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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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**SPONSOR TESTIMONY SENATE BILL 464: Commission to Examine the Expungement
Laws of Maryland**

Good afternoon, Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

For the record, I am Senator C. Anthony Muse, representing the 26th legislative district. I am here today in support of Senate Bill 464: Commission to Examine the Expungement Laws of Maryland, which creates a commission to examine Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the Criminal Procedure Article for the purpose of redesigning the statute for efficiency and equity.

10 years have passed since the passage of the Justice Reinvestment Act, which created the expungement statute and made a limited number of convictions eligible for expungement. Since its passage, many legislators have returned each year to discuss adding more charges to the expungement list, the conditions of expungement, and the expungement process. This has prompted calls to update the statute entirely rather than take a piecemeal approach.

Senate Bill 464 seeks to establish a commission to review the expungement statute, identify inefficiencies, compare us to other states, and develop solutions. My panel will address the particulars of the bill and the commission members. I urge a favorable report.