

# **On August 1, 2025, HB 675 went into effect as Act 393.**

## **What does it mean for people in prison challenging their convictions and sentences?\***

- Anyone who pleads guilty on or after August 1, 2025 cannot file an innocence claim in post-conviction. Nearly 1 in 3 people exonerated in the United States since 1989 pled guilty.
- Any person who claims their lawyer was constitutionally deficient is giving up privacy (“privilege”) as to any information that the State needs to rebut the claim. This could include documents related to their case, informal notes and memos their lawyer wrote, and communications they had with your lawyer.
- A person now has a responsibility to prompt the court to rule on their petition, even if a court is delayed in ruling or a prosecutor is delaying a filing. If a person does not act “in furtherance of disposition” of their claims, their claims are automatically abandoned and can be dismissed.
- Under the new law, cases are forced through the system at a much faster rate. Petitions that have been pending as of July 2023 are set on a strict timeline for resolution in the next year to 18 months. Judges and DAs are forced to respond to new petitions and hold hearings on a very tight timeline that may cause problems with their dockets or not allow for careful consideration of complex evidence and legal claims.
- Certain parts of the law are unclear, and how they will impact cases is yet to be determined. For example, the different timelines that the courts have to adhere to contradict one another. And the language about exactly when a claim is abandoned is open to interpretation.
- The law also makes changes that only apply to death-sentenced people. For example, for anyone with an execution date set, it shortens the time you have to file any new petition to try to avoid execution.



\*This one-pager should be considered for informational purposes only. It is not legal advice, nor does it cover every change to existing law, or guarantee how courts will interpret this new law. The act is available in full at [here](#).