



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

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

WHEREAS, individuals returning from prison and those who have otherwise completed their sentences after committing a crime face significant barriers, also known as collateral consequences; and

WHEREAS, individuals with a criminal history often struggle to find housing and employment, or educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, with 954 consequences specific to Tennessee; 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 would contribute to increased public awareness regarding the importance of extending second chances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as

Second Chance Month

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-second day of March 2022.



Bill Lee

Governor

Jeffrey B. Starnes

Secretary of State