This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 147 (H.729). Judiciary; civil and criminal court procedures

An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures

This act makes a number of changes to court and Judiciary procedures, including permitting a victim seeking a relief from abuse order during regular court hours to affirm the affidavit over the telephone; requiring the Restitution Unit to receive notice when the court issues an order to seal criminal records; making it a civil offense, subject to a penalty of not more than \$1,000, if sealed criminal history records are knowingly disclosed without authorization by a State or municipal employee or contractor or by any agent of the court; clarifying that a filing fee is only charged for petitions to seal adult criminal history DUI records and not for juvenile DUI records; updating the statutes to reflect that the Administrative Judge now has the title of Chief Superior Judge; directing the Chief Superior Judge to report to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary by December 1, 2022, on practices for the collection of racial demographic data in court filings; extending the sunset for the Vermont Sentencing Commission from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023; extending the sunset for the regulations governing advanced license plate readers from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024; increasing the fees for service of process and obtaining fingerprints; and making the statute of limitations six years for all claims related to employment or housing discrimination.

Effective Date: May 31, 2022