

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 113

Introduced by McKinney, 11; Wayne, 13.

WHEREAS, Second Chance Month has been observed in April in the United States since 2017 in an effort to raise awareness of the collateral consequences of criminal, and especially felony, convictions and to seek solutions; and

WHEREAS, the criminal justice system in the United States should provide individuals an opportunity for redemption and rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, each year over 600,000 individuals return to their communities from state and federal prison; and

WHEREAS, transitioning back into society from incarceration can be challenging for individuals who were formerly incarcerated, their families, and their communities and many individuals face legal and practical barriers to reentry; and

WHEREAS, it is important to remove barriers to reentry for individuals with criminal convictions and provide second chance opportunities in employment, housing, education, civic engagement, and access to mental health and addiction treatment; and

WHEREAS, a commitment to second chance opportunities with a focus on prevention, reentry, and social support, can help reduce recidivism, making communities stronger and safer and ensuring that the United States is a land of opportunity for all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes April as Second Chance Month.