

**MIKE MCKAY**  
*Legislative District 1*  
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

*Annapolis Office*  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 416  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3565  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3565  
Mike.McKay@senate.maryland.gov

*Cumberland Office*  
100N Mechanic Street  
Cumberland, Maryland 21502  
240-362-7040

*Williamsport Office*  
2N Conococheque Street  
Williamsport Town Hall  
Williamsport, Maryland

Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

*Joint Committees*

Administrative, Executive,  
and Legislative Review  
Children, Youth, and Families  
Program Open Space and Agricultural  
Land Preservation

**Senate Bill 483 – Criminal Procedure - Automated Expungement (Clean Slate Act of 2026)**

March 31, 2026

Dear Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and Members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 483, the Clean Slate Act of 2026, is a commonsense reform that modernizes Maryland's expungement process and ensures the law works as intended for people who have already earned relief. By requiring automated expungement of eligible cases, the bill removes unnecessary procedural barriers that currently prevent thousands of Marylanders from clearing records they are legally entitled to expunge. Automating this process promotes fairness and consistency across jurisdictions, reduces administrative burdens on the courts, and ensures that expungement is not dependent on an individual's ability to navigate a complex legal system or pay filing fees.

Just as importantly, SB 483 strengthens public safety and economic stability by allowing individuals with old, low-level, and nonviolent records to move forward with their lives once sufficient time has passed without reoffending. Clearing eligible records improves access to employment, housing, and education—key factors that reduce recidivism and strengthen communities. The bill preserves appropriate safeguards by excluding serious offenses and requiring significant waiting periods, striking the right balance between accountability and second chances. Senate Bill 483 reflects Maryland's commitment to smart justice policies that are efficient, fair, and focused on long-term community well-being.

I thank you for your time and I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike McKay'.

Senator Mike McKay  
Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland  
Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties