

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

SECOND CHANCE MONTH APRIL 2026

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

WHEREAS, an estimated 80 million Americans have a criminal record, with approximately 2,200 individuals incarcerated in state and contract facilities and more than 7,200 individuals on community supervision with the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments reports that the number of legal collateral consequences of a criminal conviction exceeds 44,000, including 544 specific to North Dakota; 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 is intended to increase public awareness about the need for closure for those who have paid their debt, and promote opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations and communities to extend second chances.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
April 2026, **SECOND CHANCE MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.





Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 

Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE