



1 in 3 Missourians has a Criminal Record

Did you know? Any criminal record – even an arrest that never led to conviction – restricts access to jobs, housing, education and other basics. **518,000 Missourians are currently eligible to have certain non-violent records cleared**, but only 1% are able to navigate the State's current petition process due to expense and complexity.

What is Clean Slate? A **Clean Slate Act** would make record-clearing automatic for eligible **non-violent convictions** once someone has remained crime-free for a set period of time. This would be done through an automated process.

Who Will Benefit from Clean Slate?

- Justice-involved individuals will be able to earn a decent living, obtain stable housing, and provide for their families.
- Missouri's courts and prosecutors' offices will not be burdened with the costs of record-clearing petitions, saving taxpayer dollars.
- Employers will be able to expand their workforce with people eager and able to work.
- Missouri will save taxpayer dollars by bringing more people into the workforce and interrupting the cycle of recidivism and reincarceration.
- Communities will be safer due to lower recidivism rates as more people are able to move on with their lives and provide for their families.
- Communities will benefit because the stigma of a criminal record, which limits employment opportunities and access to housing, is a major driver of poverty and racial inequality.

What are Other States Doing and How is It Working?

- Pennsylvania and Utah have implemented Clean Slate Acts; Michigan, Oklahoma, Virginia, Colorado and California have passed legislation, but not fully implemented them; 10 other states, including Missouri, are taking steps with Clean Slate Initiatives. **Clean Slate legislation will be introduced in the upcoming session of the Missouri Legislature.**
- When Utah implemented its automated Clean Slate Act on February 10, 2022, nearly 400,000 historical criminal records were cleared that day. Pennsylvania has sealed more than 40 million records since the implementation of their automated Clean Slate Act in 2019.
- Nationally, 70% of Americans across both parties support Clean Slate policies, and Clean Slate Initiatives have had overwhelming support on both sides of the aisles in states that have passed them.
- A Federal Clean Slate Act was passed on September 21, 2022, by the U.S. House Judiciary Committee with bipartisan support.

Learn More:

Missouri Clean Slate Campaign www.mocleanslate.org

The Clean Slate Initiative www.cleanslateinitiative.org