

Testimony on SB432

(MGA 2025)

Criminal Records – Expungement and Maryland Judiciary Case Search (Expungement Reform Act of 2025)

Position: **FAV** February 5, 2025

To Chair Smith and Judicial Proceedings Committee Members:

My name is Ricarra Jones, and I am the Political Director with 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East. We are the largest healthcare workers union in the nation, with 10,000 members in Maryland and Washington, DC.

1199 SEIU urges a **favorable** report on SB432 which alters the dates for expungement of criminal records; broadens the categories of matters which may be expunged; and prevents the recording of certain cannabis convictions in the Maryland Judiciary Case Finder database.

1199 SEIU believes SB432 is a critical measure to ensure that Maryland residents are given an equitable opportunity to secure employment, housing, and training. One of the greatest challenges faced by people with criminal records—affecting nearly 22% of Maryland's adult population—is the obstacle that outdated records present to obtaining basic life necessities. To burden people with cannabis arrests permanently appearing in formal online records is counter productive.

SEIU 1199 is always concerned about the delivery of quality health care to consumers as well as the workplace opportunities for its own hard-working members. Passing SB432 (Expungement Reform Act of 2025) is a step in the right direction for all Marylanders.

We support SB432 and urge a favorable report.

Respectfully, Ricarra Jones, Political Director, 1199SEIU UHW E ricarra.jones@1199.org