



**Testimony Before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
March 19, 2025**

**House Bill 1429 - Youth Services Bureaus - Criminal History Records Checks
- Employees, Volunteers, and Interns
Support with Amendments**

The Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus (MAYSB) supports HB 1429 which will authorize Youth Service Bureaus to request a criminal history records check from the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository for employees, volunteers, and interns. We support the amendments being offered by the sponsor which will ensure the law will meet CJIS requirements.

MAYSB is a network of community-based Youth Service Bureaus who provide counseling, mentoring, psycho-educational groups, and other services to at-risk children, teens, and their parents. Services are provided in partnership with schools, faith-based organizations, and local government to enhance the health, safety and well-being of Maryland's youth and families.

HB 1429 corrects an unintended consequence of a recent federal policy that limits access to federal background checks. Though MAYSB supports the reasons for the policy change, the current rules make it impossible for Youth Service Bureaus to conduct a full screening of new employees, interns, and volunteers, especially those who have lived in or traveled to another state. Passage of HB 1429 would assist Youth Service Bureaus with creating the safest environment possible for the kids and families we serve.

We respectfully ask you to support this bill.