

MILLIONS OF TEXANS NEED A CLEAN SLATE

OVER
9 MILLION
PEOPLE IN TEXAS
HAVE A CRIMINAL LEGAL RECORD

Texans leaving probation, jail and prison can't support themselves or their families if they can't work. A criminal record should not be a life sentence to poverty.

THAT'S
MORE THAN
3 IN 10
TEXANS



A record decreases one's chances of getting a job by 50%.

Sealing records leads to stable jobs and better wages.



Texas sees an estimated **\$32 Billion lost** in annual earnings from Texans impacted by a record of conviction.

Sealing records makes Texas safer. People are less likely to commit another crime if they can access jobs, housing, education and government services.



Someone with a sealed record is **29% less likely** to be arrested than the general population.



Record sealing enables parents to provide stable housing and steady income for their children and other dependents

Yet eligibility for record sealing is very limited in Texas, and the process is costly and overly complex.

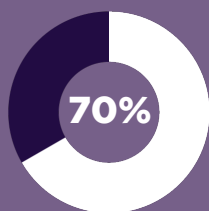
Less than 1% of Texans successfully sealed or expunged their record last year.



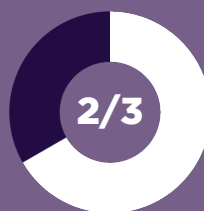
37 states have broader record sealing than Texas, including Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas



TEXANS SUPPORT RECORD SEALING INITIATIVES.



70% of Texans believe our criminal justice system does not do enough to prepare those convicted of crimes to re-enter their communities after the completion of their sentence.



Two-thirds of Texans support automatic record sealing for those with misdemeanor and low-level felony offenses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Texans who have served their sentences deserve a second chance and a clean slate.

1

The legislature should expand eligibility so more people can seal their records.

2

Automate the process and make it less burdensome.

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