HOUSE BILL No. 2637

By Committee on Judiciary

2-11

AN ACT concerning the protection from stalking act; concerning expungement of records.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) Any person against whom a petition for a protection from stalking order was filed pursuant to K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 60-31a04, and amendments thereto, and no protection from stalking order was issued pursuant to K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 60-31a06, and amendments thereto, may petition the district court for the expungement of the official court file related to such petition for a protection from stalking order.

- (b) When a petition for expungement is filed, the court shall set a date for hearing on such petition and shall cause notice of such hearing to be given to the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, if any. When a petition for expungement is filed, the official court file shall be separated from the other records of the court, and shall be disclosed only to a judge of the court and members of the staff of the court designated by a judge of the district court, the plaintiff, or any other person when authorized by a court order, subject to any conditions imposed by the order. Except as otherwise provided by law, a petition for expungement shall be accompanied by a docket fee in the amount of \$100. Except as provided further, the docket fee established in this section shall be the only fee collected or moneys in the nature of a fee collected for the docket fee. Such fee shall only be established by an act of the legislature and no other authority is established by law or otherwise to collect a fee. On and after July 1, 2014, through July 1, 2015, the supreme court may impose an additional charge, not to exceed \$19 per docket fee, to fund the costs of non-judicial personnel. The petition shall state:
 - (1) The petitioner's full name:
- (2) the full name of the petitioner at the time the petition for a protection from stalking order was filed against them or a temporary relief order was issued against them, if different than the petitioner's current name;
 - (3) the petitioner's sex, race and date of birth;
- (4) the name of the plaintiff who filed the petition for a protection from stalking order; and
 - (5) the date the petition for a protection from stalking order was filed.

HB 2637 2

 No surcharge or fee shall be imposed to any person filing a petition pursuant to this section against whom a petition for a protection from stalking order was filed and no protection from stalking order was issued. Any person who may have relevant information about the petitioner may testify at the hearing. The court may inquire into the background of the petitioner.

- (c) At the hearing on a petition for expungement, the court shall order the official court file related to the petition for a protection from stalking order expunged upon finding:
- (1) The petition for a protection from stalking order was filed because of mistaken identity;
- (2) there was no good cause shown for a temporary relief order to be issued;
- (3) the expungement would be in the best interests of justice and the petition has been dismissed; or
- (4) no protection from stalking order was issued pursuant to K.S.A. 60-31a06, and amendments thereto.
- (d) When the court has ordered expungement, the order shall state the information required to be stated in the petition and shall state the grounds for expungement under subsection (c). If an order of expungement is entered, the petitioner shall be treated as though a petition for a protection from stalking order had never been filed.
- (e) If an order of expungement is entered, the court shall determine whether, in the interests of public welfare, the records should be available for any of the following purposes:
- (1) In any application for employment as a detective with a private detective agency,
- as defined in K.S.A. 75-7b01, and amendments thereto; as security personnel with a private patrol operator, as defined by K.S.A. 75-7b01, and amendments thereto; or with an institution, as defined in K.S.A. 76-12a01, and amendments thereto, of the Kansas department for aging and disability services;
- (2) in any application for admission, or for an order of reinstatement, to

the practice of law in this state;

- (3) to aid in determining the petitioner's qualifications for employment with the Kansas lottery or for work in sensitive areas within the Kansas lottery as deemed appropriate by the executive director of the Kansas lottery;
- (4) to aid in determining the petitioner's qualifications for executive director of the Kansas racing commission, for employment with the commission or for work in sensitive areas in parimutuel racing as deemed appropriate by the executive director of the commission, or to aid

HB 2637 3

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in determining qualifications for licensure or renewal of licensure by the commission;

- (5) in any application for a commercial driver's license under K.S.A. 8-2,125 through 8-2,142, and amendments thereto;
- (6) to aid in determining the petitioner's qualifications to be an employee of the state gaming agency;
- (7) to aid in determining the petitioner's qualifications to be an employee of a tribal gaming commission or to hold a license issued pursuant to a tribal-state gaming compact; or
 - (8) in any other circumstances which the court deems appropriate.
- (g) Subject to any disclosures required under subsection (e), in any application for employment, license or other civil right or privilege, or any appearance as a witness, a person granted an order of expungement as provided in this section may state that no protection from stalking petition or temporary relief order has been filed or entered against them.
- (h) Whenever an order of expungement is entered as provided in this section, the custodian of records related to the official court file expunged shall not disclose any information related to such file, except as directed by the order of expungement or when requested by the person who was granted such order of expungement.
- (i) The docket fee collected at the time the petition for expungement is filed shall be disbursed in accordance with K.S.A. 20-362, and amendments thereto.
- (j) This section shall be part of and supplemental to the Kansas protection from stalking act.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.