

**NCSL STANDING COMMITTEE on LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
POLICY DIRECTIVES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT  
Chicago, IL  
July 27-29, 2026**

Table of Contents

<b>POLICY: CYBERCRIME .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>POLICY: IMPROVING H-2A VISA POLICY TO END AGRICULTURAL LABOR SHORTAGES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>POLICY: INCREASING VISA CAPS AND LEGAL IMMIGRATION TO END LABOR SHORTAGE.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>POLICY: NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>POLICY: PRISON SECURITY.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>POLICY: REGARDING TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS AT SOUTHERN BORDER AND PORTS OF ENTRY .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>POLICY: SUCCESSFUL INMATE REENTRY INTO SOCIETY .....</b>	<b>19</b>

1 **COMMITTEE:       LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

2 **POLICY:            CYBERCRIME**

3 **TYPE:               RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

4 **WHEREAS**, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3),  
5 which serves as the primary destination for the public to report cyber-enabled crime, has  
6 received over 9 million complaints since its founding in 2000 and over 2,000 complaints  
7 per day since 2020.

8 **WHEREAS**, the IC3 defines cyber-enabled crime as any illegal activity that is assisted  
9 using cyber-related means, which “may include, but [is] not limited to, advance-fee  
10 schemes, non-delivery of goods or services, computer hacking, or employment/business  
11 opportunity schemes, and intrusion-based crimes such as ransomware and data  
12 breaches.”

13 **WHEREAS**, the IC3 saw over 850,000 total complaints as well as a new record of over  
14 \$16.6 billion in losses due to cyber-enabled crime in 2024 alone, with individuals over 60  
15 years old representing the bulk of reported losses and complaints filed.

16 **WHEREAS**, almost 5,000 complaints filed with the IC3 were from critical infrastructure  
17 organizations, such as power plants, hospitals, water treatment plants, and airports, that  
18 were affected by ransomware and data breaches.

19 **WHEREAS**, all states and territories have had at least 70 IC3 complaints filed per 100,000  
20 residents in 2024, with some states experiencing complaint volume as high as 900 per  
21 100,000 residents, illustrating the ubiquity of cyber-enabled crime across the country.

22 **WHEREAS**, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) received over  
23 450,000 reports of online enticement, where an individual is communicating with

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

24 someone believed to be a child with the intent to commit a sexual offense or abduction,  
25 in 2024.

26 **WHEREAS**, NCMEC has observed a dramatic increase in child sextortion cases, where  
27 children are blackmailed or threatened into sending sexual images and/or money to  
28 perpetrators.

29 **WHEREAS**, a 2023 U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, “Cybercrime:  
30 Reporting Mechanism Vary, and Agencies Face Challenges in Developing Metrics,”  
31 outlined several difficulties in tracking and prosecuting cyber-enabled crimes due to  
32 underreporting, costs of investigation and prosecution, victim concerns of reputational  
33 impact, agency difficulties in retaining highly trained staff, lack of capacity for foreign  
34 nations to participate in multi-jurisdictional criminal prosecutions, and inconsistent  
35 definitions of cybercrime across federal agencies, among others.

36 **WHEREAS**, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) serves as the  
37 integral federal agency for identifying and managing risk to the cyber and physical  
38 infrastructure that states and their residents rely on every hour of every day

39 **WHEREAS**, states have a vested interest in the safety of their residents and rely on  
40 partnership with the federal government to enhance their capacity to address interstate  
41 and international cyber-enabled crime.

42 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
43 urges Congress and the Administration to increase the capacity of federal agencies to  
44 respond to and partner with state and local jurisdictions to combat cyber-enabled crime.

45 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
46 Congress and the Administration to restore long-term funding to CISA in amounts

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

47 necessary to sustain the agency’s ability to serve as a resource for state cybersecurity  
48 efforts and to ensure the continued viability of the CISA regional offices, as well as the  
49 state and local cybersecurity grant that assists states with combatting cyber threats and  
50 maintaining overall statewide cyber readiness

51 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
52 Congress and the Administration to maintain funding for the U.S. Department of  
53 Commerce’s National Institute of Standards and Technology, which develops voluntary  
54 cybersecurity standards, guidelines, and resources for industry, federal agencies, and  
55 other stakeholders.

56 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
57 Congress and the Administration to continue existing and pursue new international  
58 partnerships to address external cybersecurity concerns that affect United States  
59 residents.

