

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF SECOND CHANCE MONTH

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

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

Whereas, individuals with a criminal record struggle to find housing, employment or education, regain voting rights, and volunteer in their community; 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 allows for increased public awareness about opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances.

> Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor, and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby declare April 2019, as

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

in the State of Delaware, and urge all Delawareans to recognize the importance of granting a second chance to those who have paid their debt to society.

Lieutenant Governor

17-2685