

SENATE BILL 483

E2

6lr2087
CF HB 360

By: **Senators McKay, Smith, Sydnor, Waldstreicher, Love, and Muse**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Automated ~~Expungement~~ Shielding**
3 **(Clean Slate Act of 2026)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services~~
5 ~~and the~~ Judiciary to ~~expunge~~ shield all cases meeting certain criteria on or before a
6 certain date; requiring ~~the Department and~~ the Judiciary to ~~expunge~~ shield certain
7 newly eligible cases on a monthly basis; and generally relating to ~~expungement~~
8 shielding.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

10 Article – Criminal Procedure
11 Section 10–301(a) through (e)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2025 Replacement Volume)

14 BY adding to

15 Article – Criminal Procedure
16 Section ~~10–112.1~~ 10–303.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2025 Replacement Volume)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 10-301.

2 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (b) “Court record” has the meaning stated in § 10-101 of this title.

4 (c) “Criminal justice unit” has the meaning stated in § 10-201 of this title.

5 (d) “Police record” has the meaning stated in § 10-101 of this title.

6 (e) “Shield” means to render a court record and police record relating to a
7 conviction of a crime inaccessible by members of the public.

8 ~~10-112.1. 10-303.1.~~

9 ~~(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS~~
10 ~~INDICATED.~~

11 ~~(2) (I) “DISPOSITION” MEANS THE OUTCOME OF A CRIMINAL~~
12 ~~CHARGE OR CASE RECORDED IN ELECTRONIC COURT RECORDS.~~

13 ~~(II) “DISPOSITION” INCLUDES AN ACQUITTAL, A DISMISSAL, A~~
14 ~~NOLLE PROSEQUI, A FINDING OF GUILTY, A PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT, A PLEA~~
15 ~~OF GUILTY, A PLEA OF NOLO CONTENDERE, MARKING THE CHARGE “STET” ON THE~~
16 ~~DOCKET, AND AN ORDER OF AN APPELLATE COURT ENDING A CRIMINAL CASE.~~

17 ~~(III) “DISPOSITION” DOES NOT REFER TO THE OUTCOME OF A~~
18 ~~CRIMINAL SENTENCE.~~

19 ~~(3) “EXPUNGE” MEANS TO:~~

20 ~~(I) REMOVE ALL REFERENCES TO A SPECIFIED CRIMINAL CASE~~
21 ~~FROM THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY; AND~~

22 ~~(II) REMOVE FROM PUBLIC VIEW ALL ELECTRONIC COURT~~
23 ~~RECORDS RELATING TO THE CASE, WITHOUT NEEDING TO REDACT PHYSICAL OR~~
24 ~~ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS, RECORDINGS, OR AUDIO OR VISUAL MEDIA.~~

25 ~~(B) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE JUDICIARY~~
26 ~~SHALL EXPUNGE ALL CASES IN WHICH:~~

27 ~~(1) (I) ALL CHARGES OR DISPOSITIONS IN THE CASE ARE LISTED~~
28 ~~UNDER § 10-105(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE;~~

1 ~~(II) THE CASE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER § 10-107 OF THIS SUBTITLE;~~
2 ~~AND~~

3 ~~(III) AT LEAST 3 YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE~~
4 ~~DISPOSITION OF THE CASE; OR~~

5 ~~(2) (I) ANY CONVICTIONS IN THE CASE ARE MISDEMEANOR~~
6 ~~CONVICTIONS LISTED UNDER § 10-110(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, OTHER THAN:~~

7 ~~1. ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE UNDER § 3-203 OF~~
8 ~~THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE; AND~~

9 ~~2. ANY CHARGE MARKED IN ELECTRONIC COURT~~
10 ~~RECORDS AS A DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME UNDER § 6-233 OF THIS ARTICLE;~~

11 ~~(II) THE CASE IS ELIGIBLE UNDER §§ 10-107 AND 10-110(D)(2)~~
12 ~~AND (3) OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND~~

13 ~~(III) AT LEAST 7 YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE DISPOSITION OF~~
14 ~~THE CASE, EXCEPT THAT IF THE PERSON IS CONVICTED OF A NEW CRIME DURING~~
15 ~~THE 7-YEAR PERIOD, THE ORIGINAL CONVICTION OR CONVICTIONS ARE NOT~~
16 ~~ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNGEMENT UNLESS THE NEW CONVICTION BECOMES ELIGIBLE~~
17 ~~FOR EXPUNGEMENT.~~

18 ~~(C) (1) BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2028, THE JUDICIARY SHALL, ONCE PER~~
19 ~~MONTH, IDENTIFY ALL CASES THAT ARE NEWLY ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNGEMENT~~
20 ~~BASED ON THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.~~

21 ~~(2) PROMPTLY AFTER MAKING EACH DETERMINATION REQUIRED~~
22 ~~UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE JUDICIARY SHALL~~
23 ~~ELECTRONICALLY NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF ALL CASES THAT ARE NEWLY~~
24 ~~ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNGEMENT.~~

25 ~~(3) WITHIN ONE MONTH OF THE NOTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER~~
26 ~~PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE JUDICIARY~~
27 ~~SHALL EXPUNGE ALL NEWLY ELIGIBLE CASES.~~

28 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "TECHNICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNGEMENT"
29 MEANS THAT, BASED ON THE NATURE OF A CHARGE OR CONVICTION AND THE
30 RELEVANT TIME THAT HAS ELAPSED, A PERSON WOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO FILE A
31 PETITION FOR EXPUNGEMENT UNDER SUBTITLE 1 OF THIS TITLE.

1 **(B) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2028, THE JUDICIARY SHALL SHIELD ALL CASES**
2 **IN WHICH ALL CHARGES IN THE CASE ARE TECHNICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR**
3 **EXPUNGEMENT.**

4 **(C) (1) BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 2028, THE JUDICIARY SHALL, ONCE PER**
5 **MONTH, IDENTIFY ALL CASES IN WHICH ALL CHARGES IN THE CASE ARE NEWLY**
6 **TECHNICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNGEMENT.**

7 **(2) WITHIN 1 MONTH OF IDENTIFYING A CASE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**
8 **OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE JUDICIARY SHALL SHIELD THE CASE.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.