



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

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

WHEREAS, redemption and second chances are American values; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 80 million Americans have a criminal record, with 19,000 individuals incarcerated and 62,000 individuals on community supervision in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction nearly reaches 44,000, including 913 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 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, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 2025 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 third day of March 2025.

Bill Lee

Governor

Lee Hargrett

Secretary of State