

# Barry R. Grissom

Former U.S. Attorney, District of Kansas

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Dear Committee

February 7, 2021

RE: Expungement HB 2226

I am writing in support of automatic expungement as contemplated by HB 2226.

As the former chief law enforcement officer for the District of Kansas and as a private practitioner I have a somewhat unique perspective as to the difficulty's individuals face after they have successfully completed their sentences.

Presently, K.S.A. 21-4619 provides for expungement. I agree with the provisions that provide for a three and a five year window for the types of crimes that can be expunged. I also agree with the section that details the types of offenses that should not be expunged.

I disagree with the portion of K.S.A. 21-4619 that places unnecessary burdens placed on individuals as they attempt to fully re-enter society. A review of the statute demonstrates the time, effort, and money necessary for expungement to occur. All serving as a hindrance to individuals as they attempt to rebuild their lives.

Most individuals who are eligible often do not know what steps to take or cannot afford to retain a lawyer and pay a filing fee get the benefit of expungement.

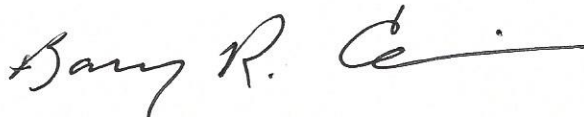
Automatic expungement will provide for:

- Removing barriers such as cost and time,
- Removing barriers to employment,
- Helping to reduce recidivism, and
- Help support individuals and families for healthier communities,

By supporting automatic expungement, most importantly, we will be giving a second chance to those who have paid for their offenses and desire to become productive citizens.

I urge you to give this matter your serious consideration and support.

Most Respectfully,



Barry R. Grissom