



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 432/ HOUSE BILL 499

Expungement Reform Act of 2025

TO: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Colin Willet

I, Colin Willet, support SENATE BILL 432/ HOUSE BILL 499 to clarify that expungements are to be allowed when the time allotted for the sentence has expired, including mandatory supervision and the waiting period.

When I was 21, I was caught in an unfortunate situation at the wrong place and time. This resulted in my being wrongfully convicted of credit card theft despite never having said credit card. I was subsequently sentenced to 3 years of probation. As part of my probation, I met with my parole office weekly as mandated. My only violation was an unfortunate DWI. Following my DWI, I began to attend weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and completed my sentence.

Despite finishing my sentence, this wrongful conviction has been a heavy burden for the last 26 years of my life. I have bounced around from one low-paying job to another, never Landing a decent job because 26 years ago, I was labeled a thief. Potential employers see only the word “theft,” not my skills or desire to improve myself.

Since my DWI, I have stayed out of trouble with the law, and I have stopped drinking entirely. None of this has mattered in the courts, and my expungement has now been denied twice. The situation has caused me severe depression and anxiety, which I am now in therapy for.

Senate Bill 432 and House Bill 499 will lift the current ban on expungements for charges where a violation of probation occurred and allow *all* of my charges to be eligible for expungement. I urge a favorable report.