

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 819
 Judiciary

(Delegate Stinnett, *et al.*)

Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland

This bill establishes the Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland, to be staffed by the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP). The commission must (1) examine the State’s expungement laws and current expungement process under Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the Criminal Procedure Article; (2) review comparable expungement laws and processes in other states; and (3) develop an alternate statutory scheme that provides a streamlined process and broader eligibility. The commission must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 2027. A member of the commission may not receive compensation as a member of the commission but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2026, and terminates June 30, 2028.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No assumed effect in FY 2026. General fund expenditures increase by *as much as* \$42,900 in FY 2027 and \$17,000 in FY 2028 for staff. Future years reflect termination of the commission after FY 2028. Any expense reimbursements for commission members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	42,900	17,000	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$42,900)	(\$17,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the Criminal Procedure Article establishes eligibility requirements and procedures for the expungement of criminal records. Please refer to this [guide sheet](#) for a more detailed discussion of Maryland’s expungement laws.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures for GOCPP increase by *as much as* \$42,921 in fiscal 2027 and \$16,967 in fiscal 2028, which reflects a July 1, 2026 personnel start date and a termination date of December 31, 2027, to reflect the reporting deadline. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time administrative specialist to assist the commission with research, preparation of the report, and administrative tasks. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>
New Contractual Position	0.5	0.0
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$34,474	\$16,266
Operating Expenses	8,447	701
Maximum GOCPP Contractual Personnel Expenditures	\$42,921	\$16,967

This estimate does not include any health insurance costs that could be incurred for specified contractual employees under the State’s implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

GOCPP advises that it requires one full-time contractual administrative employee to assist the commission under the bill. The Department of Legislative Services advises that given the commission’s responsibilities and the knowledge and expertise of the commission’s membership, one part-time contractual position is the maximum additional personnel needed for GOCPP to staff the commission.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 464 (Senator Muse) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 27, 2026
jg/jkb

Analysis by: Amy A. Devadas

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510