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March 4, 2025

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger
Chair, Judiciary Committee

FROM: Tiffany Clark
Director, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: House Bill 55 – Criminal Procedure - Expungement of Records - Good Cause— **Support in Concept**

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) supports the intent of **House Bill 55** – Criminal Procedure - Expungement of Records - Good Cause. House Bill 55 authorizes a person to file a petition for expungement of any misdemeanor or felony conviction after the completion of the sentence, parole, probation, and any other form of mandatory treatment associated with the conviction. Additionally, **House Bill 55** authorizes a court to grant a petition for expungement under the bill at any time on a showing of good cause.

Criminal records can create significant barriers to employment, housing, education, public assistance, family reunification, and the opportunity to build good credit. For many individuals with a justice-involved background, having a record can result in lifelong restrictions, preventing them from accessing resources necessary for achieving stable futures for themselves and their families. Record expungement is an effective solution for removing barriers to opportunities for justice-involved individuals and their families.

For the foregoing reasons, the OAG supports the intent of **House Bill 55**.

cc: Members of the Judiciary Committee