

As Introduced

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H. B. No. 567

Representatives Stewart, Brown

**Cosponsors: Representatives Smith, K., Miller, A., Humphrey, Young, T., LaRe,
Lanese, Carfagna, Koehler, Fraizer, Crossman, Manning, Hillyer, Hall**

A BILL

To amend section 2303.12 of the Revised Code to 1
generally require the clerk of the court of 2
common pleas to make available the court's 3
general docket, including documents on each case 4
file, on the clerk of court's web site. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 2303.12 of the Revised Code be 6
amended to read as follows: 7

Sec. 2303.12. (A) As used in this section: 8

(1) "Case file" means the compendium of original documents 9
filed in a civil action or proceeding in the court of common 10
pleas, including the pleadings, motions, orders, and judgments 11
of the court on a case by case basis. 12

(2) "General docket" means the appearance docket, trial 13
docket, journal, execution docket, and case files in relation to 14
those dockets and journal. 15

(B) The clerk of the court of common pleas shall keep at 16

least four books. They shall be called the appearance docket, 17
trial docket and printed duplicates of the trial docket for the 18
use of the court and the officers thereof, journal, and 19
execution docket. ~~He~~ The clerk shall also keep a record in book 20
form or ~~he~~ the clerk may prepare a record by using any 21
photostatic, photographic, miniature photographic, film, 22
microfilm, or microphotographic process, electrostatic process, 23
perforated tape, magnetic tape, or other electromagnetic means, 24
electronic data processing, machine readable media, graphic or 25
video display, or any combination thereof, which correctly and 26
accurately copies or reproduces ~~the every case file and other~~ 27
original document, paper, or instrument in writing. ~~He~~ The clerk 28
shall use materials that comply with the minimum standards of 29
quality for permanent photographic records prescribed by the 30
National Bureau of Standards. ~~He~~ The clerk shall keep an index 31
to the trial docket and to the printed duplicates of the trial 32
docket and of the journal direct, and to the appearance docket, 33
record, and execution docket, direct and reverse. All clerks 34
keeping records and information by the methods described in this 35
section shall keep and make readily available to the public the 36
machine and equipment necessary to reproduce the records and 37
information in a readable form. 38

(C) (1) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, not 39
later than eighteen months after the effective date of this 40
section, the clerk of court shall make available online on the 41
clerk of court's web site the general docket of the court for 42
remote access and printing by the public of the information in 43
that docket, including all individual documents in each case 44
file, pertaining to civil cases filed on or after the effective 45
date of this section. 46

(2) The clerk of court may, but is not required to, make 47

available online under division (C) (1) of this section the 48
general docket of the division of domestic relations or the 49
probate court. 50

(D) Nothing in division (C) of this section shall be 51
construed as making available online any of the following: 52

(1) Internal documents such as notes, emails, drafts, 53
recommendations, advice, or research of judicial officers and 54
court staff; 55

(2) Any document or any information in a case file the 56
public access to which the court has ordered restricted under 57
the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio. 58

Section 2. That existing section 2303.12 of the Revised 59
Code is hereby repealed. 60