

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 649

Criminal Procedure - Expungement - No Finding and Case Terminated Without Finding

TO: Hon. William C. Smith Jr., Chair, and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Zachary Alberts, Director of Advocacy

The Center for Urban Families (CFUF), a West Baltimore workforce and family-strengthening community-based organization, advocates for legislative initiatives that strengthen urban communities by helping fathers and families achieve stability and economic success. In our 25-year history, we have served over 30,000 Marylanders, about half of whom have a criminal record.

Senate Bill 649 is a technical fix to the expungement statute that addresses the "No Finding" disposition. It allows it to be eligible for expungement in accordance with the intent of the judicial officials who created the designation. Expungements are proven to increase employment, housing, and educational attainment. They make families and communities safer and more prosperous.

