

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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March 17, 2022

Senate Bill 960 – Natural Resources - Hunting and Fishing Offenses - Expungement

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 960 – Natural Resources - Hunting and Fishing Offenses - Expungement. This bill expands eligibility for expungement to include misdemeanor violations of provisions of the Natural Resources Article dealing with fish and wildlife or any regulations adopted under the authority of those titles.

As I know you are aware, prior criminal convictions pose significant challenges to the ability of individuals to become employed following the completion of their sentences. This is particularly true of natural resources offenses. These convictions can result in DNR not renewing licenses, such as those issued to commercial watermen, causing them to lose their livelihood. Senate Bill 960 is intended to provide for expungement for these individuals. The bill also adds provisions to Title 10 of the Natural Resources Article to ensure that those who are convicted of violating Maryland's wildlife laws has the same ability to expunge their records that are maintained by the Department of Natural Resources that is currently available to those who violate Maryland's laws relating to fish and fisheries.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 960. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey".

Senator Jack Bailey
District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties