

**As Reported by the House Civil Justice Committee**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**Am. 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, Galonski,  
Kick, Leland, Merrin, Skindell, White**

**A BILL**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(B) The clerk of the court of common pleas shall keep at 17  
least four books. They shall be called the appearance docket, 18  
trial docket and printed duplicates of the trial docket for the 19  
use of the court and the officers thereof, journal, and 20  
execution docket. ~~He~~ The clerk shall also keep a record in book 21  
form or ~~he~~ the clerk may prepare a record by using any 22  
photostatic, photographic, miniature photographic, film, 23  
microfilm, or microphotographic process, electrostatic process, 24  
perforated tape, magnetic tape, or other electromagnetic means, 25  
electronic data processing, machine readable media, graphic or 26  
video display, or any combination thereof, which correctly and 27  
accurately copies or reproduces ~~the~~ every case file and other 28  
original document, paper, or instrument in writing. ~~He~~ The clerk 29  
shall use materials that comply with the minimum standards of 30  
quality for permanent photographic records prescribed by the 31  
National Bureau of Standards. ~~He~~ The clerk shall keep an index 32  
to the trial docket and to the printed duplicates of the trial 33  
docket and of the journal direct, and to the appearance docket, 34  
record, and execution docket, direct and reverse. All clerks 35  
keeping records and information by the methods described in this 36  
section shall keep and make readily available to the public the 37  
machine and equipment necessary to reproduce the records and 38  
information in a readable form. 39

(C) (1) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, not 40  
later than eighteen months after the effective date of this 41  
section, the clerk of court shall make available online on the 42  
clerk of court's web site the general docket of the court for 43  
remote access and printing by the public of the information in 44  
that docket, including all individual documents in each case 45  
file, pertaining to civil cases filed on or after the effective 46  
date of this section. 47

(2) The clerk of court is not required to make available 48  
online under division (C) (1) of this section either of the 49  
following: 50

(a) The general docket of the division of domestic 51  
relations, the juvenile court, or the probate court; 52

(b) If the court does not have a division of domestic 53  
relations, the general docket in civil cases pertaining to 54  
domestic relations. 55

(D) Nothing in division (C) of this section shall be 56  
construed as making available online any of the following: 57

(1) Internal documents such as notes, emails, drafts, 58  
recommendations, advice, or research of judicial officers and 59  
court staff; 60

(2) Any document or any information in a case file the 61  
public access to which the court has ordered restricted under 62  
the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio. 63

**Section 2.** That existing section 2303.12 of the Revised 64  
Code is hereby repealed. 65