

MBA NEWS

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MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS GOV. DEVAL PATRICK'S CORI REFORM EFFORTS

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association supports the efforts of Gov. Deval Patrick's administration to improve the state's Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) system, which was the subject of a hearing before the Joint Committee on the Judiciary at the Statehouse today.

"The Governor's bill is an excellent first step in giving reformed ex-offenders an opportunity to get back into the workplace and to support their families," MBA President David W. White Jr. said about H. 4476, An Act to Reduce Recidivism by Increasing Employment Opportunities.

White added, "Taken together with the Executive Orders issued by the governor in January, we can now make long needed improvements in the CORI system."

The MBA supports improved verification of criminal records, prompt methods for correcting incorrect information, access to criminal records for judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials, and reduced waiting time for sealing of records of old convictions.

The MBA's House of Delegates in the spring of 2006 voted to adopt a report recommending several changes to CORI that are included in the governor's legislation.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.