



In Support of House Bill 2677: Relating to juvenile records.

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chair Chotzen, Vice-Chair Wallan, and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

We are members of the Multnomah County Democrats' Criminal Justice Study Group and we support House Bill 2677, which directs county juvenile departments to apply for expunction of individuals' juvenile records regarding specified misdemeanors and felonies, sets associated criteria and procedures, and adapts related statutes.

Youth, Rights, and Justice notes in their testimony in support of this bill,

Juvenile records are created when youth are investigated, arrested or have contact with the juvenile court. Some information in these records is publicly available and creates barriers to youth being self-sufficient, successful and productive community members. These barriers, called collateral consequences, are far reaching and move beyond the individual to negatively impact families and communities.

A group of legislators and juvenile justice system partners have been working over the last few sessions to improve Oregon's juvenile record expunction process by eliminating barriers to expunction and therefore promoting youth, family and community success. A collaborative process led to the drafting of SB 575 (2021) and SB 519 (2023). The legislation has proceeded in stages to ensure the system was working well before full implementation.

As they describe, HB 2677 further refines and improves the expungement process of SBs 575 and 519, giving youth the help they need to have a brighter future and realize their potential as productive members of our communities. We encourage the members of the House Judiciary Committee to pass this bill and further support the future of these rehabilitated youth.

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