



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Sibongile Magubane

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing
March 9, 2020

H.B. 5019- AN ACT CONCERNING FAIR FUTURES FOLLOWING ERASURE OF CRIMINAL RECORDS.

Good morning, Chairpersons Winfield and Stafstrom, Senator Kissel, Representative Rebimbas and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify with respect to House Bill 5019, An Act Concerning Fair Futures Following Erasure of Criminal Records.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) understands and supports the “clean slate” concept but is obligated as part of its mission to examine the effect that erasure has on the safety of drivers and certain vulnerable populations that rely on those whom the DMV licenses.

DMV issues commercial driver’s licenses and passenger endorsements that enable the holders to operate buses, taxi and livery vehicles, and large commercial trucks. The Governor’s Office worked closely with the DMV to identify areas of concern and drafted language that addressed those concerns. For instance, the bill does not permit the erasure of DUI convictions or other serious motor vehicle offenses such as evading responsibility because it limits the automatic erasure provisions to Class C and D misdemeanors. More serious offenses that may make a driver ineligible for a passenger endorsement will remain on the driver’s record, enabling DMV to perform appropriate screening for positions such as school bus drivers.

The DMV looks forward to continuing its discussions with the proponents of the bill in order to further discuss and refine the language.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 5019.