60 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
61 Congress and the Administration to continue to support and invest in state-federal  
62 partnerships as well as interstate information sharing centers and associated grant  
63 programs.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

1 **COMMITTEE: LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

2 **POLICY: IMPROVING H-2A VISA POLICY TO END AGRICULTURAL**  
3 **LABOR SHORTAGES**

4 **TYPE: RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

5 **WHEREAS**, U.S. agricultural industries are currently experiencing labor shortages and  
6 the U.S. agricultural workforce is experiencing a reduction in available labor; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the H-2A visa is a temporary work visa for foreign agricultural laborers and  
8 does not provide a path to U.S. citizenship; and

9 **WHEREAS**, H-2A visa holders are foreign agricultural laborers that can help temporarily  
10 fill labor gaps in the agricultural industry; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the pandemic highlighted the need for a diverse and robust workforce able  
12 to withstand shocks and unforeseen circumstances, particularly in essential industries  
13 experiencing labor shortages such as agriculture; and

14 **WHEREAS**, agricultural employers turn to employing H-2A visa holders when they can  
15 demonstrate during the application process that there are no domestic laborers available  
16 to fill needed positions;

17 **WHEREAS**, H-2A visa holders are valuable employees in the domestic and global  
18 agricultural communities who desire and deserve opportunities, protections, employment  
19 certainty and dignity; and

20 **WHEREAS**, agricultural employers and employees endure a costly and complex  
21 employer-sponsored application process, fulfill burdensome reporting requirements and  
22 comply with federally mandated wage requirements for both H-2A visa holders and  
23 domestic laborers, as well as fulfill transportation, meal and housing requirements; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

24 **WHEREAS**, the H-2A visa program is the largest U.S. temporary work visa program,  
25 despite the associated costs, and the number of applications by U.S. agricultural  
26 employers to hire H-2A visa holders has been increasing dramatically over the past  
27 decade, underscoring the severity of the current agricultural labor shortage; and

28 **WHEREAS**, current H-2A visa program rules prohibit the employment of H-2A visa  
29 holders in any agricultural position that is not classified as temporary or seasonal in  
30 nature, which disqualifies H-2A labors from filling most positions in dairy, livestock,  
31 forestry and other year-round agricultural industries; and

32 **WHEREAS**, current H-2A visa program rules prohibit the employment of H-2A visa  
33 holders for longer than one year, forcing employers to find replacement workers often  
34 which is costly and burdensome for agricultural employers and employees; and

35 **WHEREAS**, H-2A visa holders are prohibited from extending their visa for more than  
36 three years and H-2A visa holders must wait outside of the U.S. for a period of no less  
37 than three months before they can reapply for a H-2A visa; and

38 **WHEREAS**, the H-2A visa program has been shown to create captive employment  
39 dynamic, undercut wages, and working conditions, and drive down labor standards;

40 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
41 urges Congress to extend H-2A visa holders' eligible length of employment by a single  
42 agricultural employer to 12 months and further urges Congress to allow for an extension  
43 of up to 12 months past the original term length when a verification of employment is  
44 provided by the employer to decrease the burden on agricultural employers and H-2A  
45 visa holders; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

46 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
47 Congress and the Administration to expand the eligibility of H-2A visa labor to all  
48 agricultural industries, including dairy, livestock, forestry and other year-round agricultural  
49 industries; and

50 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislature urges  
51 applicable federal agencies collaborate to streamline and modernize the H-2A visa  
52 application and reapplication process and requirements, to allow greater flexibility,  
53 increase efficiency and to reduce the financial and resource burdens on H-2A employers  
54 and employees; and

55 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
56 Congress to reform the H2A agricultural visa program to promote employer accountability,  
57 high labor standards, fair wages, safe working conditions, and ensure rights and  
58 protections for U.S. and immigrant agricultural workers alike; and

59 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
60 the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Department of  
61 Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other applicable agencies to  
62 consult with the National Conference of State Legislators on any proposed changes to  
63 the H-2A visa application or program; and

64 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
65 Congress and the Administration to expand the eligibility of temporary H-2A visa labor to  
66 temporarily fulfill year-round and non-seasonal agricultural positions, including  
67 production, preparation, processing or manufacturing of agricultural commodities, in all

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

68 agriculture industries during the requested length of employment within the valid work  
69 period of the H-2A visa.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

1 **COMMITTEE: LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

2 **POLICY: INCREASING VISA CAPS AND LEGAL IMMIGRATION TO END**  
3 **LABOR SHORTAGE**

4 **TYPE: RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

5 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. is experiencing a tight labor market and increased cultural and  
6 ethnic diversity is a recognized benefit to our society; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the pandemic highlighted the need for a diverse and robust workforce able  
8 to withstand shocks and unforeseen circumstances, particularly in industries such as  
9 healthcare, manufacturing, agriculture, education, and trade industries; and

