



Jobs

Justice

A Future

### **A criminal record should not mean a lifetime of blocked opportunities**

Too many of our brothers and sisters are trapped in poverty and rejected for jobs and housing because of their criminal records.

#### **Support HB1763 (Rep. Malia) and SB1037 (Sen. Friedman) An Act providing for easier and greater access to record sealing**

- The bill requires the Commissioner of Probation to automatically seal criminal and juvenile records after the applicable waiting periods without the filing of any petition.
- The current law requires peoples to mail sealable petitions to the Commissioner of Probation who processes the requests manually, one-by-one. The present system has backlogs; it takes 4 months to get a reply after filing a petition so jobs and opportunities are often lost.
- Because of backlogs, people who already waited years for sealing are forced to face collateral consequences of their records even longer.
- Sealing has lots of complicated rules. Many people do not know when their records are eligible for sealing, and only learn about sealing after they have already lost the prospect for a job, housing, or other opportunity due to their record.
- Studies show record sealing increases access to jobs, but gaps in knowledge about sealing hold countless eligible individuals back from sealing and getting jobs. See [Starr & Prescott study](#).
- Other states across the nation have successfully implemented similar automated record clearing with great benefits and without harm to those with records. See [Clean Slate Initiative](#).
- Sealing in MA, as in other states without an automated process is underutilized and more charges are added to the database than sealed every year. This hurts communities of color the most because Black and Brown people are more likely to have criminal cases.

This bill also reactivates an earlier law which would immediately seal any case that ends in a not guilty finding. These charges will also be eligible for sealing and sealed at time of the not guilty finding unless the person objects to sealing of their record.

Contact Pauline Quirion at [pquirion@gbls.org](mailto:pquirion@gbls.org) or 617-710-5515 if you have any questions.

## SUPPORTERS OF THESE SECOND CHANCE AND OPPORTUNITIES BILLS

### H.1783/ S.1037: An Act providing for easier and greater access to record sealing

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD)  
Action Inc. (Gloucester) American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (ACLU)  
Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Boston SOAR (Street Outreach, Advocacy & Response)  
Boston University Criminal Law Clinic Boston Vet Center  
Casa Esperanza  
Casa Myrna  
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice  
Coalition for Social Justice  
Codman Square NDC  
Committee for Public Counsel (CPCS)  
Community Resources for Justice Inc. (CRJ)  
Community Servings (Boston)  
Community Work Services  
De Novo Center for Justice and Healing DOVE  
EMPath (Economic Mobility Pathways)  
EVA Center  
Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)  
Jewish Family & Children's Service of Boston  
Justice at Work  
Justice Bridge Legal Center Justice Resource Institute (JRI) Lawyers Clearinghouse Lawyers for Civil Rights  
Louis D. Brown Peace Institute

Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Mental Health Legal Advisors  
Metro West Legal Services  
More than Words  
New Beginnings Reentry Services  
New England Law Boston- CORI Initiative  
Northeastern University School of Law—Criminal Justice Task Force  
Prisoners Legal Services of Massachusetts  
Project Place  
RFK Community Alliance  
Roxbury Youthworks  
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston  
Somerville Homeless Coalition St. Francis House  
Strategies for Youth  
Strive Boston  
Suffolk University Law School—Criminal and Juvenile Delinquency Clinics  
Tenants Advocacy Project  
Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
UMass School of Law—Human Rights at Home Clinic  
Veterans Inc. (Worcester)  
Veterans Legal Services  
Western New England School of Law — Center for Social Justice  
Women's Lunch Place  
Worcester State University—Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice

## Endorsers of the *Far From Home* Report Recommendations (which includes CORI Reform)

Alliance for Safety and Justice  
Appleseed Personnel Services  
Bank on Boston  
Beacon BLOC  
Black and Pink Massachusetts  
Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network  
Boston Liberation Center  
Boston Women's Fund  
Building our Lives Together as One  
Disability Policy Consortium  
Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation  
Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School  
Community Action Agency of Somerville  
Community Reentry Program  
Congregation Dorshei Tzedek  
Creatrix Films  
Criminal Justice Policy Coalition  
Family Matters Boston  
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)  
Harvard Defenders  
Harvard Graduate Students Union Local 5118  
Harvard Law School Advocates for Human Rights  
Harvard Law School Chapter: National Lawyers Guild  
Harvard Law School Child Advocacy Program  
Children's Healthwatch  
Harvard Law School Criminal Justice Institute  
Harvard Law School Education Law Clinic  
UNITE HERE Local 26  
Harvard Law School Housing Justice for Survivors Project  
Harvard Law School Program in Islamic Law  
Harvard Law School Tenant Advocacy Project  
Harvard Law School Veterans Legal Clinic: Safety Net Project  
Harvard Legal Aid Bureau  
Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project  
Health Resources in Action (HRiA)  
Housing = Health  
Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere (HOPE)  
Joint Coalition on Health  
Justice 4 Housing  
Labor Employment Action Project  
Massachusetts Advocates for Children  
Massachusetts Chapter: National Lawyers Guild  
Massachusetts Coalition for Health Equity  
Massachusetts Communities Action Network  
Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance  
Massachusetts Jobs with Justice  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition  
Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee  
New England Innocence Project  
New Vision Organization  
Out Now Springfield  
Partakers: College Behind Bars  
People Affecting Community Change (PACC)  
Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts  
Project No One Leaves  
Project Turnaround  
Prophetic Resistance Boston  
Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts  
Showing Up for Racial Justice (Boston)  
Spanish American Center  
The F8 Foundation  
The Real Cost of Prisons Project  
THRIVE Communities of Massachusetts  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action  
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1445  
Way Finders Springfield  
Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness  
Women and Incarceration Project  
Yale Black Men's Union  
Yale School of Public Health

Apffii"seed  
personnel services

BON  
BLOC

ALLIANCE FOR  
SAFETY AND JUSTICE

Center for Health Law  
and Policy Innovation

BLACK & PINK  
MASSACHUSETTS



BOSTON WOMEN'S FUND

CAAS

Bank On  
Boston



DOVE  
Domestic Violence Ended

Family Matters



CHILDREN'S  
Health Watch

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DPC  
DIVERSITY CONSORTIUM

Dorchester Bay  
Economic Development Corporation

NEW ENGLAND  
INNOCENCE PROJECT

BOSTON'S  
LOCAL !!



WesternQ  
Massachusetts  
network to end  
homelessness

wayfinders

GREATER BOSTON  
LEGAL SERVICES  
... and justice for all

Massachusetts  
Communities  
Action Network

Greater Boston

Housing = Health

MASSACHUSETTS  
ADVOCATES  
for CHILDREN

Yale SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Interfaith Organization

NEW ENGLAND  
INNOCENCE PROJECT

Massachusetts  
Coalition for  
Health Equity



Health Resources in Action  
Advancing Public Health and Medical Research

Spanish American Center  
"Si vivim, Jo Nnesrm Colimlidaj"

PARTAKERS  
College Behind Bars

MASSACHUSETTS

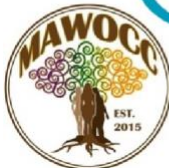
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MLRI  
MASSACHUSETTS  
LAW REFORM  
INSTITUTE

THRIVE  
COMMUNITIES

Prophetic



HARVARD LAW SCHOOL | Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project

Boston

