



**We Are** a statewide alliance of people with criminal records, their family members, service providers, congregations, community leaders and concerned citizens that have come together to address the causes of criminal records and the barriers they create to successful reentry.

**We Believe** the current system of re-incarceration is eroding the safety of our communities, draining our state's resources, and failing those who have paid their debts to society.

**We Thank You** for the General Assembly's bipartisan efforts to reduce unnecessary barriers to reentry.

## We Ask You to Support:

1. **A Fair Chance policy for public employment and occupational licensing that facilitates fair consideration of an applicant's criminal history.**
  - HB 460/SB 545 Fair Chance Hiring (Reps. Grange, Turner, Hardister, Sen. J. Davis)
  - SB 305/HB 910 OLB Reform (Sens. Wells, Daniel, Reps. Clemmons, Hardister, B. Turner)
  - HB 770 Freedom to Work (Reps. Stevens, Bell, Jones, Zachary)
2. **Clean Slate reforms that expand access to criminal record expungement.**
  - SB 562/HB 874 The Second Chance Act (Sens. Britt, Daniel, McKissick, Reps. Morey, Hardister, Clemmons)
3. **Investments in education, treatment, and other reentry-focused programs in jails and prisons as well as community-based reentry services, including local reentry councils.**
  - SB 561/HB 463 Education/Job Readiness in Prisons and Jails (Sens. Britt, Sanderson, Woodard, Reps. Rogers, Brody, Hardister, John)
  - SB 407 Funds to Aid Jails with Addiction Treatment (Sens. Krawiec, Brown, Daniel, J. Jackson)
  - HB 839 Study Community-Based Sentencing Alternatives for Primary Caregivers Convicted of Nonviolent Offenses (Reps. Clemmons, Horn, Farmer-Butterfield)
  - HB 988 Next Step Act (Reps. Grange, R. Turner, Hardister, K. Hall)
4. **Elimination of unaffordable criminal court costs and common-sense limitations on driver's license suspensions for failure to pay traffic court costs.**
  - HB 226 2019 AOC Legislative Changes (Rep. Turner)
  - SB 494/HB 909 Revocation of License/Penalty/Costs (Sens. Britt, McKissick, Mohammed, Reps. Montgomery, Logan)
5. **Judicial discretion for mandatory minimums and funding for Drug Courts.**
  - SB 404 NC First Step Act (Sens. Steinburg, Daniel, Britt)
  - SB 251 Modernization of Drug Court Program (Sens. Britt, J. Davis, Foushee)
6. **Resolving all pending charges and orders for arrest prior to release from prison.**
  - HB 930 Improve Success of Reentry by Inmates (Reps. Clemmons, Hardister, B. Turner, Graham, Harrison)

### North Carolina's Revolving Door Criminal Justice System

- 1 in 4 adults in North Carolina has a criminal record = 2+ million North Carolinians
- As of May 1, 2019, there were 36,404 people in state prisons, 81,633 people on probation, and 12,262 people on post-release supervision.
- 98% of people in prison will eventually be released, including more than 23,000 in 2019.
- 1000+ state laws impose civil sanctions and disqualifications for criminal convictions.
- 90% of employers require background checks and often disqualify for dismissed charges and minor convictions.
- Unnecessary barriers to opportunity contribute to a 2-year re-arrest rate of 41%.
- The average annual cost of a prison bed is \$36,219.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I believe restoring opportunities to deserving individuals strengthens families and makes communities safer. I ask you to support these second chance bills. Thank you!

For more information about the NC Second Chance Alliance, including our legislative agenda and faces of reentry, please visit <https://ncsecondchance.org> or call 919-861-2061, to reach Daniel Bowes, Fair Chance Criminal Justice Project, NC Justice Center.