

February 8, 2021

Testimony in Opposition to HB 2226  
House Judiciary

Chairman Patton and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

The City of Westwood Hills wishes to express our opposition to HB 2226, which would require certain criminal convictions to be expunged from an offender's record automatically.

HB 2226 would require city prosecutors to petition for expungement of many municipal code offenses after three years, which would create an unnecessary and cumbersome administrative burden for city attorneys, as well as impose additional unnecessary costs on municipalities. Because expungement is automatic, it is unclear why a petition would need to even be filed.

Additionally, while the bill does include some exceptions for more serious offenses, this legislation opens the door for serial offenders to have their records expunged.

We are always open to discussing ways to make our operations more efficient, but HB 2226 is not the answer and we urge your opposition to this legislation. Thank you for your attention and I welcome any questions you may have on this matter.

Paula Schwach  
Mayor  
City of Westwood Hills  
Schwach3p@gmail.com