



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3491

Introduced 2/5/2026, by Sen. Sally J. Turner

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

705 ILCS 90/1-5  
705 ILCS 90/1-10  
705 ILCS 90/2-1  
705 ILCS 90/2-5  
705 ILCS 90/2-10  
705 ILCS 90/3-1  
705 ILCS 90/4-1

Amends the Judicial Privacy Act to expand coverage to federal judicial officials and State judicial officials that includes judges and clerks of the State and federal judicial system. Amends "personal information" that may be protected to include financial, date of birth, race and ethnicity, and biometric information. Provides the method of making a written request to protect personal information by a federal and State judicial official. Creates form for the written request. Allows a court file or document to be sealed. Makes other changes.

LRB104 19469 JRC 32917 b

1 AN ACT concerning the courts.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Judicial Privacy Act is amended by changing  
5 Sections 1-5, 1-10, 2-1, 2-5, 2-10, 3-1, 3-5, and 4-1 as  
6 follows:

7 (705 ILCS 90/1-5)

8 Sec. 1-5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to improve  
9 the safety and security of federal ~~Illinois~~ judicial officers  
10 and State judicial officers to ensure they are able to  
11 administer justice fairly without fear of personal reprisal  
12 from individuals affected by the decisions they make in the  
13 course of carrying out their public function.

14 This Act is not intended to restrain a federal judicial  
15 officer or State judicial officer from independently making  
16 public his or her own personal information. Additionally, no  
17 government agency, person, business, or association has any  
18 obligation under this Act to protect the privacy of a federal  
19 judicial officer's or State judicial officer's personal  
20 information until the federal judicial officer or State  
21 judicial officer makes a written request that his or her  
22 personal information not be publicly posted.

23 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to impair free

1 access to decisions and opinions expressed by federal judicial  
2 officers or State judicial officers in the course of carrying  
3 out their public functions.

4 (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)

5 (705 ILCS 90/1-10)

6 Sec. 1-10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Government agency" includes all agencies, authorities,  
8 boards, commissions, departments, institutions, offices, and  
9 any other bodies politic and corporate of the State created by  
10 the constitution or statute, whether in the executive,  
11 judicial, or legislative branch; all units and corporate  
12 outgrowths created by executive order of the Governor or any  
13 constitutional officer, by the Supreme Court, or by resolution  
14 of the General Assembly; or agencies, authorities, boards,  
15 commissions, departments, institutions, offices, and any other  
16 bodies politic and corporate of a unit of local government, or  
17 school district.

18 "Home address" includes a federal judicial officer's or  
19 State judicial officer's permanent residence and any secondary  
20 residences affirmatively identified by the federal judicial  
21 officer or State judicial officer, but does not include a  
22 federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's work  
23 address.

24 "Immediate family" includes a federal judicial officer or  
25 state judicial officer's

- 1           (1) spouse,  
2           (2) child under the age of 18,  
3           (3) parent, or  
4           (4) any blood relative of the federal judicial officer  
5           or State judicial officer or ~~the judicial officer's~~ spouse  
6           who lives in the same residence.

7           A federal judicial officer or State judicial officer may  
8           indicate the personal information of immediate family members  
9           to be excluded to the extent that it could reasonably be  
10           expected to reveal the personal information of the federal  
11           judicial officer or State judicial officer.

12           "Federal judicial officer" includes actively employed,  
13           former or deceased:

- 14           (1) Justices of the United States Supreme Court  
15           (2) Judges of the United States Court of Appeals;  
16           (3) Judges and magistrate judges of the United States  
17           District Court; and  
18           (4) Judges of the United States Bankruptcy Court.  
19           (5) Clerks of the federal Courts.

20           "Judicial officer" includes actively employed and former  
21           or deceased:

- 22           (1) Justices of the United States Supreme Court and  
23           the Illinois Supreme Court;  
24           (2) Judges of the United States Court of Appeals;  
25           (3) Judges and magistrate judges of the United States  
26           District Court;

- 1 (4) Judges of the United States Bankruptcy Court;  
2 (5) Judges of the Illinois Appellate Court;  
3 (6) Judges and associate judges of the Illinois  
4 Circuit Courts; and  
5 (7) Administrative law judges as defined in Section  
6 1-15 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act.

7 "Personal information" means a home address, home  
8 telephone number, mobile telephone number, pager number,  
9 personal email address, social security number, federal tax  
10 identification number, financial ~~checking and savings~~ account  
11 numbers, credit card numbers, date of birth, marital status,  
12 race and ethnicity, biometric information ~~and identity of~~  
13 ~~children under the age of 18~~.

