STATE OF NEW YORK

4565

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 7, 2025

Introduced by Sens. BAILEY, COMRIE, FERNANDEZ, HOYLMAN-SIGAL, JACKSON, MYRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the office of expungement and automatic sealing within the division of criminal justice services

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 837-y to read as follows:

§ 837-y. Office of expungement and automatic sealing. 1. Definitions. As used in the section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "eligible conviction" shall mean a conviction which is eligible to be sealed and/or expunged under section 160.50, 160.55, 160.58 or 160.59 of the criminal procedure law.

(b) "office" shall mean the office of expungement and automatic sealing as established by this section.

2. Establishment of office. There is hereby established within the division of criminal justice services the office of expungement and automatic sealing which shall oversee the sealing and/or expungement of all eligible convictions.

3. Duties and responsibilities. The office shall:

(a) inform the defendant and such defendant's attorney that an eligible conviction can be sealed and/or expunged;

(b) ensure all eligible convictions are sealed and/or expunged accurately and in a timely manner;

(c) act as an advocate for those with eligible convictions to get such convictions sealed and/or expunged;

(d) advise the governor and the legislature on the impact of having eligible convictions sealed and/or expunged; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(e) develop regulations, standards, guidelines, and best practices for ensuring accurate and timely sealing and/or expungement of eligible convictions.

4. Other state agencies shall provide cooperation and assistance to the office so as to assist it in the effective performance of its duties.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.