



2023-2024 General Assembly

HOUSE BILL 168: Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Agency Bill, Sec. 3: Time Limitation on Confidentiality of Certain Public Records

Committee:
Introduced by:
Analysis of: Sec. 3 of S.L. 2023-70

Date: November 27, 2023
Prepared by: Aaron McGlothlin
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Section 3 of S.L. 2023-70 amends the North Carolina Public Records Law to require that records related to probationers, parolees, post-releasees, and prison inmates be treated as public records after 100 years, except that confidential juvenile court records are still exempt from release.*

This section became effective June 30, 2023.

BACKGROUND / BILL ANALYSIS: The North Carolina Public Records Law provides that all restrictions on access to public records expire 100 years after the creation of the record. Prior to the enactment of S.L. 2023-70, the North Carolina Public Records Law did not require the opening of any juvenile, probationer, parolee, post-releasee, or prison inmate record, including medical and mental health records.

Section 3 requires that records related to probationers, parolees, post-releasees, and prison inmates be treated as public records after 100 years, subject to other prohibitions. Confidential juvenile court records are still exempt from release.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective June 30, 2023.

**Brad Krehely and Brian Gwyn, Staff Attorneys for the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578