

HB 113: Criminal Procedure - Expungement of Records - Resisting Arrest and Making a False Statement to a Law Enforcement Officer: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **OPPOSE HB 113**, *Criminal Procedure - Expungement of Records - Resisting Arrest and Making a False Statement to a Law Enforcement Officer*.

HB 113 would directly undermine law enforcement authority, public safety, and the integrity of police interactions.

Resisting arrest—whether by physical resistance or evasion—poses real risks to officers and bystanders, often escalating situations unnecessarily. Similarly, providing false information to police during an arrest or investigation hinders effective law enforcement, can lead to wrongful detentions of others, wastes resources, and erodes trust in the criminal justice system. Allowing these convictions to be expunged (erased from public criminal records) after a period would send the wrong message: that obstructing justice or endangering officers is forgivable enough to wipe clean for employment, housing, or other purposes without full accountability.

Maryland already has expungement options for lower-level, non-violent misdemeanors that do not involve direct interference with police duties. Expanding it here risks weakening deterrence against behaviors that complicate arrests and investigations, potentially increasing officer safety concerns and complicating prosecutions in future cases.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote against HB 113** and oppose adding resisting arrest or false statements to officers to the expungement list.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this important public safety matter.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals