

**Senator Todd Weiler** proposes the following substitute bill:

**EXPUNGEMENT AMENDMENTS**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Todd Weiler**

House Sponsor: Michael K. McKell

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions related to expungement.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

11a **Ŝ→** ▶ addresses expungement and fines, fees, or interest;

11b ▶ addresses expungement and pending or previous infractions, traffic offenses, or

11c minor regulatory offenses; ←Ŝ

12 ▶ provides for a certificate of eligibility if certain conditions are met after a case is  
13 dismissed without prejudice or condition;

14 ▶ addresses when the court shall issue an order of expungement;

15 ▶ provides for applying for a certificate of eligibility after a petition for expungement  
16 is denied; and

17 ▶ makes technical amendments.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**77-40-104**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 136



24a **Ŝ→ 77-40-105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapters 282 and 356 ←Ŝ**

25 **77-40-107**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 356

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27 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*28 Section 1. Section **77-40-104** is amended to read:29 **77-40-104. Eligibility for expungement of records of arrest, investigation, and**  
30 **detention -- Requirements.**31 (1) A person who [~~has been~~] is arrested or formally charged with an offense may apply  
32 to the bureau for a certificate of eligibility to expunge [~~all~~] the records of arrest, investigation,  
33 and detention [~~which~~] that may have been made in the case, subject to the following  
34 conditions:35 (a) at least 30 days have passed since the day of the arrest for which a certificate of  
36 eligibility is sought;

37 (b) there are no criminal proceedings pending against the petitioner; and

38 (c) one of the following [~~occurred~~] occurs:39 (i) charges [~~were~~] are screened by the investigating law enforcement agency and the  
40 prosecutor [~~has made~~] makes a final determination that no charges will be filed in the case;41 (ii) the entire case [~~was~~] is dismissed with prejudice;42 (iii) the entire case is dismissed without prejudice or without condition and:43 (A) the prosecutor consents in writing to the issuance of a certificate of eligibility; or44 (B) at least 180 days have passed since the day on which the case is dismissed;45 [~~(iii)~~] (iv) the person [~~was~~] is acquitted at trial on all of the charges contained in the  
46 case; or47 [~~(iv)~~] (v) the statute of limitations [~~has expired~~] expires on all of the charges contained  
48 in the case.49 (2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), the bureau shall issue a certificate of eligibility  
50 on an expedited basis to a petitioner seeking expungement under Subsection [(1)(c)(iii) shall be  
51 issued a certificate of eligibility on an expedited basis] (1)(c)(iv).51a **§→ Section 2. Section 77-40-105 is amended to read:**51b **77-40-105. Eligibility for expungement of conviction -- Requirements.**51c (1) A person convicted of an offense may apply to the bureau for a certificate of eligibility to  
51d expunge the record of conviction as provided in this section.

51e (2) A petitioner is not eligible to receive a certificate of eligibility from the bureau if:

51f (a) the conviction for which expungement is sought is:

51g (i) a capital felony;

51h (ii) a first degree felony;

51i (iii) a violent felony as defined in Subsection 76-3-203.5(1)(c)(i);

