

# SENATE BILL No. 16

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 31-39-8-3; IC 35-31.5-2-294; IC 35-47-4-9.

**Synopsis:** Juvenile delinquents and firearms. Prohibits a person who has been adjudicated a delinquent child for committing an act while armed with a firearm that would be a serious violent felony if committed by an adult (serious delinquent) from possessing a firearm unless the person is at least: (1) 26 years of age, in the case of less serious acts; or (2) 28 years of age, in the case of more serious acts. Makes possession of a firearm by a serious delinquent a Class A misdemeanor, and increases the penalty to a Level 6 felony for a second or subsequent offense. Prohibits the expungement of the juvenile records of a serious delinquent unless the person is at least 26 or 28 years of age, depending on the seriousness of the underlying delinquent acts.

**Effective:** July 1, 2020.

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## Bohacek

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January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law.

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Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 16

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 31-39-8-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.86-2017,  
2 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. (a) **Except as provided in subsection (f)**, a  
4 person may initiate a petition for the expungement of records of a child  
5 alleged to be a delinquent child or a child in need of services by filing  
6 a verified petition in the juvenile court in the county of the original  
7 action. The petition must set forth the following:  
8 (1) The allegations and date of adjudication, if applicable, of the  
9 juvenile delinquency or child in need of services adjudications.  
10 (2) The court in which juvenile delinquency or child in need of  
11 services allegations or petitions were filed.  
12 (3) The law enforcement agency that employs the charging  
13 officer, if known.  
14 (4) The case number or court cause number.  
15 (5) Date of birth of the petitioner.  
16 (6) Petitioner's Social Security number.  
17 (7) All juvenile delinquency or child in need of services



- 1 adjudications and criminal convictions occurring after the  
 2 adjudication of the action sought to be expunged.
- 3 (8) All pending actions under IC 31-34 or IC 31-37 or criminal  
 4 charges.
- 5 (b) A petition described in subsection (a) shall be served on:  
 6 (1) the prosecuting attorney; or  
 7 (2) in the case of a child in need of services case, the department  
 8 of child services.
- 9 (c) The prosecuting attorney or department of child services has  
 10 thirty (30) days in which to reply or otherwise object to the petition.  
 11 The court may reduce the time in which a response must be filed for a  
 12 show of good cause or within its discretion after a hearing is held.
- 13 (d) If the prosecuting attorney or department of child services timely  
 14 files an objection to the petition, the matter shall be set for a hearing.  
 15 If no objection is filed, the court may set the petition for a hearing or  
 16 rule on the petition without a hearing.
- 17 (e) In considering whether to grant the petition, the juvenile court  
 18 may review:  
 19 (1) the best interests of the child;  
 20 (2) the age of the person during the person's contact with the  
 21 juvenile court or law enforcement agency;  
 22 (3) the nature of any allegations;  
 23 (4) whether there was an informal adjustment or an adjudication;  
 24 (5) the disposition of the case;  
 25 (6) the manner in which the person participated in any court  
 26 ordered or supervised services;  
 27 (7) the time during which the person has been without contact  
 28 with the juvenile court or with any law enforcement agency;  
 29 (8) whether the person acquired a criminal record; and  
 30 (9) the person's current status.
- 31 **(f) A person may not seek expungement of the records of a**  
 32 **person adjudicated a delinquent child for committing an act while**  
 33 **armed with a firearm that would be a serious violent felony (as**  
 34 **defined in IC 35-47-4-5) if committed by an adult, unless the person**  
 35 **is at least:**  
 36 **(1) twenty-six (26) years of age, if the delinquent act, if**  
 37 **committed by an adult, would have been a:**  
 38 **(A) Level 6 felony;**  
 39 **(B) Level 5 felony;**  
 40 **(C) Level 4 felony; or**  
 41 **(D) Level 3 felony; or**  
 42 **(2) twenty-eight (28) years of age, if the delinquent act, if**



1 committed by an adult, would have been:

2 (A) a Level 2 felony;

3 (B) a Level 1 felony; or

4 (C) murder.

5 SECTION 2. IC 35-31.5-2-294, AS ADDED BY P.L.114-2012,  
6 SECTION 67, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
7 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 294. "Serious violent felony", for purposes of  
8 IC 35-47-4-5 and IC 35-47-4-9, has the meaning set forth in  
9 ~~IC 35-47-4-5(b)~~: IC 35-47-4-5.

10 SECTION 3. IC 35-47-4-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
11 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
12 1, 2020]: Sec. 9. (a) As used in this section, "serious violent felony"  
13 has the meaning set forth in section 5 of this chapter.

14 (b) A person who:

15 (1) has been adjudicated a delinquent child for committing an  
16 act while armed with a firearm that would be a serious violent  
17 felony if committed by an adult;

18 (2) is less than:

19 (A) twenty-six (26) years of age, if the delinquent act, if  
20 committed by an adult, would have been a:

21 (i) Level 6 felony;

22 (ii) Level 5 felony;

23 (iii) Level 4 felony; or

24 (iv) Level 3 felony; or

25 (B) twenty-eight (28) years of age, if the delinquent act, if  
26 committed by an adult, would have been:

27 (i) a Level 2 felony;

28 (ii) a Level 1 felony; or

29 (iii) murder; and

30 (3) knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm;  
31 commits unlawful possession of a firearm by a dangerous person,  
32 a Class A misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Level 6 felony if  
33 the person has a prior unrelated conviction under this section.

