



March 10, 2020

Delegate Luke Clippinger
Chair, Judiciary Committee
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support for House Bill 1336 – Criminal Procedure – Partial Expungement

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Committee Members:

As the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, I stand in strong support of House Bill 1336, which repeals the current prohibition on expungement of a charges within a "unit" of charges unless all the charges in the unit are eligible for expungement. The bill authorizes the partial expungement of eligible charges within a unit if one or more of the charges is ineligible and establishes procedural requirements for partial expungements. A criminal record can serve as the cause and consequence of poverty, limiting access to economic and social stability. Criminal records can hinder people attempting to get jobs, find housing, or seek education.

My administration has always and will continue to value justice over convictions. Automatic expungement for individuals as they attempt to rebuild their lives is the embodiment of justice. Justice is what is fair and appropriate. Our office is uncompromisingly committed to accountability, professionalism, and transparency, and is working towards a future where community trust in the criminal justice is restored. This bill will go a long way towards achieving that goal.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB1336.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marilyn J. Mosby". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Marilyn J. Mosby
State's Attorney for Baltimore City