86R12882 JRR-D

By:  Collier H.B. No. 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain procedures for defendants who successfully complete a period of state jail felony community supervision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter L, Chapter 42A, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Article 42A.563 to read as follows:

Art. 42A.563. AMENDMENT OF RECORD OF CONVICTION. (a) On written motion of a defendant after completion of two-thirds of the original community supervision period for a state jail felony with respect to which written consent was obtained under Section 12.44(c), Penal Code, the judge may review the defendant's record and consider whether to amend the record of conviction to reflect a conviction for a Class A misdemeanor in lieu of a state jail felony.

(b)  On disposition of the community supervision in a manner provided by Article 42A.701, the judge, on discharge of the defendant, may amend the record of conviction to reflect a conviction for a Class A misdemeanor in lieu of a state jail felony, subject to Subsection (c), if:

(1)  the offense for which the defendant was placed on community supervision was not an offense:

(A)  under Section 30.02, Section 30.04, Section 39.04(a)(2), Section 49.045, or Title 5, Penal Code;

(B)  under Article 62.102; or

(C)  involving family violence, as defined by Section 71.004, Family Code;

(2)  the defendant has fulfilled to the judge's satisfaction all the conditions of community supervision, including the payment of all required restitution, and is not delinquent on the payment of any fines, costs, and fees that the defendant has the ability to pay;

(3)  the defendant files with the written motion a statement that:

(A)  contains a summary of the defendant's performance during community supervision, including compliance with the conditions of community supervision; and

(B)  asserts that the defendant meets the conditions for an amendment of the record of conviction under this article;

(4)  the defendant provides a copy of the motion and statement to the attorney representing the state; and

(5)  at the hearing held on the motion, the judge finds that an amendment of the record of conviction is in the best interest of justice.

(c)  A judge who amends a record of conviction under Subsection (b) may not modify the name of the state jail felony offense for which the judge placed the defendant on community supervision. A defendant whose record of conviction is amended under Subsection (b) is not considered to have been convicted of a felony with respect to the modified offense.

(d)  A record of conviction that is amended under Subsection (b) supersedes and takes the place of the record of conviction as it existed on the original date of conviction.

(e)  A judge retains jurisdiction for the purposes of this article only until the expiration of the term of community supervision.

SECTION 2.  Section 12.44, Penal Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c)  With the written consent of the prosecuting attorney prior to sentencing, the court may amend the record of conviction to reflect a conviction for a Class A misdemeanor in lieu of a state jail felony as provided by Article 42A.563, Code of Criminal Procedure.

SECTION 3.  The change in law made by this Act applies only to a defendant who is placed on community supervision for an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. A defendant who is placed on community supervision for an offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.