



NEWS BRIEF:

Legislation to Expunge Records for Marijuana Convictions Signed Into Law

AUGUST 30, 2018 -- Gov. John Carney signed legislation yesterday (8/29) that will provide mandatory expungement eligibility to individuals convicted of the possession, use, or consumption of marijuana before Delaware's decriminalization of these offenses in 2015.

The bipartisan bill passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate earlier this year.

"As a supporter of criminal justice reform, this is common sense legislation to provide equity for those previously convicted of offenses that are no longer illegal," said Senate Minority Whip Greg Lavelle, R-Sharples, (in photo, center, standing) the prime sponsor of [Senate Bill 197](#).

To be eligible for expungement, the marijuana conviction must be the applicant's only criminal conviction.

According to the Office of Defense Services, between 500 and 700 Delawareans will be able to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the new law.

Among the bill's co-sponsors were State Reps. Joe Miro, R-Pike Creek Valley; Bobby Outten, R-Harrington; and Lyndon Yearick, R-Dover South.