

STATE OF KANSAS



PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

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

WHEREAS, approximately 70 million Americans have a criminal record, with more than 8,200 individuals incarcerated and 21,300 individuals on probation and parole in Kansas; 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, the Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, including 564 specific to Kansas; 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 result in lost 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, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

Second Chance Month

in the State of Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka  
under the Great Seal of  
the State this 1<sup>st</sup> day of  
April, A.D. 2021

BY THE GOVERNOR:

*Laura Kelly*

*Scott Schuab*  
Secretary of State

*Jennifer Cook*  
Assistant Secretary of State

