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Safe & Just
Michigan

Statement from Safe & Just Michigan on the Committee Passage of Expanded Access to Criminal Record Expungement

LANSING – Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director John Cooper today released the following statement praising the Michigan House Judiciary Committee's passage of bills that will expand access to criminal record expungement for Michigan residents.

“We are pleased to see this legislation, which will increase employment and housing opportunities for hundreds of thousands of people in Michigan, proceed to the House floor. Michigan's current expungement law is far too restrictive, and the process is so burdensome that just 6.5 percent of eligible people are able to complete it. This legislation takes important steps toward addressing these issues, as it would significantly expand eligibility for expungement and make expungement of certain convictions automatic after 10 years. We applaud Chairman Filler and the members of the committee for making these reforms a priority. They will open up opportunity for thousands of families in Michigan and will ultimately make Michigan safer, more prosperous, and more just. We urge the full House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate also pass this legislation, and we look forward to the day Governor Whitmer signs these bills into law.”

Learn more about Safe & Just Michigan by visiting: <https://www.safeandjustmi.org/>.

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Safe & Just Michigan (www.safeandjustmi.org) works to advance policies that end Michigan's over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing. We partner with Michigan organizations and leaders from across the political spectrum, including business and community leaders, faith communities, crime survivor organizations, formerly incarcerated individuals, prisoners and their families, as well as Michigan taxpayers statewide.