10 **WHEREAS**, immigrants tend to be of optimal working age and eager to find employment;  
11 and

12 **WHEREAS**, employment-based visa holders are non-citizen workers that complement  
13 U.S. workers and help to fill labor gaps in critical industries; and

14 **WHEREAS**, employment-based visa holders benefit the country not only with their gainful  
15 employment but also by contributing to the tax base, as they pay federal, state, Social  
16 Security, and Medicare taxes proportional to their wages; and

17 **WHEREAS**, employer control of these visa programs can constrain workers' rights and  
18 may result in abuse and exploitation; and

19 **WHEREAS**, employment visa programs across industries have been shown to create  
20 captive employment dynamics, undercut wages and working conditions, and drive down  
21 labor standards; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

22 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of State, permanent employment-  
23 based immigration is statutorily limited to 140,000 principals and dependents annually,  
24 number of H-2B visas statutorily limited to 66,000, and the number of H-1B visas limited  
25 to 65,000 with an additional 20,000 visas available for those with a master’s degree or  
26 doctorate.

27 **WHEREAS**, these visa caps are often met within the first few months of each year; and

28 **WHEREAS**, many visa recipients must reapply yearly and these applications can be  
29 lengthy and burdensome; and

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
31 urges Congress to significantly increase the statutory visa caps and simplify the  
32 application and reapplication processes to allow employment-based visa recipients to  
33 easily maintain their visa status; and

34 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NCSL shall call for reforms to work visa  
35 programs to promote employer accountability, high labor standards, fair wages, safe  
36 working conditions, and ensure rights and protections for U.S. and immigrant workers  
37 alike; and

38 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
39 Congress and the Administration to create legal pathways to immigration and streamline  
40 the process for immigration into our country in order to fortify the labor market and achieve  
41 economic prosperity.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

1 **COMMITTEE: NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT;**  
2 **LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

3 **POLICY: NATURAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

4 **TYPE: JOINT RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

5 **WHEREAS**, natural disasters impacting the United States, including hurricanes, storms,  
6 flooding, tornados, fires, wind, hail and extreme heat, are more severe, occurring more  
7 frequently, and at greater scale. According to through the Federal Emergency  
8 Management Agency (FEMA), 44 of 50 states experienced a federal disaster declaration  
9 somewhere in their state in 2024 and almost every state is impacted by a disaster every  
10 year; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Center for  
12 Environmental Information has identified 73 natural disasters, largely comprised of severe  
13 storms, tropical cyclones and winter storm events, between 2022 and 2024 with individual  
14 losses of over \$1 billion adjusted for inflation. Five-year average costs have spiked to  
15 \$151.2 billion in 2024 from \$19.1 billion in 1984, meaning states and local communities  
16 rely on federal assistance before, during and after disasters now more than ever; and

17 **WHEREAS**, in 2020 the National Institute of Building Sciences evaluated federal  
18 investments in disaster mitigation since 1995 and found that for every \$1 federal invested,  
19 communities saved \$13; and

20 **WHEREAS**, state and local governments own approximately 44% of public roads, 38%  
21 of national bridges, over 900 hospitals and directly support about a third of the nation’s  
22 airports. States are constantly working to improve disaster response and recovery  
23 systems and technology and federal funding and technical assistance enhances state

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

24 investments in pre-disaster resiliency, disaster mitigation and preparedness and supports  
25 the rapid repair and replacement of damaged and destroyed infrastructure and quicker  
26 economic recovery; and

27 **WHEREAS**, given the severity of natural disasters in recent years, federal support to state  
28 activities and existing state funding mechanisms is vital to repairing damaged  
29 communities; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the majority of federal disaster funding is distributed to states through FEMA,  
31 which has obligated over \$160 billion in funding since 2017 as a result non-Covid-19  
32 disaster declarations; and

33 **WHEREAS**, state and local governments already have a 25% cost share with awarded  
34 FEMA funds unless specifically adjusted by the president. The majority of states lack  
35 sufficient funding, capacity and need for a full-time disaster-response staff, and are  
36 unable to replace federal disaster-response infrastructure and expertise; and

37 **WHEREAS**, federal assistance to states which provides and supports the delivery of  
38 basic services such as clean water, food and shelter to communities post-disaster is a  
39 necessity; and

40 **WHEREAS**, the dissolution of federal agencies addressing disasters and assistance for  
41 disaster preparedness, mitigation, resilience, response and recovery would result in the  
42 loss of a centralized federal research and innovation hub for new resiliency techniques  
43 and improved methods for protecting lives and property during emerging and increasingly  
44 worsening disaster threats, an increase in direct cost burdens on states by requiring  
45 states to spend more money on routine items and would adversely impact investments in  
46 other areas and a decrease in national security during times of crisis; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