14 "Publicly available content" means any written, printed,  
15 or electronic document or record that provides information or  
16 that serves as a document or record maintained, controlled, or  
17 in the possession of a government agency as of the date of the  
18 written request that may be obtained by any person or entity,  
19 from the Internet, from the government agency upon request  
20 either free of charge or for a fee, or in response to a request  
21 under the Freedom of Information Act.

22 "Publicly post" or "publicly display" means to communicate  
23 to another or otherwise make available to the general public.

24 "State judicial officer" means a judicial officer actively  
25 employed, appointed or elected, former or deceased:

26 (1) Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois;

1           (2) Judges of the Illinois Appellate Court;

2           (3) Circuit and associate judges of the Illinois  
3           Circuit Courts;

4           (4) Administrative law judges as defined in Section  
5           1-15 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act; and

6           (5) Clerks of the Illinois Supreme, Appellate or  
7           Circuit Courts.

8           "Written request" means written notice signed by a federal  
9           judicial officer, State judicial officer, or a representative  
10           of the federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's  
11           employer requesting a government agency, person, business, or  
12           association to refrain from posting or displaying publicly  
13           available content that includes the federal judicial officer's  
14           or State judicial officer's personal information. A written  
15           request delivered to the government agency by unsecured  
16           electronic mail is not permitted. Written requests must be  
17           mailed via United States Postal Service or hand delivered to  
18           the government agency and contain relevant details to validate  
19           the source of the request, which may be accomplished by  
20           official letterhead, specific identifiers, digital signatures  
21           or other industry-standard authentication protocols. The  
22           written request must specifically identify the federal  
23           judicial officer or State judicial officer's information,  
24           cases, documents, or other content requested to be removed  
25           from public display. A written request must be provided for  
26           any new personal information which may be received after the

1 date of any previous written request. Nothing in this Act  
2 requires a recipient of a written request to continue to  
3 review records for new personal information for a federal  
4 judicial officer, State judicial officer, or immediate family  
5 that may be received after the date of the written request  
6 specifying the personal information to be removed from public  
7 display.

8 (Source: P.A. 104-278, eff. 1-1-26.)

9 (705 ILCS 90/2-1)

10 Sec. 2-1. Publicly posting or displaying a federal  
11 judicial officer's or State judicial officer's personal  
12 information by government agencies.

13 (a) Government agencies shall not publicly post or display  
14 publicly available content that includes a federal judicial  
15 officer's or State judicial officer's personal information,  
16 provided that the government agency has received a written  
17 request in accordance with Sections 1-10 and Section 2-10 of  
18 this Act that it refrain from disclosing the federal judicial  
19 officer's or State judicial officer's personal information.  
20 After a government agency has received a written request, that  
21 agency shall remove the ~~judicial officer's~~ personal  
22 information from publicly available content within 5 business  
23 days. After the government agency has removed the ~~judicial~~  
24 ~~officer's~~ personal information from publicly available  
25 content, the agency shall not publicly post or display the

1 information and the ~~judicial officer's~~ personal information  
2 shall be exempt from the Freedom of Information Act unless the  
3 government agency has received consent from the federal  
4 judicial officer or State judicial officer to make the  
5 personal information available to the public.

6 (b) Redress. If a government agency willfully fails to  
7 comply with a written request to refrain from disclosing  
8 personal information, the federal judicial officer or State  
9 judicial officer may bring an action seeking injunctive or  
10 declaratory relief in any court of competent jurisdiction.

11 (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)

12 (705 ILCS 90/2-5)

13 Sec. 2-5. Publicly posting a federal judicial officer's or  
14 State judicial officer's personal information on the Internet  
15 by government agency, persons, businesses, and associations.

16 (a) Prohibited Conduct.

17 (1) All persons, businesses, and associations shall  
18 refrain from publicly posting or displaying on the  
19 Internet publicly available content that includes a  
20 federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's  
21 personal information, provided that the federal judicial  
22 officer or State judicial officer has made a written  
23 request to the government agency, person, business, or  
24 association that it refrain from disclosing the personal  
25 information.

1           (2) No person, business, or association shall solicit,  
2           sell, or trade on the Internet a federal judicial  
3           officer's or State judicial officer's personal information  
4           with the willful intent to pose an imminent and serious  
5           threat to the health and safety of the federal judicial  
6           officer or State judicial officer ~~or the judicial~~  
7           ~~officer's immediate family.~~

8           (3) This subsection includes, but is not limited to,  
9           Internet phone directories, Internet search engines,  
10          Internet data aggregators, and Internet service providers  
11          that are under the direct or contractual control of the  
12          government agency, person, business, or association.

