



# MAINE ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS

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March 15, 2024

Senator Anne Carey  
Representative Matt Moonen  
Committee on Judiciary  
100 State House Station, Room 438  
Augusta, ME 04333

### **RE: LD 2252 “An Act to Establish the Criminal Records Review Commission.”**

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

MACDL **supports** LD 2252.

The Criminal Records Review Committee (hereinafter “the Committee”) was initially established in 2021 and has continued to meet since its inception through bills reestablishing it passed by this Committee. It is made up of many different members with backgrounds intended to represent all stakeholders involved in the world of criminal records.

The Committee’s prior work and recommendations contributed to a recently passed sealing law. 15 M.R.S. § 2261 et seq.

The Committee recommended a number of bills to the Judiciary Committee since its inception in 2021. A number of bills from the last session were either voted ought not to pass or carried over after considerable discussion at public hearings and work sessions. These bills are discussed more fully in the Committee’s Interim Report.

The Committee’s Interim Report also lays out the many issues the Committee has grappled with ranging from how to best notify people who are eligible to seek sealing of a prior conviction about their rights to the question of separation of powers and whether expungement is allowed under Maine law. Ultimately, the Committee is working in an important and complicated area of law where Maine is unfortunately lagging behind other states.

LD 2252 creates a permanent commission to continue the important work of the Committee. MACDL supports LD 2252 and continued work on improving access to sealing and expungement for the people of Maine.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Matthew D. Morgan*

Matthew D. Morgan, Esq.  
MACDL President-Elect