



*State of Missouri*  
*Governor's Proclamation*

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

**WHEREAS**, redemption and second chances are American values; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 70 million Americans have a criminal record, with more than 26,000 individuals incarcerated and 63,000 individuals on probation and parole in Missouri at the end of 2019; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of State Governments report that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, including 684 specific to Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, youth in America face more than 1,000 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 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, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 2020 to be

**SECOND CHANCE MONTH**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2020.



A blue ink signature of Michael L. Parson.

*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A blue ink signature of Jay Ashcraft.  
SECRETARY OF STATE