

My name is Demetrious Jones and I am a resident of District 7. I am writing in support of SB 432, the expungement of otherwise expungable convictions that have an associated parole, probation or mandatory supervision violation. It also adds several common sense misdemeanors to the expungement statute.

My community experience has come from the mentorship of a young Man with this exact issue currently. His experience with the legal system has been fraught with obstacles and barriers. Right now this young Man is on mandatory supervision. He has an ankle monitor that he has to wear daily and is confined to his home unless approved by a monitoring supervisor. Finding employment opportunities has been a challenge. The majority of employers that have offered an opportunity for an interview, immediately withdraw the job opportunity when they see the ankle monitor. I have seen this youngan

demoralized and feeling like he does not have a chance to atone for his mistakes. He often talks to me about being able to be self-sufficient. Without a job that pays a livable wage he's relying on Family and Friends for housing. Having his misdemeanors expunged would allow him to obtain gainful employment. It would allow him to obtain professional licenses and certifications. Which in turn would allow him to earn financial and social stability. Being able to remove the stigma associated with wearing an ankle monitor is the toughest barrier he faces. The expungable convictions have been an immense setback for my Mentee. I believe criminal record expungements are important because it improves employment opportunities, allows for better housing options, allows the individual to obtain professional licenses and certifications, and greatly improves his overall standing and reputation in the community. I urge a

favorable report.

Sincerely,
Demetrious Jones