2), a law
23	that establishes that an adult criminal
24	court may not have original jurisdiction
25	over an individual who was less than 18

1	years of age when the individual committed
2	an offense;
3	"(v) a law that allows an individual
4	who has successfully sealed or expunged a
5	criminal record to be free from civil and
6	criminal perjury laws; or
7	"(vi) a law relating to the eligibility of
8	individuals for assistance or benefits re-
9	ferred to in subsection (a) of section 115
10	of the Personal Responsibility and Work
11	Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
12	(21 U.S.C. 862a(a)) that is no more re-
13	strictive than such section, as amended by
14	section 5 of the Record Expungement De-
15	signed to Enhance Employment Act of
16	2015.''; and
17	(3) by adding at the end the following:
18	"(2) Juvenile transfer provisions.—Para-
19	graph (1)(B)(iv) shall not be construed to preclude
20	from preferential consideration an application from
21	an applicant in a State that—
22	"(A) has in effect a law that authorizes the
23	transfer of an individual who is less than 18
24	years of age to adult criminal court if the indi-
25	vidual commits a specified offense or an offense

1 that falls under a specified category of offenses;

2 or

- 3 "(B) exercises other case-specific transfer 4 mechanisms.
- 5 "(3) Degree of Priority Commensurate 6 WITH DEGREE OF COMPLIANCE.—If the Attorney 7 General, in awarding grants under this part, gives 8 preferential consideration to any application as au-9 thorized under paragraph (1)(B), the Attorney Gen-10 eral shall base the degree of preferential consider-11 ation given to an application from an applicant in a particular State on the number of clauses under 12 13 paragraph (1)(B) that the State has satisfied, rel-14 ative to the number of such clauses that each other 15 State has satisfied.".
- 16 (b) ATTORNEY GENERAL GUIDELINES AND TECH-NICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Attorney General shall issue guidelines and provide technical assistance to assist States 18 19 complying with the incentive under section 20 1701(c)(1)(B) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe 21 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd(c)(1)(B)), as 22 added by subsection (a).

1	SEC. 7. ENSURING ACCURACY IN THE FBI BACKGROUND
2	CHECK SYSTEM.
3	(a) In General.—Section 534 of title 28, United
4	States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5	lowing:
6	"(g) Ensuring Accuracy in the FBI Back-
7	GROUND CHECK SYSTEM.—
8	"(1) Definitions.—In this subsection—
9	"(A) the term 'applicant' means the indi-
10	vidual to whom a record sought to be exchanged
11	pertains;
12	"(B) the term 'incomplete', with respect to
13	a record, means the record—
14	"(i) indicates that an individual was
15	arrested but does not describe the offense
16	for which the individual was arrested; or
17	"(ii) indicates that an individual was
18	arrested or criminal proceedings were insti-
19	tuted against an individual but does not
20	include the final disposition of the arrest
21	or of the proceedings if a final disposition
22	has been reached;
23	"(C) the term 'record' means a record or
24	other information collected under this section;
25	"(D) the term 'reporting jurisdiction'
26	means any person or entity that provides a

1	record to the Attorney General under this sec-
2	tion; and
3	"(E) the term 'requesting entity'—
4	"(i) means a person or entity that
5	seeks the exchange of a record for civil
6	purposes that include employment, hous-
7	ing, credit, or any other type of applica-
8	tion; and
9	"(ii) does not include a law enforce-
10	ment or intelligence agency that seeks the
11	exchange of a record for—
12	"(I) investigative purposes; or
13	"(II) purposes relating to law en-
14	forcement employment.
15	"(2) Incomplete or inaccurate records.—
16	The Attorney General shall establish and enforce
17	procedures to ensure the prompt release of accurate
18	records exchanged for employment-related purposes
19	through the records system created under this sec-
20	tion.
21	"(3) Required procedures.—The procedures
22	established under paragraph (2) shall include the
23	following:
24	"(A) INACCURATE RECORD OR INFORMA-
25	TION.—If the Attorney General determines that

1	a record is inaccurate, the Attorney General
2	shall promptly correct the record, including by
3	making deletions to the record if appropriate.
4	"(B) Incomplete record.—
5	"(i) In General.—If the Attorney
6	General determines that a record is incom-
7	plete or cannot be verified, the Attorney
8	General—
9	"(I) shall attempt to complete or
10	verify the record; and
11	"(II) if unable to complete or
12	verify the record, may promptly make
13	any changes or deletions to the
14	record.
15	"(ii) Lack of disposition of ar-
16	REST.—For purposes of this subpara-
17	graph, an incomplete record includes a
18	record that indicates there was an arrest
19	and does not include the disposition of the
20	arrest.
21	"(iii) Obtaining disposition of ar-
22	REST.—If the Attorney General determines
23	that a record is an incomplete record de-
24	scribed in clause (ii), the Attorney General
25	shall, not later than 10 days after the date

