

SUPPORT SB22-099 AUTOMATING COLORADO'S RECORD SEALING PROCESS OPENING DOORS FOR COLORADO FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES

BILL SPONSORS: SENATORS HISEY AND RODRIGUEZ, REPRESENTATIVE TIPPER

Many types of non-violent criminal records are eligible for sealing under Colorado law, yet the process leaves people behind. For many households, the stigma of a record needlessly creates ongoing obstacles to long-term employment, education, affordable housing, and family well-being.

COLORADO'S CURRENT RECORD SEALING PROCESS HURTS ECONOMIC STABILITY

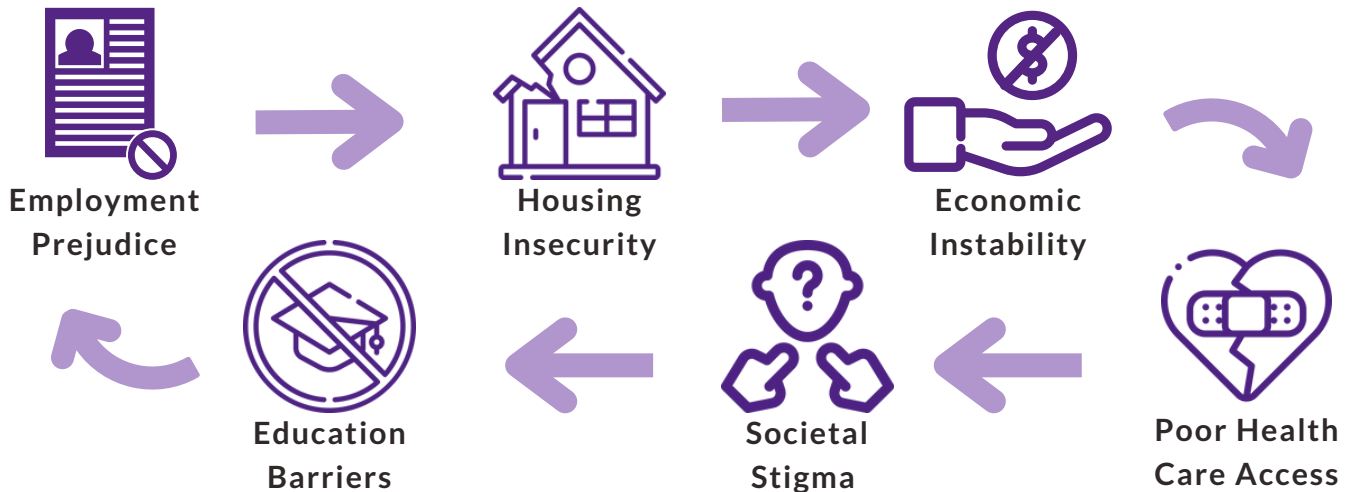
While records are eligible to be sealed, the current process imposes many barriers including filing a court petition, paying fees, attending hearings, and securing legal representation. All of these prevent people from sealing their eligible records which haunts them as they try to find work and put a roof over their heads.

1.3M COLORADANS ARE LISTED AS HAVING A CRIME ELIGIBLE TO BE SEALED

3 OUT OF 10 COLORADANS ARE BURDENED WITH A RECORD WHICH PROHIBITS THEIR ABILITY TO FIND WORK AND SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES

5% ONLY 5% OF COLORADANS ELIGIBLE FOR RECORD SEALING SUCCESSFULLY GET THEIR RECORDS SEALED

BARRIERS TO REBUILDING: A CRIMINAL RECORD CREATES A CYCLE OF INSTABILITY



WHAT DOES SB22-099 ACCOMPLISH?



1. Automatically Seals Records That Are Currently Eligible: Colorado has made great strides by allowing for the automatic sealing of certain records, including drug-related offenses. Clean Slate legislation would apply the same automatic process to the remaining eligible records, including all non-convictions, many misdemeanors, and lower-level felonies

2. Protects Coloradans' Information from Misuse by Third-Party Vendors: A person's sealed record often still appears in third-party vendor databases. Clean Slate legislation would require vendors who obtain and provide records to ensure they are up-to-date and secure. Law enforcement will still have access to conviction records.

3. Clarifies and Streamlines Colorado's Record Sealing Provisions: Clean Slate legislation would remove contradictions and redundancies in record sealing provisions, making it easier for state agencies and courts to comply with the law.

COLORADANS SUPPORT CLEAN SLATE

72% of Coloradans support legislation to automatically seal eligible criminal records of individuals who are convicted of a non-violent offense **IF** the person has completed their sentence, completed a waiting period of several years, and has not committed another criminal offense.



ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT SB22-099

- Bayaud Enterprises, Inc.
- Bell Policy
- Breakthrough
- Centennial State Prosperity
- Center for Work Education and Employment
- Clean Slate Initiative
- Colorado Center on Law and Policy
- Colorado Coalition for Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
- Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition
- Colorado Freedom Fund
- Colorado Gerontology Society
- Colorado Office of the Alternative Defense Counsel
- Colorado Poverty Law Project
- Colorado-CURE, Inc.
- Esquared
- Expunge Colorado
- Good Business Colorado
- Harm Reduction Action Center
- Healthier Colorado
- Interfaith Alliance of Colorado
- Justice Action Network
- Light Carrier
- Lutheran Advocacy Ministry Colorado
- Mental Health Colorado
- Mile High WorkShop
- NAMI Colorado
- New Era
- One Colorado
- Partners for Justice
- Progress Now Colorado
- Realness Project
- Remerg
- Responsible Business Initiative for Justice
- Rocky Mountain MicroFinance Institute
- Seasoned With Grace UnBoxed
- Second Chance Colorado
- Small Town Project
- Stand for Children Colorado
- The Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado
- The Marigold Project
- The Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel
- The Reentry Initiative
- Together Colorado
- University of Denver Graduate School of Professional Psychology

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