



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

REENTRY WEEK

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the more than 37,000 people currently serving sentences in North Carolina prisons and jails will transition into communities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, these formerly incarcerated individuals will become part of a population of more than 1.5 million North Carolinians with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, helping people with criminal records become productive members of society benefits their families and communities in many ways, including improving safety and preventing and reducing crime; and

WHEREAS, formerly incarcerated individuals face numerous challenges that include finding work, housing, health care, and transportation, and these challenges may lead to recidivism, health, social, and security concerns; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local leaders have worked to establish policy that supports individuals who return to their communities after serving time in prison, jail, or under custodial supervision; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Public Safety has developed the North Carolina Reentry Action Plan to facilitate a better transition for people from incarceration or community supervision back into society by coordinating existing resources, identifying resource gaps, and advocating on behalf of individuals with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly established the State Reentry Council Collaborative (SRCC) to be chaired by Secretary of the Department of Public Safety Erik A. Hooks; and

WHEREAS, the SRCC includes representation from government, education, faith- and community-based organizations, and those formerly incarcerated, and is studying the needs of individuals who have been released from correctional institutions and working to increase the effectiveness of local reentry councils; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's 14 local reentry councils connect justice-involved individuals with resources and services important to successful reentry, and decrease stigma by raising public awareness of the issues and challenges faced by formerly incarcerated individuals as they reenter the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 23 – 27, 2018, as “**REENTRY WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.