1	on which the requesting entity requests the
2	exchange and before the exchange is made,
3	obtain the disposition (if any) of the ar-
4	rest.
5	"(C) Notification of reporting juris-
6	DICTION.—The Attorney General shall notify
7	each appropriate reporting jurisdiction of any
8	action taken under subparagraph (A) or (B).
9	"(D) Opportunity to review records
10	BY APPLICANT.—In connection with an ex-
11	change of a record under this section, the At-
12	torney General shall—
13	"(i) obtain the consent of the appli-
14	cant to exchange the record with the re-
15	questing entity;
16	"(ii) at the time of consent, notify the
17	applicant that the applicant can obtain a
18	copy of the record;
19	"(iii) provide to the applicant an op-
20	portunity to—
21	"(I) obtain a copy of the record
22	upon request; and
23	"(II) challenge the accuracy and
24	completeness of the record:

1	"(iv) promptly notify the requesting
2	entity of any such challenge;
3	"(v) not later than 30 days after the
4	date on which the challenge is made, com-
5	plete an investigation of the challenge;
6	"(vi) provide to the applicant the spe-
7	cific findings and results of that investiga-
8	tion;
9	"(vii) promptly make any changes or
10	deletions to the records required as a re-
11	sult of the challenge; and
12	"(viii) report those changes to the re-
13	questing entity.
14	"(E) CERTAIN EXCHANGES PROHIBITED.—
15	An exchange shall not include any record—
16	"(i) about an arrest more than 2
17	years old as of the date of the request for
18	the exchange, that does not also include a
19	disposition (if any) of that arrest;
20	"(ii) relating to an adult or juvenile
21	non-serious offense of the sort described in
22	section 20.32(b) of title 28, Code of Fed-
23	eral Regulations, as in effect on July 1,
24	2009; or

1	"(iii) to the extent the record is not
2	clearly an arrest or a disposition of an ar-
3	rest.
4	"(4) Fees.—The Attorney General may collect
5	a reasonable fee for an exchange of records for em-
6	ployment-related purposes through the records sys-
7	tem created under this section to defray the costs
8	associated with exchanges for those purposes, includ-
9	ing any costs associated with the investigation of in-
10	accurate or incomplete records.".
11	(b) REGULATIONS ON REASONABLE PROCEDURES.—
12	Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this
13	Act, the Attorney General shall issue regulations to carry
14	out section 534(g) of title 28, United States Code, as
15	added by subsection (a).
16	(c) Report.—Not later than 2 years after the date
17	of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall sub-
18	mit to Congress a report on the implementation of sub-
19	section (g) of section 534 of title 28, United States Code
20	as added by subsection (a), that includes—
21	(1) the number of exchanges of records for em-
22	ployment-related purposes made with entities in each
23	State through the records system created under such
24	section 534;

1	(2) any prolonged failure of a reporting juris-
2	diction to comply with a request by the Attorney
3	General for information about dispositions of ar-
4	rests; and
5	(3) the numbers of successful and unsuccessful
6	challenges to the accuracy and completeness of
7	records, organized by State of origination of each
8	record.
9	SEC. 8. REPORT ON STATUTORY AND REGULATORY RE-
10	STRICTIONS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS BASED
11	ON CRIMINAL RECORDS.
12	(a) In General.—Not later than 2 years after the
13	date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in
14	consultation with the Secretary of Labor and the Director
15	of the Office of Personnel Management, shall submit to
16	Congress a report on each Federal statute, regulation, or
17	policy that authorizes a restriction on, or disqualification
18	of, an applicant for employment or for a Federal license
19	or permit based on the criminal record of the applicant.
20	(b) Identification of Information.—In the re-
21	port submitted under subsection (a), the Attorney General
22	shall—
23	(1) identify each occupation, position, license,
24	or permit to which a restriction or disqualification
25	described in subsection (a) applies: and

1	(2) for each occupation, position, license, or
2	permit identified under paragraph (1), include—
3	(A) a description of the restriction or dis-
4	qualification;
5	(B) the duration of the restriction or dis-
6	qualification;
7	(C) an evaluation of the rationale for the
8	restriction or disqualification and its continuing
9	usefulness;
10	(D) the procedures, if any, to appeal, waive
11	or exempt the restriction or disqualification
12	based on a showing of rehabilitation or other
13	relevant evidence;
14	(E) any information available about the
15	numbers of individuals restricted or disqualified
16	on the basis of a criminal record; and
17	(F) the identity of the Federal agency with
18	jurisdiction over the restriction or disqualifica-
19	tion.

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