13          (b) Required Conduct.

14          (1) After a person, business, or association has  
15          received a written request from a federal judicial officer  
16          or State judicial officer to protect the privacy of the  
17          federal judicial officer or state judicial officer's  
18          personal information, that government agency, person,  
19          business, or association shall have 5 business days ~~72~~  
20          ~~hours~~ to remove the personal information from the  
21          Internet.

22          (2) After a government agency, person, business, or  
23          association has received a written request from a federal  
24          judicial officer or State judicial officer, that  
25          government agency, person, business, or association shall  
26          ensure that the ~~judicial officer's~~ personal information is

1 not made available on any website or subsidiary website  
2 controlled or contracted by that person, business, or  
3 association.

4 (3) After receiving a federal judicial officer's or  
5 State judicial officer's written request, unless otherwise  
6 required by rule, order, or law, no government agency,  
7 person, business, or association shall transfer the  
8 federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's  
9 written request or personal information to any other  
10 government agency, person, business, or association  
11 through any medium.

12 (4) Any written requests received by a government  
13 agency, person, business, or association is confidential  
14 and maintained as required by law, order, or rule.

15 (5) If a written request or notice from the  
16 Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, directly  
17 from a federal judicial officer, State judicial officer,  
18 or requester's employer is received by a Supreme,  
19 Appellate, or Circuit Court Clerk of Illinois identifying  
20 specific court cases or documents containing a federal  
21 judicial officer or State judicial officer's personal  
22 information, the court clerk must seal the cases or  
23 documents identified in the written request or notice.

24 (c) Redress.

25 A federal judicial officer or State judicial officer  
26 whose personal information is made public as a result of a

1        willful violation of this Act may bring an action seeking  
2        injunctive or declaratory relief in any court of competent  
3        jurisdiction. If the court grants injunctive or  
4        declaratory relief, the person, business, or association  
5        responsible for the violation shall be required to pay the  
6        federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's  
7        costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

8        (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)

9        (705 ILCS 90/2-10)

10       Sec. 2-10. Procedure for completing a written request.

11       (a) Requirement that a federal judicial officer or State  
12       judicial officer make a written request. No government agency,  
13       person, business, or association shall be found to have  
14       violated any provision of this Act if the federal judicial  
15       officer or State judicial officer fails to submit a written  
16       request calling for the protection of the officer's personal  
17       information. Upon the death of a federal judicial officer or  
18       State judicial officer, an immediate family may submit a  
19       written request as specified in Sections 1-10 and 2-10(c)  
20       requesting an extension of the removal of personal information  
21       from publicly available content.

22       (b) Written request procedure. ~~A written request shall be~~  
23       ~~valid if:~~

24       (1) The federal judicial officer may send ~~sends~~ a  
25       written request as specified in Sections 1-10 and 2-10(c)

1 directly to a government agency, person, business, or  
2 association. A representative from the federal judicial  
3 officer's employer may submit a written request on the  
4 individual officer's behalf, provided that the federal  
5 judicial officer gives written consent to the  
6 representative and provided that the representative agrees  
7 to furnish a copy of that consent when a written request is  
8 made. ~~or~~

9 (2) ~~The~~ If the Administrative Office of the Illinois  
10 Courts shall develop and provide ~~has~~ a policy and  
11 procedure for State ~~a state~~ judicial officers ~~officer~~ to  
12 file a ~~the~~ written request with the Administrative Office  
13 to notify State or local government agencies. Any  
14 information sent to or received from a government agency  
15 under this subsection may not be transacted via unsecured  
16 email. The policy shall be distributed annually to all  
17 State judicial officers and provide, at a minimum, the  
18 following: ~~, the state judicial officer may send the~~  
19 ~~written request to the Administrative Office of the~~  
20 ~~Illinois Courts. In each quarter of a calendar year, the~~  
21 ~~Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts shall provide~~  
22 ~~a list of all state judicial officers who have submitted a~~  
23 ~~written request to it, to the appropriate officer with~~  
24 ~~ultimate supervisory authority for a government agency.~~  
25 ~~The officer shall promptly provide a copy of the list to~~  
26 ~~any and all government agencies under his or her~~

1 ~~supervision. Receipt of the written request list compiled~~  
2 ~~by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts by a~~  
3 ~~government agency shall constitute a written request to~~  
4 ~~that Agency for the purposes of this Act.~~

5 (A) the form for the state judicial officer to use  
6 for a written request which meets the minimum requirements  
7 in Sections 1-10(i) and 2-10(c);

