

# WHAT IS CLEAN SLATE ?

## PROBLEM

Over 3 MILLION people in Illinois have an arrest or conviction record. Whether a conviction or a non-conviction, records can trigger any of over 1,400 permanent punishment laws in Illinois that restrict the ability of people to find access to EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, EDUCATION, and other BASIC NEEDS.

Illinois already has one of the most comprehensive sealing and expungement laws in the United States, over 2.2 MILLION people are eligible for record clearance. Yet the pathways to clearing a record are complex and can take more than TWO YEARS from start to finish. As a result, only 1 IN 10 of those who are eligible have started the process. At a time when labor shortages are common, this has cost Illinois citizens more than \$4.7 BILLION in lost income annually.

# 1,416

PERMANENT  
PUNISHMENTS  
IN ILLINOIS

## CLEAN SLATE

Clean Slate will automate records relief in Illinois, creating new opportunities for individuals with a record. Studies show that expungement and sealing can lead to a 20% INCREASE in wages within a year and REDUCE RECIDIVISM. Automation of records relief will also remove a huge burden on the courts, allowing record clearance to happen without the massive amount of staff time and delays that are common under the current system.

Clean Slate will allow people who have completed the terms of their contact with the criminal legal system to have their records sealed or expunged as part of the process, ensuring that job opportunities and a chance to thrive are available to them.



# CLEAN SLATE ILLINOIS IS SUPPORTED BY

THE COALITION



ACLU of Illinois  
Center for American Progress  
Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation  
Chicago Appleseed Center for Fair Courts  
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
Chicago Jobs Council  
Illinois Justice Project  
Safer Foundation

## MORE INFORMATION

# GET INVOLVED!

Learn more about our movement, schedule a teach in, and help us create opportunity for everyone by visiting our website:

[www.cleanslateillinois.org](http://www.cleanslateillinois.org)

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