

1-1 By: A. Johnson of Harris, et al. H.B. No. 1401
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Huffman)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 6, 2021;
 1-4 April 12, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Criminal Justice; May 6, 2021, reported favorably by the following
 1-6 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 6, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15			X	

1-16 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-17 AN ACT

1-18 relating to methods to send applications and orders for sealing
 1-19 juvenile records.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 58.256, Family Code, is amended by
 1-22 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

1-23 (a-1) An application filed under this section may be sent to
 1-24 the juvenile court by any reasonable method authorized under Rule
 1-25 21, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, including secure electronic
 1-26 means.

1-27 SECTION 2. Section 58.258(c), Family Code, is amended to
 1-28 read as follows:

1-29 (c) On entry of the order, all adjudications relating to the
 1-30 person are vacated and the proceedings are dismissed and treated
 1-31 for all purposes as though the proceedings had never occurred. The
 1-32 clerk of court shall:

1-33 (1) seal all court records relating to the
 1-34 proceedings, including any records created in the clerk's case
 1-35 management system; and

1-36 (2) send copies of the order to all entities listed in
 1-37 the order by any reasonable method, including certified mail or
 1-38 secure electronic means~~[, regular mail, or e-mail]~~.

1-39 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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