

Favorable Response to HB544

Department of Planning – Collateral Consequences for Individuals With Criminal Records – Study

Families Advocating Intelligent Registries (FAIR) seeks rational, constitutional sexual offense laws and policies for persons accused and convicted of sexual offenses. We very much support the recommendation in HB544 to study, report, and make recommendations regarding collateral consequences for persons with criminal records.

Should this bill pass, as we hope it will, FAIR suggests that the study team keep a special watch for the sub-segment of the study population which is comprised of persons convicted of sexual offenses. In addition to the collateral consequences experienced by the rest of their cohort, these persons face additional hurdles due to their names and offenses being publicly listed.

In brief, take any consequence faced due to a criminal record, and amplify it fourfold and this may come close to what persons on a public registry face. In fact, some recent reforms which benefit other classes of persons with criminal records *specifically exclude* persons with sexual offenses, when in reality this group has shown itself to be the least likely to reoffend, surpassed only by those convicted of murder.

FAIR highly recommends a review of some of the studies found on the Collateral Consequences Resource Center's website: <https://ccresourcecenter.org/compilations-inventories-of-collateral-consequences/>. A sub-section of the site that is also worth review is its state-specific resources: <https://ccresourcecenter.org/resources-2/state-specific-resources/> which includes many comparative and state-specific details.

Sincerely,



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