

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1159  
(Judiciary Committee)  
(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 27-20-54 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the destruction of juvenile court records.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 27-20-54 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**27-20-54. Destruction of juvenile court records.**

1. Except as otherwise required under section 25-03.3-04, all juvenile court records must be retained and disposed of pursuant to rules and policies established by the North Dakota supreme court.
2. Upon the final destruction of a file or record, the proceeding must be treated as if it never occurred. The juvenile court shall notify each agency named in the file or record of the destruction. All index references, except those which may be made by the ~~director~~ attorney general and the directors of the department of transportation, the department of human services, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, and county social service agencies, must be deleted. Each agency, except the ~~director~~ attorney general and the directors of the department of transportation, the department of human services, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, and county social service agencies, upon notification of the destruction of a file or record, shall destroy all files, records, and references to the child's apprehension, detention, and referral to the juvenile court and any record of disposition made by the juvenile court. The attorney general, the department of human services, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, and county social service agencies may not keep a juvenile file or record longer than is required by the records retention policy of that official, department, or agency. Upon inquiry in any matter the child, the court, and representatives of agencies, except the ~~director~~ attorney general and the directors of the department of transportation, the department of human services, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, and county social service agencies, shall properly reply that no record exists with respect to the child.

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Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1159.

House Vote:      Yeas    93      Nays    0      Absent    1

Senate Vote:    Yeas    47      Nays    0      Absent    0

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State