JACK BAILEY Legislative District 29 Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee



Annapolis Office James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 402 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3673 · 301-858-3673 800-492-7122 Ext. 3673 Jack.Bailey@senate.state.md.us

District Office Dorsey Professional Park 23680 Three Notch Road, Unit 101 Hollywood, Maryland 20636 240-309-4238

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 23, 2021

<u>Senate Bill 617 – Criminal Procedure – Expungement – Entitlement</u>

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 617 – Criminal Procedure - Sexual Offenders - Lifetime Supervision. Senate Bill 617 would provide that a person is not entitled to expungement if the court ordered the person to register as a sex offender as a result of the charge on which the petition for expungement is based. This bill would also add individuals who have not satisfied an obligation to pay court costs, fines, or restitution imposed by the court in connection with the disposition of the charge on which the petition is based.

It is my belief that Senate Bill 617 will help to protect Marylanders. In particular, prohibiting registered sex offenders from having their criminal records expunged is important to ensure that these offenders, particularly those who have committed sexual offenses against our children, cannot circumvent the registry, which is intended to keep our residents safe from these offenders. This is particularly important because those who commit sexual offenses against children have a higher rate of recidivism than those who have committed other crimes. This bill would also ensure that convicted criminals pay their full debt to society before becoming eligible to have their criminal records expunged.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 617. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Jack Bailey District 29 Calvert and St. Mary's Counties