- 51j           ⊕(iv) felony automobile homicide;
- 51k           (v) a felony violation of Subsection 41-6a-501(2);
- 51l           (vi) a registerable sex offense as defined in Subsection 77-41-102(17); or
- 51m           (vii) a registerable child abuse offense as defined in Subsection 77-43-102(2);
- 51n           (b) a criminal proceeding is pending against the petitioner; or
- 51o           (c) the petitioner intentionally or knowingly provides false or misleading information on the
- 51p application for a certificate of eligibility.
- 51q           (3) A petitioner seeking to obtain expungement for a record of conviction is not eligible to
- 51r receive a certificate of eligibility from the bureau until all of the following have occurred:
- 51s           (a) all fines and interest ordered by the court ~~Œ~~→related to the conviction for which
- 51t expungement is sought←Œ have been paid in full;
- 51u           (b) all restitution ordered by the court pursuant to Section 77-38a-302, or by the Board of
- 51v Pardons and Parole pursuant to Section 77-27-6, has been paid in full; and
- 51w           (c) the following time periods have elapsed from the date the petitioner was convicted or
- 51x released from incarceration, parole, or probation, whichever occurred last, for each conviction the
- 51y petitioner seeks to expunge:
- 51z           (i) 10 years in the case of a misdemeanor conviction of Subsection 41-6a-501(2) or a felony
- 51aa conviction of Subsection 58-37-8(2)(g);
- 51ab           (ii) seven years in the case of a felony;
- 51ac           (iii) five years in the case of any class A misdemeanor or a felony drug possession offense;
- 51ad           (iv) four years in the case of a class B misdemeanor; or
- 51ae           (v) three years in the case of any other misdemeanor or infraction.
- 51af           (4) The bureau may not count ~~Œ~~→ [a] pending or previous ←Œ infractions, traffic offenses, or
- 51ag minor regulatory offenses ~~Œ~~→ , or fines or fees arising from the infractions, traffic offenses, or minor
- 51ah regulatory offenses, ←Œ when determining expungement eligibility.
- 51ai           (5) The bureau may not issue a certificate of eligibility if, at the time the petitioner seeks a
- 51aj certificate of eligibility, the bureau determines that the petitioner's criminal history, including
- 51ak previously expunged convictions, contains any of the following, except as provided in Subsection (8):
- 51al           (a) two or more felony convictions other than for drug possession offenses, each of which is
- 51am contained in a separate criminal episode;
- 51an           (b) any combination of three or more convictions other than for drug possession offenses that
- 51ao include two class A misdemeanor convictions, each of which is contained in a separate criminal
- 51ap episode;
- 51aq           (c) any combination of four or more convictions other than for drug possession offenses that
- 51ar include three class B misdemeanor convictions, each of which is contained in a separate criminal
- 51as episode; or
- 51at           (d) five or more convictions other than for drug possession offenses of any degree⊕

51au ☉whether misdemeanor or felony, each of which is contained in a separate criminal episode.

51av (6) The bureau may not issue a certificate of eligibility if, at the time the petitioner seeks a  
51aw certificate of eligibility, the bureau determines that the petitioner's criminal history, including  
51ax previously expunged convictions, contains any of the following:

51ay (a) three or more felony convictions for drug possession offenses, each of which is contained in  
51az a separate criminal episode; or

51ba (b) any combination of five or more convictions for drug possession offenses, each of which is  
51bb contained in a separate criminal episode.

51bc (7) If the petitioner's criminal history contains convictions for both a drug possession offense  
51bd and a non drug possession offense arising from the same criminal episode, that criminal episode shall  
51be be counted as provided in Subsection (5) if any non drug possession offense in that episode:

51bf (a) is a felony or class A misdemeanor; or

51bg (b) has the same or a longer waiting period under Subsection (3) than any drug possession  
51bh offense in that episode.

51bi (8) If at least 10 years have elapsed from the date the petitioner was convicted or released  
51bj from incarceration, parole, or probation, whichever occurred last, for all convictions, then each  
51bk eligibility limit defined in Subsection (5) shall be increased by one.

51bl (9) If, prior to May 14, 2013, the petitioner has received a pardon from the Utah Board of  
51bm Pardons and Parole, the petitioner is entitled to an expungement order for all pardoned crimes  
51bn pursuant to Section 77-27-5.1. ←Ŝ

52 Section Ŝ→ [2] 3 ←Ŝ . Section 77-40-107 is amended to read:

53 77-40-107. **Petition for expungement -- Prosecutorial responsibility -- Hearing --**  
54 **Standard of proof -- Exception.**

55 (1) The petitioner shall file a petition for expungement and the certificate of eligibility  
56 in the court specified in Section 77-40-103 and deliver a copy of the petition and certificate to

57 the prosecuting agency. If the certificate is filed electronically, the petitioner or the petitioner's  
58 attorney shall keep the original certificate until the proceedings are concluded. If the original  
59 certificate is filed with the petition, the clerk of the court shall scan it and return it to the  
60 petitioner or the petitioner's attorney, who shall keep it until the proceedings are concluded.

