1

AN ACT concerning State government.

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

Section 5. The Task Force on Inventorying Employment
Restrictions Act is amended by changing Section 15 as follows:

6 (20 ILCS 5000/15)

```
7 Sec. 15. Task Force.
```

(a) The Task Force on Inventorying Employment Restrictions 8 9 is hereby created in the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. The purpose of the Task Force is to review the 10 statutes, administrative rules, policies and practices that 11 restrict employment of persons with a criminal history, as set 12 out in subsection (c) of this Section, and to report to the 13 14 Governor the General Assembly those and employment restrictions and their impact on employment opportunities for 15 16 people with criminal records. The report shall also identify 17 any employment restrictions that are not reasonably related to public safety. 18

(b) Within 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly Act, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint 2 members of the HB0297 Enrolled - 2 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

1 General Assembly to the Task Force. The term of office of any 2 member of the public appointed by the President of the Senate, 3 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, or the Minority Leader of the House of 4 5 Representatives serving on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly shall end on that 6 7 date. The Governor shall appoint the Task Force chairperson. In 8 addition, the Director or Secretary of each of the following, 9 or his or her designee, are members: the Department of Human 10 Services, the Department of Corrections, the Department of 11 Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Department of Children 12 and Family Services, the Department of Human Rights, the 13 Department of Central Management Services, the Department of 14 Employment Security, the Department of Public Health, the 15 Department of State Police, the Illinois State Board of 16 Education, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and the 17 Illinois Community College Board, and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Members shall not receive 18 Illinois Criminal Justice Information 19 compensation. The 20 Authority shall provide staff and other assistance to the Task Force. 21

(c) On or before <u>November 1, 2011</u> September 1, 2010, all State agencies shall produce a report for the Task Force that describes the employment restrictions that are based on criminal records for each occupation under the agency's jurisdiction and that of its boards, if any, including, but not HB0297 Enrolled - 3 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

limited to, employment within the agency; employment in facilities licensed, regulated, supervised, or funded by the agency; employment pursuant to contracts with the agency; and employment in occupations that the agency licenses or provides certifications to practice. For each occupation subject to a criminal records-based restriction, the agency shall set forth the following:

8 (1) the job title, occupation, job classification, or 9 restricted place of employment, including the range of 10 occupations affected in such places;

11 (2) the statute, regulation, policy, and procedure 12 that authorizes the restriction of applicants for 13 employment and licensure, current employees, and current 14 licenses;

15

(3) the substance and terms of the restriction, and

16 (A) if the statute, regulation, policy or practice
17 enumerates disqualifying offenses, a list of each
18 disqualifying offense, the time limits for each
19 offense, and the point in time when the time limit
20 begins;

(B) if the statute, regulation, policy or practice 21 22 does not enumerate disqualifying offenses and instead 23 for discretion provides agency in determining disqualifying offenses, the criteria the agency has 24 25 adopted to apply the disqualification to individual 26 cases. Restrictions based on agency discretion

HB0297 Enrolled - 4 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

include, but are not limited to, restrictions based on an offense "related to" the practice of a given profession; an offense or act of "moral turpitude"; and an offense evincing a lack of "good moral character".

5 (4) the procedures used by the agency to identify an 6 individual's criminal history, including but not limited 7 to disclosures on applications and background checks 8 conducted by law enforcement or private entities;

9 (5) the procedures used by the agency to determine and 10 review whether an individual's criminal history 11 disqualifies that individual;

12 (6) the year the restriction was adopted, and its 13 rationale;

14 (7) any exemption, waiver, or review mechanisms 15 available to seek relief from the disqualification based on 16 a showing of rehabilitation or otherwise, including the 17 terms of the mechanism, the nature of the relief it 18 affords, and whether an administrative and judicial appeal 19 is authorized;

(8) any statute, rule, policy and practice that
requires an individual convicted of a felony to have his
civil rights restored to become qualified for the job; and
9 copies of the following documents:

(A) forms, applications, and instructions provided
to applicants and those denied or terminated from jobs
or licenses based on their criminal record;

HB0297 Enrolled - 5 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

(B) forms, rules, and procedures that the agency 1 2 employs to provide notice of disgualification, to review applications subject to disqualification, and 3 provide for exemptions 4 to and appeals of 5 disgualification;

6 (C) memos, guidance, instructions to staff, 7 scoring criteria and other materials used by the agency 8 to evaluate the criminal histories of applicants, 9 licensees, and employees; and

10 (D) forms and notices used to explain waiver, 11 exemption and appeals procedures for denial. 12 suspensions terminations of and employment or 13 licensure based on criminal history.

(d) Each State agency shall participate in a review to 14 15 determine the impact of the employment restrictions based on 16 criminal records and the effectiveness of existing 17 case-by-case review mechanisms. The information required under this subsection (d) shall be limited to the data and 18 19 information in the possession of the State agency on the 20 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly. With respect to compliance with the requirements of 21 22 this subsection (d), a State agency is under no obligation to 23 collect additional data or information. For each occupation under the agency's jurisdiction for which there are employment 24 25 restrictions based on criminal records, each State agency must 26 provide the Task Force with a report, on or before February 1,

HB0297 Enrolled - 6 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

1 <u>2012</u> March 1, 2010, for the previous 2-year period, setting 2 forth:

3 (1) the total number of people currently employed in 4 the occupation whose employment or licensure required 5 criminal history disclosure, background checks or 6 restrictions;

7 (2) the number and percentage of individuals who
8 underwent a criminal history background check;

9 (3) the number and percentage of individuals who were 10 merely required to disclose their criminal history without 11 a criminal history background check;

12 (4) the number and percentage of individuals who were 13 found disqualified based on criminal history disclosure by 14 the applicant;

15 (5) the number and percentage of individuals who were 16 found disqualified based on a criminal history background 17 check;

18 (6) the number and percentage of individuals who sought
19 an exemption or waiver from the disqualification;

20 (7) the number and percentage of individuals who sought 21 an exemption or waiver who were subsequently granted the 22 exemption or waiver at the first level of agency review (if 23 multiple levels of review are available);

(8) the number and percentage of individuals who sought
an exemption or waiver who were subsequently granted the
exemption or waiver at the next level of agency review (if

HB0297 Enrolled - 7 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

multiple levels of review are available);

1

2 (9) the number and percentage of individuals who were 3 denied an exemption or waiver at the final level of agency 4 review, and then sought review through an administrative 5 appeal;

6 (10) the number and percentage of individuals who were 7 denied an exemption or waiver at the final level of agency 8 review, and then sought review through an administrative 9 appeal and were then found qualified after such a review;

10 (11) the number and percentage of individuals who were 11 found disqualified where no waiver or exemption process is 12 available;

13 (12) the number and percentage of individuals who were 14 found disqualified where no waiver or exemption process is 15 available and who sought administrative review and then 16 were found qualified; and

(13) if the agency maintains records of active licenses or certifications, the executive agency shall provide the total number of employees in occupations subject to criminal history restrictions.

(e) <u>(Blank)</u>. The Task Force shall report its findings and
 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by
 December 31, 2010.

(f) The Task Force shall report to the Governor and the
 General Assembly its findings, including recommendations as to
 any employment restrictions that are not reasonably related to

HB0297 Enrolled - 8 - LRB097 06432 RLJ 46514 b

- 1 public safety, by September 1, 2012.
- 2 (Source: P.A. 96-593, eff. 8-18-09; 96-1360, eff. 7-28-10.)
- 3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon4 becoming law.