



Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform

Dear Delegate

Support HB0238 - Criminal Procedure - Automatic Expungement

As your constituent I am writing to ask your support HB0238 and improve Maryland's expungement procedures.

Maryland currently offers very limited and burdensome procedures to remove public records, despite ex-offenders having completed their sentences and established lengthy good behavior. HB0238 offers useful steps towards a fresh start for Marylanders who have rehabilitated themselves.

It is alarming to note that even if a charge against you is invalidated, if that charge is dismissed and you are acquitted, the record of the charge is today not removed from the police and court records. The indictment can still be seen today by prospective employers, by housing and loan organizations, by future courts, by anyone interested in your history. Even if the charge proved to be bogus! Automatic expungement in cases like this need to be implemented to protect your future.

In certain circumstances HB0238 allows individuals to have their records expunged and removed from online databases automatically.

I would like to know if you will support this legislation. Or if you have issues and questions. Please let me know.

Sincerely,