



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 483**

**Criminal Procedure - Automated Expungement (Clean Slate Act of 2026)**

TO: Hon. William Smith, Chair, and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Zachary Alberts, Director of Advocacy and Strategic Initiatives at the Center for Urban Families

DATE: February 12th, 2026

Good afternoon, my name is Zachary Alberts. I am the Director of Advocacy and Strategic Initiatives at the Center for Urban Families, a workforce and family strengthening program in Baltimore City. We are here to support Senate Bill 483, which will further our goal to remove the barrier a criminal record imposes on our clients' ability to find and retain employment.

At the Center for Urban Families, we help individuals that live in the most underserved, underrepresented, and disconnected areas in Baltimore City. What they also have in common is that they dream of something better and are actively participating in the training, coaching and skills building that will make that dream a reality. 50% of the individuals in our job training programs have a criminal record. This legislation will be a positive step toward ensuring that when they graduate, they are able to immediately begin employment and support themselves, their families, and their community.

We urge a favorable report.

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**For more information, contact:**

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