8 (B) identification of how to submit the written  
9 request, which may include a secure electronic submission;

10 (C) a procedure to provide quarterly updates in  
11 January, April, July and October to state or local  
12 government agencies of any new written requests received  
13 and detailed information about the statutory requirements  
14 to comply. Receipt of the written request list compiled by  
15 the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts by a  
16 government agency shall constitute a written request to  
17 that Agency for the purposes of this Act;

18 (D) a procedure to allow a government agency which  
19 receives a quarterly update to provide confirmation that  
20 the personal information of the State judicial officer  
21 and, when applicable, immediate family has been removed  
22 from public display;

23 (E) a procedure to notify a government agency of a  
24 State judicial officer's death, request for extension by  
25 immediate family, or written permission to release the  
26 personal information; and

1           (F) a procedure to communicate to a state judicial  
2           officer that a government agency listed in a notice does  
3           not have contact information publicly available and to  
4           request the State judicial officer provide additional  
5           contact information.

6           the information identified by the State judicial  
7           officer to be removed from public view in any written  
8           request received by the Administrative Office of the  
9           Illinois Courts must be included in the notice provided to  
10          the recipient State or local government agency.

11          ~~(e) A representative from the judicial officer's employer~~  
12          ~~may submit a written request on the judicial officer's behalf,~~  
13          ~~provided that the judicial officer gives written consent to~~  
14          ~~the representative and provided that the representative agrees~~  
15          ~~to furnish a copy of that consent when a written request is~~  
16          ~~made. The representative shall submit the written request as~~  
17          ~~provided in subsection (b) of this Section.~~

18          (c) (d) Information to be included in the written request.  
19          A federal judicial officer's or State judicial officer's  
20          written request shall specify: ~~what personal information shall~~  
21          ~~be maintained private.~~

22               (1) the date of the written request and identification  
23               of the person submitting the request if other than the  
24               federal judicial officer or state judicial officer;

25               (2) the name, home address, date of birth, and contact  
26               information;

1           (3) names, home address, including any secondary or  
2           alternative home addresses, contact information and any  
3           other relevant personal identifying information for any  
4           immediate family included in the request;

5           (4) identification of each State or local government  
6           agency to be notified;

7           (5) identification of the personal information to be  
8           removed from public display; and

9           (6) the specific areas, documents, cases, or other  
10          content in which the personal information for the federal  
11          judicial officer, State judicial officer, or immediate  
12          family is requested to be removed from public display and  
13          whether the personal information is online, printed in  
14          paper, or other format.

15          ~~If a judicial officer wishes to identify a secondary~~  
16          ~~residence as a home address as that term is defined in this~~  
17          ~~Act, the designation shall be made in the written request.~~

18          ~~A judicial officer shall disclose the identity of the~~  
19          ~~officer's immediate family and indicate that the personal~~  
20          ~~information of these family members shall also be excluded to~~  
21          ~~the extent that it could reasonably be expected to reveal the~~  
22          ~~personal information of the judicial officer.~~

23          (e) Duration of the written request.

24          (1) A judicial officer's written request is valid  
25          until the federal judicial officer or State judicial officer  
26          provides the government agency, person, business, or

1 association with written permission to release the private  
2 information.

3 (2) A ~~judicial officer's~~ written request expires upon  
4 ~~on~~ death of the federal judicial officer or State judicial  
5 officer unless a request to extend the duration is submitted  
6 by the immediate family.

7 (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)

8 (705 ILCS 90/3-1)

9 Sec. 3-1. Unlawful publication of personal information. It  
10 is unlawful for any person to knowingly publicly post on the  
11 Internet the personal information of a federal judicial  
12 officer, State judicial officer, or of the judicial officer's  
13 immediate family if the person knows or reasonably should know  
14 that publicly posting the personal information poses an  
15 imminent and serious threat to the health and safety of the  
16 federal judicial officer, State judicial officer, or the  
17 judicial officer's immediate family, and the violation is a  
18 proximate cause of bodily injury or death of the federal  
19 judicial officer, State judicial officer, or ~~a member~~ of the  
20 judicial officer's immediate family. A person who violates  
21 this Section is guilty of a Class 3 felony.

22 (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)

23 (705 ILCS 90/4-1)

24 Sec. 4-1. Construction. This Act and any rules adopted to

1 implement this Act shall be construed broadly to favor the  
2 protection of the personal information of federal judicial  
3 officers or State judicial officers.

4 (Source: P.A. 97-847, eff. 9-22-12.)