

**IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Legislation title:** Direct the Portland Housing Bureau to create an expungement pilot program to reduce barriers and increase access to housing opportunities (Resolution)

**Contact name:** Cupid Alexander

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**Presenter name:** Cupid Alexander

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

A criminal record is a permanent barrier to housing, employment, and opportunity that disproportionately impacts communities of color. While the Portland Housing Bureau continues to develop programs that address displacement and homelessness ultimately this barrier to housing persists.

As the Bureau moves forward with the N/NE Housing Strategy on rental and homeownership housing opportunities, the issue of being prevented from accessing housing is citywide for people convicted of past minor crimes.

This expungement pilot program will provide legal assistance to the community to increase access to housing.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

A pilot program will cost \$50,000 to assist individuals. The Portland Housing Bureau is being directed to request the funds from General Fund Contingency.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

While this program is available to all residents – a particular focus of the program will be to prioritize minority communities which are disproportionately impacted by interactions with the criminal justice system.

Because of criminal records, justice involved individuals face additional barriers to accessing affordable housing, placing them at risk of housing instability, homelessness, and ultimately at risk of recidivism.

The Portland Housing Bureau has protected people already in housing units from displacement through Mandatory Relocation Assistance, however, reducing barriers to people, especially those most at risk, from gaining housing must be a priority.

**100% Renewable Goal:**

N/A

**Budgetary Impact Worksheet**

**Does this action change appropriations?**☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.☒ **NO:** Skip this section

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Fund Center</b>	<b>Commitment Item</b>	<b>Functional Area</b>	<b>Funded Program</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Sponsored Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>