



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Nearly one-third of working-age adults and more than 70 million people in the United States have a criminal record; and

WHEREAS: There are more than 8,000 incarcerated individuals and another 97,000 on community supervision throughout the state; and

WHEREAS: Individuals who have fulfilled their legal obligations or completed their sentences following involvement with the criminal justice system face significant barriers, also known as collateral consequences, when re-entering society; and

WHEREAS: There are nearly 44,000 legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction, including over 500 consequences specific to Minnesota, such as obtaining housing, employment, education, and volunteer opportunities, with many individuals facing significant debt as a result of their incarceration; and

WHEREAS: In 2017, April was designated as Second Chance Month by federal and local governments, and has since been celebrated by a robust coalition of businesses, congregations, and other organizations across the country; and

WHEREAS: Second Chance Month seeks to increase public awareness about the challenges faced by people who have been involved with the criminal justice system and create opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations, and communities to extend second chances.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as:

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28th day of March.




GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE