

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1047  
(Judiciary Committee)  
(At the request of the Supreme Court)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 27-20-51 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to inspection of juvenile court files and records.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 27-20-51 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Except as provided in this section, all files and records of the juvenile court, whether in the office of the clerk of district court or juvenile court, of a proceeding under this chapter are closed to the public. Juvenile court files and records are open to inspection only by:
  - a. The judge and staff of the juvenile court.
  - b. The parties to the proceeding or their counsel or the guardian ad litem of any party.
  - c. A public or private agency or institution providing supervision or having custody of the child under order of the juvenile court, which must be given a copy of the findings and order of disposition when it receives custody of the child.
  - d. Any court and its probation and other officials or professional staff and the attorney for the defendant for use in preparing a presentence report in a criminal case in which the defendant is convicted and who, prior to the criminal case, had been a party to the proceeding in juvenile court.
  - e. The professional staff of the uniform crime victims compensation program when necessary for the discharge of their duties pursuant to chapter 54-23.4.
  - f. A staff member of the division of children and family services of the department of human services or a law enforcement officer when necessary for the performance of that person's duties under section 50-11.1-06.2 or the National Child Protection Act of 1993 [Pub. L. 103-209; 107 Stat. 2490; 42 U.S.C. 5119 et seq.].
  - g. An employee or agent of the department of human services when necessary for performance of that individual's duty under chapter 50-11 or 50-11.1 to investigate the background of an individual living or working in the facility, home, or residence for which licensure is sought.
  - h. A criminal justice agency if the juvenile is required to register under section 12.1-32-15.
  - i. The staff of a children's advocacy center if the juvenile or a victim of the juvenile has been referred for or has received services at the children's advocacy center.
  - j. A victim of the delinquent child or the victim's guardian. All records including medical, educational, and school information must be redacted before inspection. For purposes of this subdivision, only records pertaining to the specific offense between the victim and the delinquent child may be inspected.
  - k. The information technology department to the extent authorized by the supreme court for use in the statewide longitudinal data system.

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Speaker of the House

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President of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1047.

House Vote:    Yeas 91            Nays 0            Absent 3

Senate Vote:   Yeas 47            Nays 0            Absent 0

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Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State