SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## **SENATE BILL NO. 1097**

**102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY** 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ROBERTS.

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 314, RSMo, by adding thereto four new sections relating to certificates of exemplary conduct and good moral character issued by a court.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 314, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto 2 four new sections, to be known as sections 314.205, 314.208, 3 314.211, and 314.214, to read as follows: 314.205. As used in sections 314.205 to 314.214, the 2 following terms shall mean: 3 (1) "Certificate", a certificate of exemplary conduct 4 and good moral character; 5 (2) "Circuit court", any circuit court in the state of 6 Missouri; 7 "Eligible individual", a person who has been (3) 8 convicted of an offense in this state or in any other 9 jurisdiction that does not include an offense that would 10 subject a person to the sex offender registry under sections 589.400 to 589.426; 11 "Petition", any form or document that is submitted 12 (4) to the circuit court that documents an eligible individual's 13 desire to obtain a certificate and the eligible individual's 14 justification for why the circuit court should grant his or 15 16 her request. 314.208. 1. The circuit court shall have the power to 2 issue a certificate to an eligible individual that has the

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force and effect of a final judgment. The circuit court shall issue a certificate to an eligible individual if the presiding judge finds, at the moment of sentencing or at any moment thereafter, that clear and convincing evidence demonstrates that the eligible individual has:

8 (1) Consistently conducted himself or herself in a
9 manner warranting the issuance of a certificate;

(2) Consistently demonstrated that he or she is of
 good moral character; and

(3) Generally acted in such a way that granting the
 certificate is consistent with the public interest.

14 2. The circuit court shall have the power to
 15 investigate an eligible individual petitioning for a
 16 certificate.

3. The circuit court shall grant or deny the petition
within a reasonable period of time after the petition is
filed.

4. If the circuit court has issued a certificate, the
circuit court may at any time issue a new certificate
enlarging the relief previously granted.

5. After notice to a certificate holder, the circuit
court has the power to revoke a certificate upon a
subsequent conviction.

314.211. 1. A certificate shall not prevent any judicial or administrative proceeding, any licensing authority, or any other body, board, employer, or authority from accessing or considering the eligible individual's conviction history.

A certificate removes any or all bars an eligible
individual faces with respect to employment, housing, or
occupational licenses.

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9 3. An employer is not civilly or criminally liable for 10 an act or omission by an employee who has been issued a 11 certificate, except for a willful or wanton act by the 12 employer in hiring the employee who has been issued a 13 certificate.

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314.214. 1. The chief justice of the Missouri supreme court, or his or her designee, may create forms to assist eligible individuals in providing all the information required for a presiding judge to fully consider the eligible individual's case.

2. The division of professional registration, and any
other Missouri entity that has the authority to issue or
revoke a license, shall report to the general assembly on
November thirtieth of each year the following:

(1) The number of licensure applicants with felony
 convictions;

12 (2) The number of applicants with certificates;

13 (3) The number of licenses awarded to applicants with14 felony convictions;

15 (4) The number of licenses awarded to applicants with
 16 certificates;

17 (5) The number of applicants with felony convictions
 18 denied licenses; and

19 (6) The number of applicants with certificates denied20 licenses.

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