

Support HB4446

Increasing Educational Opportunities for People with Criminal Records

Senator McGuire (Reps Wheeler - Flowers – Ammons – Jackson, Sr. – Turner)

SB4446 passed the House with bipartisan support.

42% of Illinois adults have a criminal record. They deserve a fair chance to rebuild their lives through education. We need to “ban the box” in higher education admissions.

What will HB4446 Do?

HB4446 prevents higher education institutions from asking about or considering a person’s criminal record for purposes of admission.

HB4446 allows that a person’s criminal record may be considered for campus housing, campus activities, or for career counseling.

Campus Safety

There is no evidence that asking about an applicant’s criminal history on the admissions application increases campus safety.

Why is HB4446 Important?

Higher education reduces recidivism.

- **66% of colleges** ask about an applicant’s criminal record.
- **62.5% of people** with criminal records pull themselves out of the admissions process when they see a question about criminal records on the application.



The admissions process deters people with criminal records from applying.

- Education decreases the likelihood of returning to prison **by over 40%**.
- By reducing recidivism, a college education **contributes to public safety**.



Support HB4446 to help individuals with a criminal record access education and rebuild their lives.

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