

Amendment to Aiding & Abetting Law Reform

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A bill has been introduced to address an unintended consequence of SF1478/HF1573, specifically correcting an erroneous update to the conviction date, which was improperly adjusted to the current date.

Why Minnesota Must Act

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature reformed the aiding and abetting felony murder laws, providing retroactive relief for eligible individuals. However, the legislation did not explicitly preserve the original conviction date, resulting in unintended collateral consequences when convictions are reassigned a current date.

Who is Impacted?

To date, approximately 20 individuals have been resentenced under this law. This bill would allow courts to restore the original conviction date, ensuring that future cases retain the original murder conviction date while replacing it with the predicate felony conviction.

Consequences of the Current Law

Many individuals being resentenced were originally convicted over a decade ago. Updating their conviction date to 2024 or 2025 can create significant barriers by negatively affecting:

- Housing opportunities
- Employment prospects
- Access to higher education

This bill seeks to ensure that those re-entering society have a fair opportunity to rebuild their lives without the undue hardship of a newly assigned conviction date

What Does HF1573/SF1609 Do?

This amendment ensures that conviction dates remain unchanged, accurately reflecting the original date in background checks.

How Does This Compare to Other States and Countries?

In California, similar reforms preserved the original conviction date while replacing the murder conviction with the appropriate predicate felony.

Why HF1573/SF1609 Supports Justice and Public Safety

This legislation helps individuals successfully reintegrate into society by improving access to:

- Housing
- Employment
- Educational opportunities

All affected individuals have already served lengthy sentences—often far exceeding the current predicate offense for which they were resentenced. The erroneous reassignment of their conviction date creates unnecessary barriers to reentry, preventing them from securing stable employment and housing. Correcting this issue is essential to ensuring their successful reintegration as productive members of society.

****See Reverse Side for Example****

Revise conviction reads 2/6/24 - Date Vacated

Amended Charge: Murder - 2nd Degree - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony	Statute: 609.19.2(1)
Date Amended: 01/22/2018	
General Offense Code: Aid/Abet - GOC	
Additional Statutes: Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm Use or Possession (609.11.5(a)), Liability for Crimes of Another-Reasonably Foreseeable (609.05.2); Murder - 2nd Degree (609.19.1)	

Disposition Date: 02/06/2024

Level of Charge: Felony
Offense Date: 04/27/2017
Community Of Offense: Bloomington
Law Enforcement Agency: Bloomington Police Department
Prosecuting Agency: Hennepin County Attorney

Actual conviction date should read 4/6/18

HF1573 & SF1609 Changes to Fix This Problem

3.7 (k) If the court enters a conviction under this subdivision, the court shall ensure that the
3.8 date of the conviction being entered is the same as that of the original conviction. If the
3.9 court has previously entered a conviction under this subdivision in a manner inconsistent
3.10 with this paragraph, the court shall change the date upon receiving notice of the inconsistency.
3.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.