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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'setenv.3' command

$ man setenv.3

SETENV(3) Linux Programmer's Manual SETENV(3)

NAME

setenv - change or add an environment variable

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <stdlib.h>

int setenv(const char *name, const char *value, int overwrite);

int unsetenv(const char *name);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see feature_test_macros(7)):

setenv(), unsetenv():

```
_POSIX_C_SOURCE >= 200112L
    || /* Glibc versions <= 2.19: */ _BSD_SOURCE
```

DESCRIPTION

The setenv() function adds the variable name to the environment with the value value, if name does not already exist. If name does exist in the environment, then its value is changed to value if overwrite is nonzero; if overwrite is zero, then the value of name is not changed (and setenv() returns a success status). This function makes copies of the strings pointed to by name and value (by contrast with putenv(3)).

The unsetenv() function deletes the variable name from the environment. If name does not exist in the environment, then the function succeeds, and the environment is unchanged.

RETURN VALUE

setenv() and unsetenv() functions return zero on success, or -1 on er?

ror, with errno set to indicate the cause of the error.

ERRORS

EINVAL name is NULL, points to a string of length 0, or contains an '='
character.

ENOMEM Insufficient memory to add a new variable to the environment.

ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see at?
tributes(7).

??
?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?
??
?setenv(), un? ? Thread safety ? MT-Unsafe const:env ?
?setenv() ? ? ?
??

CONFORMING TO

POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008, 4.3BSD.

NOTES

POSIX.1 does not require setenv() or unsetenv() to be reentrant.

Prior to glibc 2.2.2, unsetenv() was prototyped as returning void; more
recent glibc versions follow the POSIX.1-compliant prototype shown in
the SYNOPSIS.

BUGS

POSIX.1 specifies that if name contains an '=' character, then setenv()
should fail with the error EINVAL; however, versions of glibc before
2.3.4 allowed an '=' sign in name.

SEE ALSO

clearenv(3), getenv(3), putenv(3), environ(7)

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.10 of the Linux man-pages project. A
description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the
latest version of this page, can be found at
https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/.