47 **WHEREAS**, intergovernmental communications, ongoing federal-state partnerships and  
48 long-term staff relationships are vital to effective coordination and disaster preparedness  
49 and response; and

50 **WHEREAS**, according to the Congressional Budget Office, insurers covered \$80 billion  
51 in losses caused by natural disasters in 2023 and some insurers were rendered insolvent  
52 due to the impacts of and the resulting claims after natural disasters. Other insurance  
53 companies are reducing coverage and are pulling out of states like California and Florida  
54 – both of which experienced catastrophic disasters in recent years; and

55 **WHEREAS**, given the interconnectedness of the global economy, vulnerable supply  
56 chains and regionalized American industry, it is in America’s best economic interest to  
57 ensure expedient services and relief to states after disasters to assist with speedy local,  
58 regional and national economic recovery; and

59 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
60 urges Congress and the administration to maintain and sustain the role, scope and  
61 adequate and appropriate funding levels of all federal disaster agencies, programs, grants  
62 and projects that assist states with disaster preparedness, mitigation, resilience, response  
63 and recovery and to reject any changes to federal agencies, programs, grants or projects  
64 that would disrupt or decrease federal disaster assistance funding currently provided to  
65 states, create direct or indirect cost burden shifts to states, or create any new direct or  
66 indirect spending or other precondition requirements, including the implementation of a  
67 so called “disaster deductible,” for states to access federal funding for disaster  
68 preparedness, mitigation, resilience, response or recovery; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

69 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures calls  
70 on Congress, the administration and relevant federal agencies to ensure that federal  
71 funding intended for shelter after disaster be continued, and ensure that the shelter and  
72 services issued meet the needs of all Americans, both urban and rural; and

73 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures urges  
74 Congress, the administration and relevant federal agencies to support the principles of  
75 state-to-state mutual aid and resource sharing as agreed to by the signatory states and  
76 territories of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact , in addition too, rather  
77 than as a replacement of, federal financial and technical support and assistance; and

78 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures calls  
79 on Congress, the administration and relevant federal agencies to enhance  
80 intergovernmental partnerships; increase in-person assistance to states, including  
81 communication and coordination assistance and other on the ground support before,  
82 after, and during disaster response and recovery to better serve the needs of the  
83 American public; and bolster clear and accurate communications with all relevant  
84 stakeholders including state and local entities as well as the public about state and federal  
85 disaster preparation, response and recovery efforts, before, during and after disasters;  
86 and

87 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures calls  
88 on Congress, the administration and relevant federal agencies to maintain federal  
89 disaster resources for the public, including information to assist the public with  
90 preparedness and response, scientific databases and federal data tracking and collection  
91 programs; and

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

92 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
93 supports efforts by the federal government to improve community preparedness prior to  
94 disaster, including the federal government’s assistance with and facilitation of broad  
95 preventative actions that could be conducted across the nation, such as contracting for  
96 shelter in preparation for future disasters; and

97 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures calls  
98 on Congress, the administration and relevant federal agencies to provide financial and  
99 technical support for state resource sharing programs and disaster response systems and  
100 software; and

101 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
102 supports efforts by the federal government, in consultation with states, to improve,  
103 streamline, simplify, and increase the consistency, flexibility and transparency of federal  
104 disaster funding applications and distribution processes to states, who are responsible  
105 managers of federal dollars, to more quickly assist with disaster response and recovery;  
106 and

107 **LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
108 supports changes to the National Flood Insurance Program to ensure its solvency while  
109 also maintaining its affordability and availability to all Americans.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

**COMMITTEE:                    LAW, AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**POLICY:                        PRISON SECURITY**

**TYPE:                          RESOLUTION (NEW)**

1    **WHEREAS**, a 2018 National Survey of Correctional Contraband found that of 301 prisons  
2    across six states, cell phones were the second most common item of contraband, with an  
3    average of 31 cell phones retrieved per 1,000 individuals.

4    **WHEREAS**, contraband cell phones used by incarcerated individuals enable the  
5    continuance of crime such as drug trafficking and sexual exploitation.

6    **WHEREAS**, more than a dozen correctional officers have been convicted of providing  
7    cell phones and phone parts to prisoners in exchange for bribes.

8    **WHEREAS**, the Urban Institute reported that more than 85% of correctional  
9    administrators from 20 state prisons feel that contraband cell phones jeopardize the  
10   safety of incarcerated individuals and correctional staff.

11   **WHEREAS**, the National Institute of Justice identified drones as a concern for correctional  
12   facilities because drones can smuggle drugs, cell phones, weapons, GPS trackers, and  
13   other contraband into facilities.

