



Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chairman and
Members of the Judiciary Committee

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

DATE: March 5, 2024

RE: **HB 269 Criminal Procedure - Disclosure of Expunged Records – Alterations**

POSITION: OPPOSE

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **OPPOSE HB 269**. This bill alters the situations in which a person may refuse to disclose expunged charges.

HB 269 prohibits refusal to disclose criminal charges that have been expunged from being the sole reason for the state or an instrumentality for the state to deny an application for a license, permit, registration, or government service. State law enforcement agencies would be prohibited from denying firearm licenses and permits to applicants who refuse to disclose having expunged criminal charges. The prohibition would also apply to professional licenses for security guards, private detectives, and special police among others. These are all permits and licenses in which a person's full criminal history needs to be considered.

This bill is well-intended, but certain permits and professions require a high bar for review and a complete criminal history background for consideration. For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **OPPOSE HB 269** and urge an **UNFAVORABLE** Committee report.