

# HOUSE BILL 819

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CF SB 464

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By: **Delegates Stinnett, Addison, Fair, Pasteur, Rosenberg, Simmons, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of  
4 Maryland; requiring the Commission to submit a certain report to the General  
5 Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the Commission to  
6 Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland.

10 (b) The Commission consists of:

11 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
12 the Senate;

13 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
14 the House;

15 (3) the President of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association, or the  
16 President's designee;

17 (4) the Public Defender, or the Public Defender's designee;

18 (5) the State Court Administrator, or the Administrator's designee;

19 (6) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the  
20 Secretary's designee; and

21 (7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(i) one representative of a research organization studying the impact criminal records have on individuals in Maryland;

3 (ii) two individuals who are members of the Maryland bar with  
4 experience providing expungement representation on behalf of Maryland residents;

5 (iii) one representative of a workforce organization in Maryland with  
6 experience securing employment for individuals with criminal records;

(iv) one representative of an organization that assists individuals with criminal records to reacclimate to society;

(v) two representatives of two different crime victims' advocacy groups, including one with expertise serving criminalized survivors of violence; and

11 (vi) two individuals who have a criminal record that is currently  
12 ineligible for expungement.

13 (c) The members of the Commission shall elect a chair from among the members  
14 of the Commission.

15 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy shall provide staff for  
16 the Commission.

17 (e) A member of the Commission:

18 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

21 (f) The Commission shall:

22 (1) examine the expungement laws of Maryland and the current  
23 expungement process under Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the Criminal Procedure Article for issues  
24 of efficiency and equity;

25 (2) review comparable states' expungement laws and their processes; and

26 (3) develop an alternate statutory scheme that provides a streamlined  
27 process and broader eligibility.

28 (g) On or before December 31, 2027, the Commission shall, in accordance with §  
29 2-1257 of the State Government Article, submit a report to the General Assembly of its  
30 findings and recommendations.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June  
3 30, 2028, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.