

PROCLAMATION

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

WHEREAS, an estimated 70 million Americans have a criminal record; and

WHEREAS, individuals with a criminal history often struggle to find housing, employment or education, regain voting rights, volunteer in their community, and pay for significant debt that arises as a result of their conviction and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, youth face more than one thousand collateral consequences affecting their high school and higher education; and

WHEREAS, the anniversary of the death of Charles Colson, who used his second chance following his incarceration for a Watergate-related crime to found Prison Fellowship, the nation's largest outreach to prisoners and their families, falls on April 21, 2012; 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, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

in Iowa.

OF THE

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE-UNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS _______DAY OF APRIL IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN.

KIM REYNOLDS GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

PAULTATE

SECRETARY OF STATE