

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By His Excellency*  
*Christopher T. Sununu, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen

**SECOND CHANCE MONTH**

**APRIL 2019**

**WHEREAS**, every person is endowed with human dignity and value, and redemption and second chances are American values; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 70 million Americans have a criminal record, with more than 2,000 individuals incarcerated and 5,000 individuals on probation and parole in New Hampshire; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals returning from prison and those who have paid for their debt after committing a crime face significant barriers, also known as collateral consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, The Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, with 1,108 consequences specific to New Hampshire, and more than one thousand collateral consequences affecting the high school and higher education of youth in America; and

**WHEREAS**, these barriers can contribute to recidivism, which increases victimization and decreases public safety, and the stigma and legal barriers associated with a criminal record results in loss of human capital and lost economic output for the United States, 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, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **APRIL 2019** as **SECOND CHANCE MONTH** in the State of New Hampshire and call this to the attention of all citizens.



**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

*Christopher T. Sununu*

Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor