

## Testimony of the Human Trafficking Prevention Project

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**BILL NO:** House Bill 550  
**TITLE:** Criminal Procedure – Expungement – Vendor  
Contracts  
**COMMITTEE:** Judicial Proceedings  
**HEARING DATE:** March 26, 2024  
**POSITION:** **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

House Bill 550, as amended, would require that any new system upgrades made by that the Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services allow for both automated and partial expungement of charges. The Human Trafficking Prevention Project supports this bill, but respectfully requests that the committee please conform House Bill 550 to Senate Bill 11, which includes updated procurement language, as well as language defining the term “partial expungement.”

In recent years, Maryland has shown its strong support for remedying the impact a deeply flawed criminal legal system has on the ability of its citizens to escape poverty and lead productive lives. HB 550, with amendments, would further this goal by moving Maryland closer to the availability of partial expungement in the state, which would significantly lessen the trafficking risk faced by sex workers and survivors of human trafficking alike. For these reasons, the Human Trafficking Prevention Project respectfully urges a favorable report with amendments on House Bill 550.

***[The Human Trafficking Prevention Project](#) is dedicated to ending the criminalization of sex workers, survivors of human trafficking, and those populations put at highest risk of exploitation through access to civil legal services and support for policies that dismantle harmful systems and increase access to basic human rights and legal relief.***

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