

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred House Bill No. 655
3 entitled “An act relating to qualifying offenses for sealing criminal history
4 records and access to sealed criminal history records” respectfully reports that
5 it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate propose to the
6 House that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and
7 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. SEALING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS; JOINT

9 LEGISLATIVE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

10 (a) The Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall examine the
11 laws of other states regarding the sealing of criminal history records, including:

12 (1) the length of time that must toll before a record is eligible for
13 sealing; and

14 (2) the individuals and entities that have access to sealed records, the
15 purpose of such access, and the length of time such individuals and entities
16 have access to the sealed records.

17 (b) On or before November 15, 2024, based upon the review of other
18 states’ procedures for sealed criminal history records, the Committee shall
19 recommend to the General Assembly a proposal for the issues identified in
20 subdivisions (a)(1) and (2) of this section.

1 Sec. 2. PETITIONLESS SEALING

2 On or before December 2, 2024, the Chief Superior Judge, in consultation
3 with the Attorney General, the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs,
4 the Office of the Defender General, and the Department of Corrections, shall
5 examine the laws and procedures of other states regarding petitionless sealing
6 of criminal history records and shall submit to the House and Senate
7 Committees on Judiciary a recommendation to establish a mechanism for
8 petitionless sealing and any resources required for the recommendation to be
9 implemented.

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.

12 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act
13 relating to studies of policies and procedures regarding the sealing criminal
14 history records”

15

16

17

18 (Committee vote: _____)

19

20

Senator _____

21

FOR THE COMMITTEE