

By: A. Johnson of Harris

H.B. No. 1401

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to methods to send applications and orders for sealing
3 juvenile records.

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

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

7 (a-1) An application filed under this section may be sent to
8 the juvenile court by any reasonable method, including secure
9 electronic means.

10 SECTION 2. Section 58.258(c), Family Code, is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (c) On entry of the order, all adjudications relating to the
13 person are vacated and the proceedings are dismissed and treated
14 for all purposes as though the proceedings had never occurred. The
15 clerk of court shall:

16 (1) seal all court records relating to the
17 proceedings, including any records created in the clerk's case
18 management system; and

19 (2) send copies of the order to all entities listed in
20 the order by any reasonable method, including certified mail,
21 regular mail, secure electronic means, or e-mail.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.