

# STATE OF OKLAHOMA



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

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

**Whereas**, redemption and second chances are at the core of American values; and

**Whereas**, approximately 70 million Americans have a criminal record, with more than 19,000 individuals incarcerated and 23,000 individuals on probation and parole in Oklahoma; and

**Whereas**, the Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, including 1,187 specific to Oklahoma; and

**Whereas**, youth in America face more than one thousand collateral consequences affecting their high school and higher education; 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 will contribute to an increase in 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, Governor J. Kevin Stitt, do hereby proclaim April, 2022 as

### **"Second Chance Month"**

in the State of Oklahoma.

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capital, in the City of Oklahoma City, this third day of March, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twentytwo, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and fourteenth year.*

*Kevin Stitt*  
GOVERNOR



ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

GOVERNOR