

oral testimony

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Thank you, Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee.

My name is Steven McDonald and I am a member of the Local 5 Plumbers and Gasfitters and a resident of District 28, Charles County.

I strongly support Governor Moore's Expungement Reform Act of 2025, which will assist me in moving forward with my life. I only request a favorable amendment to allow Criminal Law §5-701(d) to be added to the expungement list.

When I was 18, in High School, I had a spine injury which the doctors over-prescribed me with Oxycotin, which was the encouraged drug at the time. There wasn't much discussion about addiction, which became the nature of my only charge.

I had a violation of probation because I was working two jobs when I was released and didn't make it to my P.O. meeting on time, so I was violated.

Passing the Governor's Expungement Reform Act of 2025 would help me tremendously in allowing the violation to be expungeable.

The only amendment I would make is to add Criminal Law §5-701(d) (Possession of a Counterfeited Prescription) to the expungement list.

The Governor's Bill is already adding Criminal Law §8-610 Counterfeiting Prescription to the expungement list and Criminal Law §5-601, which is a misdemeanor for "(ii) counterfeiting or alteration of a prescription," is already expungeable.

§5-701(d), §8-610, and §5-601 are essentially the same charge in three different statutes. If this can be rectified by adding §5-701(d) to the expungement list, it would clarify the Governor's intent to help individuals like me who survived the prescription opioid epidemic.

I urge a favorable report.