

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 17-1020.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 17-1266

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Hooton and Melton,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Fenberg and Marble,

House Committees

Judiciary
Finance
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING ALLOWING PERSONS WHO WERE CONVICTED OF**
102 **MISDEMEANORS FOR MARIJUANA-RELATED BEHAVIORS THAT**
103 **ARE NO LONGER ILLEGAL TO PETITION FOR THE SEALING OF**
104 **CRIMINAL RECORDS RELATING TO SUCH CONVICTIONS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill allows persons who were convicted of misdemeanors for the use or possession of marijuana to petition for the sealing of criminal records relating to such convictions if their behavior would not have been

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

a criminal offense if the behavior had occurred on or after December 10, 2012. The court shall order the record sealed after the filing fees are paid and the petitioner establishes the offense is eligible for sealing.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-72-710 as
3 follows:

4 **24-72-710. Sealing of criminal conviction records information**
5 **for misdemeanor offenses involving possession or use of marijuana.**

6 (1) A DEFENDANT MAY PETITION THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE
7 DISTRICT IN WHICH ANY CONVICTION RECORDS PERTAINING TO THE
8 DEFENDANT FOR A MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE FOR THE USE OR POSSESSION
9 OF MARIJUANA THAT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL OFFENSE IF THE
10 ACT OCCURRED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 10, 2012, ARE LOCATED FOR THE
11 SEALING OF THE CONVICTION RECORDS, EXCEPT BASIC IDENTIFYING
12 INFORMATION.

13 (2) (a) IF A PETITION IS FILED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF
14 THIS SECTION FOR THE SEALING OF A RECORD OF CONVICTION FOR A
15 MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE FOR THE USE OR POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA THAT
16 WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL OFFENSE IF THE ACT OCCURRED ON OR
17 AFTER DECEMBER 10, 2012, THE COURT SHALL ORDER THE RECORD
18 SEALED AFTER:

19 (I) THE PETITION IS FILED;

20 (II) THE FILING FEE AND AN ADDITIONAL FILING FEE OF SIXTY-FIVE
21 DOLLARS TO COVER THE ACTUAL COSTS RELATED TO THE FILING OF THE
22 PETITION TO SEAL RECORDS IS PAID;

23 (III) THE PETITIONER ESTABLISHES BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE
24 EVIDENCE THAT THE OFFENSE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL

1 OFFENSE IF THE ACT OCCURRED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 10, 2012; AND

2 (IV) THE PETITION HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE
3 STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR, AND AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS HAVE
4 ELAPSED SINCE SUCH POSTING, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 24-72-703 (5).

5 (b) THE ADDITIONAL FILING FEE COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION
6 (2)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION MUST BE TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE
7 TREASURER FOR DEPOSIT IN THE JUDICIAL STABILIZATION CASH FUND
8 CREATED IN SECTION 13-32-101 (6).

9 (3) AN ORDER ENTERED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST BE
10 DIRECTED TO EACH CUSTODIAN WHO MAY HAVE CUSTODY OF ANY PART OF
11 THE CONVICTION RECORDS THAT ARE THE SUBJECT OF THE ORDER.
12 WHENEVER A COURT ENTERS AN ORDER SEALING CONVICTION RECORDS
13 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, THE DEFENDANT SHALL PROVIDE THE
14 COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND EACH CUSTODIAN OF THE
15 CONVICTION RECORDS WITH A COPY OF THE ORDER AND SHALL PAY TO THE
16 BUREAU ANY COSTS RELATED TO THE SEALING OF HIS OR HER CRIMINAL
17 CONVICTION RECORDS THAT ARE IN THE CUSTODY OF THE BUREAU.
18 THEREAFTER, THE DEFENDANT MAY REQUEST AND THE COURT MAY GRANT
19 AN ORDER SEALING THE CIVIL CASE IN WHICH THE CONVICTION RECORDS
20 WERE SEALED.

21 (4) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO
22 CONVICTION RECORDS THAT ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF A CRIMINAL
23 JUSTICE AGENCY WHEN AN INQUIRY CONCERNING THE CONVICTION
24 RECORDS IS MADE BY ANOTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY.

25 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
26 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
27 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August

1 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a
2 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
3 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
4 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
5 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
6 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
7 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.