



John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** every person is endowed with human dignity and value; and
- WHEREAS,** redemption and second chances are true American values; and
- WHEREAS,** approximately 65 million Americans have a criminal record, including 2,231,100 Louisianans; and
- WHEREAS,** the Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 48,000, including 1,494 specific to Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS,** these barriers can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety; and
- WHEREAS,** the designation of April as Second Chance Month would contribute to increased public awareness about the need for closure for those who have paid their debt, and opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations and communities to extend second chances.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** **I, John Bel Edwards,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as

SECOND CHANCE MONTH
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of
Baton Rouge, on this 1st day of April*

A. D., 2018.

Governor of Louisiana