61 (2) (a) Upon receipt of a petition for expungement of a conviction, the prosecuting  
62 attorney shall provide notice of the expungement request by first-class mail to the victim at the  
63 most recent address of record on file.

64 (b) The notice shall:

65 (i) include a copy of the petition, certificate of eligibility, statutes, and rules applicable  
66 to the petition[;];

67 (ii) state that the victim has a right to object to the expungement[;]; and

68 (iii) provide instructions for registering an objection with the court.

69 (3) The prosecuting attorney and the victim, if applicable, may respond to the petition  
70 by filing a recommendation or objection with the court within 35 days after receipt of the  
71 petition.

72 (4) (a) The court may request a written response to the petition from the Division of  
73 Adult Probation and Parole within the Department of Corrections.

74 (b) If requested, the response prepared by the Division of Adult Probation and Parole  
75 shall include:

76 (i) the reasons probation was terminated; and

77 (ii) certification that the petitioner has completed all requirements of sentencing and  
78 probation or parole.

79 (c) [~~A~~] The Division of Adult Probation and Parole shall provide a copy of the  
80 response [~~shall be provided~~] to the petitioner and the prosecuting attorney.

81 (5) The petitioner may respond in writing to any objections filed by the prosecutor or  
82 the victim and the response prepared by the Division of Adult Probation and Parole within 14  
83 days after receipt.

84 (6) (a) If the court receives an objection concerning the petition from any party, the  
85 court shall set a date for a hearing and notify the petitioner and the prosecuting attorney of the  
86 date set for the hearing. The prosecuting attorney shall notify the victim of the date set for the  
87 hearing.

88 (b) The petitioner, the prosecuting attorney, the victim, and any other person who has  
89 relevant information about the petitioner may testify at the hearing.

90 (c) The court shall review the petition, the certificate of eligibility, and any written  
91 responses submitted regarding the petition.

92 (7) If no objection is received within 60 days from the date the petition for  
93 expungement ~~[was]~~ is filed with the court, the expungement may be granted without a hearing.

94 (8) The court shall issue an order of expungement if ~~[it]~~ the court finds by clear and  
95 convincing evidence that:

96 (a) the petition and certificate of eligibility are sufficient;

97 (b) the statutory requirements have been met;

98 (c) if the petitioner seeks expungement after a case is dismissed without prejudice or  
99 without condition, the prosecutor provided written consent and has not filed and does not  
100 intend to refile related charges;

101 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) if the petitioner seeks expungement of drug possession offenses allowed under  
102 Subsection 77-40-105(6), the petitioner is not illegally using controlled substances and is  
103 successfully managing any substance addiction; and

104 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) it is not contrary to the interests of the public to grant the expungement.

105 (9) (a) If the court denies a petition described in Subsection (8)(c) because the  
106 prosecutor intends to refile charges, the person seeking expungement may again apply for a  
107 certificate of eligibility if charges are not refiled within 180 days of the day on which the court  
108 denies the petition.

109 (b) A prosecutor who opposes an expungement of a case dismissed without prejudice  
110 or without condition shall have a good faith basis for the intention to refile the case.

111 (c) A court shall consider the number of times that good faith basis of intention to  
112 refile by the prosecutor is presented to the court in making the court's determination to grant  
113 the petition for expungement described in Subsection (8)(c).

114 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) A court may not expunge a conviction of an offense for which a certificate of  
115 eligibility may not be or should not have been issued under Section 77-40-104 or 77-40-105.