



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 11

Criminal Procedure - Partial Expungement

TO: Hon. William C. Smith, Chair, and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

DATE: February 1st, 2024

FROM: Bobbi Lewis-Clark

My name is Bobbi Lewis-Clark, and I have been a resident of District 45 for over seven years. I currently work as a staff member at The Center for Urban Families (CFUF). I support Senate Bill 11 to repeal the “Unit Rule,” which has stood as a permanent roadblock to criminal record expungement.

The Unit Rule directly impacts me as I have charges over 10 years old that I can not get expunged because one charge in my unit of charges is not eligible for expungement. This has significantly hindered my ability to secure employment, apartments, job advancement, degrees, and much more.

Senate Bill 11 addresses the challenges associated with the ‘unit rule’ by providing for the ‘partial expungement’ of eligible charges within a unit of charges. Passing this bill would help me and others in my situation who have backgrounds that changed their lives but are punished for those things over and over again. For these reasons, we respectfully urge a favorable report.