

EXPAND CLEAN SLATE AND GET PA TO WORK.

Clean Slate Works. Clean Slate gets PA back to work by helping qualified workers with criminal records access jobs. But, unlike the majority of states, Pennsylvania's current sealing law does not allow for any felony sealing. It's time to expand Clean Slate and bring Pennsylvania into the mainstream by:

- ✓ expanding automated sealing to drug felonies after 10 years,
- ✓ expanding sealing by courts for some non-violent felonies after 10 years, and
- ✓ shortening sealing waiting periods for misdemeanor and summary convictions.

HB 689 expands automated sealing to drug felonies

Drug felonies become eligible for Clean Slate automated sealing after 10 years conviction-free.

- Excluded convictions: If a judge imposed a minimum prison sentence of 30 months or more, then the drug conviction is not eligible for Clean Slate automated sealing.

What is "automated sealing"?

- Eligible charges are sealed through an automated process, without anyone filing a motion in court.
- Sealing means the conviction is shielded from public view but can still be seen by law enforcement and some others. The goal of sealing is to help people attain employment and housing.

HB 689 expands petition sealing by courts

The following offenses become eligible for **petition-based sealing after 10 years**:

- Felony criminal mischief, if graded as a third-degree felony (F3)
- Felony criminal trespass, if graded as a third-degree felony (F3)
- Felony theft offenses (Chapter 39), if graded as a third-degree felony (F3)
- Felony forgery offenses (Chapter 41), if graded as a third-degree felony (F3)
- Welfare fraud, if graded as a third-degree felony (F3)
- Misdemeanor Terroristic threats, if graded as a first-degree misdemeanor (M1)

What is petition-based sealing?

- Eligible charges are sealed **if a judge grants a sealing request** after hearing input from the prosecutor. **Restitution must be paid** before sealing is granted.
- Sealing means the conviction is shielded from public view but can still be seen by law enforcement and some others. The goal of sealing is to help people attain employment and housing.

HB 689 shortens sealing waiting periods for more minor convictions

7 year waiting period for **misdemeanors** and **5 year** waiting period for **summary convictions**.

- Misdemeanor convictions can be sealed after 7 years free of misdemeanor or felony convictions.
- Summary (S) convictions can be sealed after 5 years. PA law currently allows a summary conviction to be expunged (erased) after 5 years arrest-free.

10 years without felony or misdemeanor conviction is required to seal any felony conviction.