14   **WHEREAS**, drones may not only be used to smuggle in contraband but may also be used  
15   for video surveillance of correctional facilities to aid inmate escapes.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

16 **WHEREAS**, after the Federal Bureau of Prisons adopted a formal reporting process in  
17 2018, reports of drones increased by 87 percent, with the Department of Justice reporting  
18 130 drone incidents in federal correctional facilities between 2015 and 2019.

19 **WHEREAS**, federal law does not currently prohibit drones from flying over correctional  
20 facilities, but does, through a general prohibition, prohibit correctional facilities from being  
21 able to control, capture, or destroy drones flying over facilities.

22 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, NCSL urges Congress to vote in favor of  
23 implementing the 2025 Cellphone Jamming Reform Act (S. 1137) to prevent further  
24 criminal activity in correctional facilities and communities.

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NCSL asks Congress to criminalize the flying of drones  
26 over correctional facilities and prioritize the prosecution of such incidents.

27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NSCL supports allowing law enforcement and correctional  
28 facility agencies to mitigate drones that fly over critical infrastructure. NCSL encourages  
29 Congress to permit a pilot program that enables law enforcement and correctional facility  
30 agencies to mitigate drones that fly over critical infrastructure.

[BACK TO THE TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

1 **COMMITTEE: LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY**  
2 **POLICY: REGARDING TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS AT**  
3 **SOUTHERN BORDER AND PORTS OF ENTRY**  
4 **TYPE: RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

5 **WHEREAS**, the United States has a vested interest in securing its borders; and

6 **WHEREAS**, promoting legal immigration is paramount to the prosperity of the United  
7 States; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the right to seek and enjoy asylum from persecution is a commonly accepted  
9 human right in the international community that the United States upholds; and

10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
11 urges Congress and the Administration to invest in procedural and technological  
12 improvements to its ports of entry and judicial system in order to facilitate a safe, efficient,  
13 timely, and humane immigration process for asylum seekers.

**COMMITTEE:                    LAW, AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**POLICY:                        SUCCESSFUL INMATE REENTRY INTO SOCIETY**

**TYPE:                         RESOLUTION (RENEWAL)**

1    **WHEREAS**, an incarcerated individual’s success upon re-entry is impacted by their ability  
2    to access resources like education, housing, transportation, and affordable healthcare.

3    **WHEREAS**, the Second Chance Act and its reauthorizations are vital to successful re-  
4    entry because the Act enables states, through grants, to implement programs and  
5    resources for individuals re-entering the community.

6    **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Justice reported that since 2008, when the  
7    Second Chance Act was passed, more than 386,000 individuals received services funded  
8    by the Act’s grants.

9    **WHEREAS**, two examples of how the Second Chance Act funded re-entry programs  
10   include Arizona, where grants were used to train community correctional officers on best  
11   practices for supporting supervised offenders, and Ohio, where grants were used to  
12   provide housing vouchers to formerly incarcerated individuals.

13   **WHEREAS**, the Council of State Governments Justice Center found that since the  
14   Second Chance Act passed in 2008, reincarceration has decreased. In 2019, 27% of  
15   individuals were reincarcerated within three years after re-entry, as opposed to 35% who  
16   were reincarcerated within three years after re-entry in 2008.

17 **WHEREAS**, healthcare services like Medicaid are key to the successful re-entry of  
18 incarcerated individuals and, without access to affordable healthcare, incarcerated  
19 individuals may not seek medical care upon release.

20 **WHEREAS**, federal law has historically prohibited states from delivering Medicaid  
21 services to incarcerated individuals unless they are a patient at a medical institution.

22 **WHEREAS**, new opportunities such as the Medicaid Re-entry Justice Involved Waiver  
23 have provided states with new opportunities to leverage the Medicaid program to provide  
24 critical care to incarcerated individuals up to 90 days pre-release.

25 **WHEREAS**, as of August 2024, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services had  
26 approved 11 states' Medicaid Re-entry waivers with 13 other states pending proposals.

27 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, NCSL supports the 2025 Second Chance  
28 Reauthorization Act as a vital component for states to implement re-entry programming.  
29 NCSL urges Congress to vote in favor of the 2025 Second Chance Reauthorization Act  
30 and restore any eliminated funding so that states can continue to provide services to help  
31 individuals successfully re-enter into society.

32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NCSL acknowledges that incarcerated individuals who  
33 will soon re-enter the community need access to affordable healthcare. NCSL  
34 encourages Congress to support state policies and programs that provide incarcerated  
35 individuals with access to healthcare prior to release from a correctional facility.