

From: [Susan A](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: HB 28
Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 8:48:52 PM

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 28, which restricts the release of certain records of marijuana convictions. While I appreciate efforts to address privacy concerns, I believe this bill has several concerning implications.

Concerns with HB 28:

Transparency and Public

Safety: Restricting access to conviction records may hinder transparency and public safety. Employers, landlords, and law enforcement agencies rely on accurate information to make informed decisions.

Equity and Rehabilitation: Conviction records can impact employment, housing, and other opportunities. Limiting access to these records may hinder rehabilitation efforts for individuals seeking a fresh start.

Unintended Consequences: Without clear guidelines, there may be unintended effects on criminal justice processes, community safety, and individual rights.

Recommendations:

Balanced Approach: Consider striking a balance between privacy rights and public interest. Transparency is essential for maintaining trust in our justice system.

Case-by-Case Evaluation: Rather than a blanket restriction, evaluate each case individually to determine the appropriateness of record release.

Community Input: Engage with affected communities, legal experts, and advocacy groups to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the bill's impact.

As a concerned citizen, I urge you to reconsider the provisions of HB 28 and seek a balanced approach that respects privacy while upholding transparency and public safety.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will make decisions in the best interest of our state and its residents.

Susan Allmeroth
Two Rivers