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Act No. 178 (S.173). Crimes and criminal procedures; expungement

An act relating to sealing criminal history records when there is no conviction

This act:

- Provides that a person can petition for expungement if he or she committed a subsequent felony at least seven years prior to the expungement petition.
- Substantially reconfigures the statute governing sealing and expungement when there is no conviction to provide for automatic expungements and sealing under certain circumstances.
- Requires the court to keep a special index of expunged cases and removes the authority of the court to allow inspection of the index in the interest of justice.
- Creates a study group to consider expanding the list of qualifying crimes eligible for expungement; the implications of such an expansion on public health, law enforcement efforts, and economic development; and the viability of automating the sealing and expungement process.

Effective Date: July 1, 2018