



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George M. Borrello

## Statement by Senator George Borrello on Governor Hochul's Signing of Clean Slate Act

GEORGE M. BORRELLO November 16, 2023

| ISSUE: **CLEAN SLATE ACT, CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM, CRIME RATE**



“Governor Hochul’s signing today of the Clean Slate Act is more confirmation that catering to criminals and the radical wing of her party is more important than the safety and concerns of New Yorkers, who have repeatedly cited rising crime as the state’s number one problem.

This misguided law will allow criminals – even serial offenders -- to have their records automatically sealed after a specified time period. Serious crimes like manslaughter, armed robbery, domestic violence, and arson are among the crimes that will be hidden from employers and landlords, placing countless unsuspecting individuals in harm's way.

There already exists a process for sealing criminal records that has reasonable safeguards to assure that the individuals in question don't pose a public safety risk. Yet, like with all the criminal justice reforms passed in recent years by Albany Democrats, reasonable policies and reforms have been rejected and replaced with reckless versions.

This law is another slap in the face to New Yorkers who are watching their safety and quality of life rapidly erode.”