



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger Chair and  
Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Samira Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: March 4, 2025

RE: **HB 777 - Criminal Procedure - Expungement - Effect**

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **OPPOSE HB 777**. This bill establishes that a person who is granted an expungement shall be determined for all purposes not to have been arrested for, cited for, charged with, or convicted of the underlying offense.

MCPA-MSA oppose HB 777 as it undermines transparency and accountability in the justice system. By allowing individuals who have been granted expungement to be legally considered as never having been arrested, charged, or convicted, this legislation erases critical public records that serve as essential tools for employers, landlords, and law enforcement. Such a sweeping measure has the propensity to create risks by preventing informed decision-making and shielding past offenders from scrutiny, particularly in cases involving serious or repeat offenses.

While rehabilitation and second chances are important, this bill goes too far by completely rewriting history rather than balancing reintegration with public safety. Instead of erasing records entirely, a more reasonable approach would be to allow limited access for specific stakeholders, ensuring that individuals can move forward while still maintaining safeguards that protect the community. Transparency is essential for public trust to remain intact, and for these reasons, MCPA and MSA **OPPOSE HB 777** and urge an **UNFAVORABLE** report.