

MUSTER: Urge your State Delegate to vote for HB 0022 – Prison assistance for returning citizens to obtain identification cards and drivers' licenses before their release

Dear MAJR Supporter:

On Thursday, February 5, 2026, the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee will have a hearing on HB 0022, which would tell prisons to assist returning citizens, upon release, to regain identification cards and drivers' licenses that expired during their prison sentences. You have been selected to take action because your delegate is a member of that committee. Please urge your delegate to vote favorably on this bill!

Returning citizens tell us that, upon parole or other forms of release, without any state-issued identification or drivers' license, they cannot:

- Secure employment
- Access housing
- Open a bank account
- Obtain health care or behavioral health services
- Complete benefits enrollment
- Fully comply with parole and supervision requirements

HB 0022 would direct that prisons provide those 6 months from their release dates with the means to apply for reissuance of these crucial identification documents.

A Fiscal Analysis by the State suggests there would be no substantial cost to taxpayers. And, returning citizens, having paid their "debt to society" will have a much better chance to succeed in finding honest employment.

For all these reasons, the Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform (MAJR) asks that you urge your Delegate to vote for HB0022.

EMAIL FROM SUPPORTERS TO DELEGATES:

HB 0022 – Prison assistance for returning citizens to obtain identification cards and drivers' licenses before their release

To House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee:

As your constituent, I write to ask you to vote for HB0022, which is scheduled for a hearing on Thursday, February 5, 2026. This bill would tell prisons to assist returning

citizens, upon release, to regain identification cards and drivers' licenses that expired during their prison sentences.

Returning citizens tell us that, upon parole or other forms of release, without any state-issued identification or drivers' license, they cannot:

- Secure employment
- Access housing
- Open a bank account
- Obtain health care or behavioral health services
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- Fully comply with parole and supervision requirements

HB 0022 would direct that prisons provide those 6 months from their release dates with the means to apply for reissuance of these crucial identification documents.

The Fiscal and Policy Note for this bill advises that would be no substantial cost to taxpayers. And, returning citizens, having paid their "debt to society" will have a much better chance to succeed in finding honest employment.

As your constituent and as a supporter of the Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform (MAJR), I strongly urge you to vote for HB0022 for prisons to give this small but important assistance for returning citizens to become once again law-abiding and self-supporting.