



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Robert G. Ortt

Statement From Senate Republican Leader Rob Ortt On Signing Of "Clean Slate" Legislation

ROBERT G. ORTT November 16, 2023

| ISSUE: **CLEAN SLATE ACT**

DEMOCRATS' CLEAN SLATE BILL:

**A VICTORY FOR CRIMINALS,
A LOSS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.**

1. Automatically seal the records of individuals convicted of felonies, including violent crimes such as assault, robbery, and even manslaughter.
2. Will place undue strain on law enforcement resources as they monitor offenders.
3. Make it more difficult for employers to make informed hiring decisions, as they will no longer be able to see an applicant's full criminal history.
4. Make it more difficult for landlords to protect their tenants, as they will no longer be able to see a tenant's full criminal history.

As public safety remains on the mind of every New Yorker, Governor Hochul has signed another bill that continues the alarming trend of disastrous criminal justice “reforms” that have made our communities less safe.

Under this law, criminals convicted of some of the most violent offenses – including attempted murder, gang assault, arson, and animal abuse, just to name a few – will be eligible

to have their records sealed. As we see a dramatic rise in antisemitism, even hate crimes would be sealable. Meanwhile, there is no “clean slate” for the victims and loved ones whose lives have been devastated.

There should be no question in the minds of New Yorkers: Albany Democrats will *always* prioritize criminals over victims and law-abiding citizens.

RELATED LEGISLATION

2023-S7551A

- Introduced

- - In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate

- - On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- - Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

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[Relates to the automatic sealing of certain convictions](#)

June 05, 2023

Senate Floor Calendar

Sponsored by Zellnor Myrie

Do you support this bill?