

# SENATE BILL 949

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7lr3079  
CF HB 379

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By: **Senators Smith and Madaleno**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Expungement – Possession of Marijuana and Fees**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person to file a certain petition for expungement if the  
4 person was convicted of possession of marijuana before a certain time; requiring that  
5 filing fees for petitions for expungement collected by the District Court be remitted  
6 to the Administrative Office of the Courts to be used only for a certain purpose; and  
7 generally relating to expungement of records.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Criminal Procedure

10 Section 10–105

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

15 Section 7–302(h)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

21 10–105.

22 (a) A person who has been charged with the commission of a crime, including a  
23 violation of the Transportation Article for which a term of imprisonment may be imposed,  
24 or who has been charged with a civil offense or infraction, except a juvenile offense, as a  
25 substitute for a criminal charge may file a petition listing relevant facts for expungement

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 of a police record, court record, or other record maintained by the State or a political  
2 subdivision of the State if:

3 (1) the person is acquitted;

4 (2) the charge is otherwise dismissed;

5 (3) a probation before judgment is entered, unless the person is charged  
6 with a violation of § 21–902 of the Transportation Article or Title 2, Subtitle 5 or § 3–211  
7 of the Criminal Law Article;

8 (4) a nolle prosequi or nolle prosequi with the requirement of drug or  
9 alcohol treatment is entered;

10 (5) the court indefinitely postpones trial of a criminal charge by marking  
11 the criminal charge “stet” or stet with the requirement of drug or alcohol abuse treatment  
12 on the docket;

13 (6) the case is compromised under § 3–207 of the Criminal Law Article;

14 (7) the charge was transferred to the juvenile court under § 4–202 of this  
15 article;

16 (8) the person:

17 (i) is convicted of only one criminal act, and that act is not a crime  
18 of violence; and

19 (ii) is granted a full and unconditional pardon by the Governor;

20 (9) the person was convicted of a crime or found not criminally responsible  
21 under any State or local law that prohibits:

22 (i) urination or defecation in a public place;

23 (ii) panhandling or soliciting money;

24 (iii) drinking an alcoholic beverage in a public place;

25 (iv) obstructing the free passage of another in a public place or a  
26 public conveyance;

27 (v) sleeping on or in park structures, such as benches or doorways;

28 (vi) loitering;

29 (vii) vagrancy;

(viii) riding a transit vehicle without paying the applicable fare or exhibiting proof of payment; or

8 (i) trespass;

9 (ii) disturbing the peace; or

(iii) telephone misuse; [or]

11 (11) the person was convicted of a crime and the act on which the conviction  
12 was based is no longer a crime; **OR**

13 (12) THE PERSON WAS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA  
14 UNDER § 5-601 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2014.

18 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a person  
19 shall file a petition in the court in which the proceeding began.

(ii) If the proceeding began in one court and was transferred to the juvenile court under § 4–202 or § 4–202.2 of this article, the person shall file the petition in the court of original jurisdiction from which the order of transfer was entered.

31 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a petition for  
32 expungement based on an acquittal, a nolle prosequi, or a dismissal may not be filed within

1 3 years after the disposition, unless the petitioner files with the petition a written general  
2 waiver and release of all the petitioner's tort claims arising from the charge.

3 (2) A petition for expungement based on a probation before judgment or a  
4 stet with the requirement of drug or alcohol abuse treatment may not be filed earlier than  
5 the later of:

6 (i) the date the petitioner was discharged from probation or the  
7 requirements of obtaining drug or alcohol abuse treatment were completed; or

8 (ii) 3 years after the probation was granted or stet with the  
9 requirement of drug or alcohol abuse treatment was entered on the docket.

10 (3) A petition for expungement based on a nolle prosequi with the  
11 requirement of drug or alcohol treatment may not be filed until the completion of the  
12 required treatment.

13 (4) A petition for expungement based on a full and unconditional pardon  
14 by the Governor may not be filed later than 10 years after the pardon was signed by the  
15 Governor.

16 (5) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a petition for  
17 expungement based on a stet or a compromise under § 3-207 of the Criminal Law Article  
18 may not be filed within 3 years after the stet or compromise.

19 (6) A petition for expungement based on the conviction of a crime under  
20 subsection (a)(9) of this section may not be filed within 3 years after the conviction or  
21 satisfactory completion of the sentence, including probation, that was imposed for the  
22 conviction, whichever is later.

23 (7) A petition for expungement based on a finding of not criminally  
24 responsible under subsection (a)(9) or (10) of this section may not be filed within 3 years  
25 after the finding of not criminally responsible was made by the court.

26 (8) A court may grant a petition for expungement at any time on a showing  
27 of good cause.

28 (d) (1) The court shall have a copy of a petition for expungement served on the  
29 State's Attorney.

30 (2) Unless the State's Attorney files an objection to the petition for  
31 expungement within 30 days after the petition is served, the court shall pass an order  
32 requiring the expungement of all police records and court records about the charge.

33 (e) (1) If the State's Attorney files a timely objection to the petition, the court  
34 shall hold a hearing.

(2) If the court at the hearing finds that the person is entitled to expungement, the court shall order the expungement of all police records and court records about the charge.

4 (3) If the court finds that the person is not entitled to expungement, the  
5 court shall deny the petition.

6 (4) The person is not entitled to expungement if:

12 (ii) the person is a defendant in a pending criminal proceeding.

13 (f) Unless an order is stayed pending an appeal, within 60 days after entry of the  
14 order, every custodian of the police records and court records that are subject to the order  
15 of expungement shall advise in writing the court and the person who is seeking  
16 expungement of compliance with the order.

17 (g) (1) The State's Attorney is a party to the proceeding.

18 (2) A party aggrieved by the decision of the court is entitled to appellate  
19 review as provided in the Courts Article.

## Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

21 7-302.

22 (H) (1) FILING FEES FOR PETITIONS FOR EXPUNGEMENT COLLECTED BY  
23 THE DISTRICT COURT SHALL BE REMITTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF  
24 THE COURTS.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2017.