



March 7, 2023

RE: Opposition to AB160 of the 82nd Legislative Session

Members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee:

We write to express opposition to the automatic record-sealing provisions of AB160. While well-intentioned, we are concerned that the bill does away with a motion that provides notice to the public that someone is seeking to seal their records. This is required in conformance with case law and U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

Drastically ramping up the practice of record sealing erodes the public's fundamental right to access their courts. It also chips away at journalists' ability to report on the work of the judiciary — a practice that provides accountability and contributes to public faith in the government.

We urge you to err on the side of transparency, ensuring that secrecy isn't the default, but is reserved for the most exceptional of circumstances when there is no other reasonable alternative but to override the public's presumptive right to know.

Respectfully,

Nevada Open Government Coalition
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