



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Sandy Bartlett, Chair and  
Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Samira Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: March 3, 2026

RE: **HB 131 - Criminal Procedure - Expungement - Adverse Actions and Removal From  
Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) System**

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **OPPOSE HB 131**.

MCPA and MSA are concerned this bill could have serious public safety implications associated with allowing individuals with expunged criminal records to withhold that information when seeking employment or access within law enforcement environments. Law enforcement agencies rely on a high level of trust, integrity, and transparency from all personnel, particularly those who may have access to secure facilities, sensitive information, or vulnerable populations. Decisions regarding hiring, authority over detained individuals, and access to criminal justice systems must be made with full and accurate information to ensure the safety of staff and the public.

When an individual has had a criminal record expunged, but fails to disclose that history, it may be viewed as a deliberate attempt to deceive rather than a reflection of rehabilitation. Such nondisclosure undermines confidence in an individual's honesty and judgment, which are foundational qualities for any position of public trust. Criminal conduct, even when legally expunged, can raise legitimate concerns about an individual's adherence to the law and overall trustworthiness. For law enforcement charged with maintaining order and safety in secure environments, the ability to evaluate character fully and accurately is essential.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **OPPOSE HB 131** and urge an **UNFAVORABLE** report.