

Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys' Association



MD House of Delegates - Judiciary Committee

February 21, 2023 1 pm

Hearing on HB 544

Collateral Consequences for Individuals With Criminal Records - Study

MCDAA POSITION: SUPPORT

Brief bill explanation: This bill requires the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), in coordination with the Maryland State Data Center, to study and make recommendations relating to collateral consequences for individuals with criminal records. By December 31, 2023, MDP must report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly. MDP must examine, report on, and make recommendations relating to collateral consequences for individuals with criminal records, including (1) the right to vote; (2) the right to hold public office; (3) restrictions on employment in certain professions; (4) restrictions on the ability to obtain certain business, occupational, and professional licenses, including a liquor license; (5) restrictions on the receipt of public assistance, food assistance, and public housing; (6) restrictions on international travel; (7) the abrogation of certain parental rights; and (8) restrictions on jury duty service.

MDCAA's Position: MDCAA members are criminal defense attorneys. In general, we support legislation that tries to address the challenges faced by former criminal defendants. This bill, if signed into law, will provide the legislature with valuable information concerning challenges facing Marylanders with criminal records.

For additional information or questions regarding this legislation, please contact MDCAA lobbyist John Giannetti 410.300.6393, JohnGiannetti.mcdaa@gmail.com Copyright 2023, MDCAA. All rights reserved.