Whereas, every person is endowed with human dignity and value; and

Whereas, redemption and second chances are important in American society; and

Whereas, an estimated 65 million Americans have a criminal record; and

Whereas, individuals who have completed a prison term often return from imprisonment to face collateral consequences of conviction (a "second prison") such as an inability to regain voting rights, volunteer in their community, or find housing, employment or education; and

Whereas, the estimated number of legal, collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 48,000 and these barriers can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety; and

Whereas, the "second prison" results in lost human capital and lost economic output for the United States; and

Whereas, Prison Fellowship, the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Concordia University St. Paul, MN Second Chance Coalition, Melrose Hill Movies, MN Adult and Teen Challenge, Charis Prison Ministry, Steve Rummier Hope Foundation, and Anderson Race Management will sponsor the annual Second Chances 5k on April 23, 2017 in St. Paul so that members of the community may run or walk in honor of second chances.

Now, Therefore, I, Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2017 to be:

Second Chance Month

in the City of Saint Paul.