Safer Communities

“...employment is often seen as a gateway to becoming and remaining a law-abiding and contributing member of a community.”

- The Council of State Governments Justice Center

Lower Taxes

“...Linking individuals who have been involved with the corrections system to jobs and helping them succeed can reduce the staggering costs to taxpayers for reincarceration and increases contributions to the tax base for community services.”

- The Council of State Governments Justice Center

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Access to employment for returning citizens leads to...

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

By supporting...

**HB2141** (Greir) & **SB647** (Koenig) - also known as the "Fresh Start Act", this bill states that a person cannot be disqualified from licensure for any occupation solely or in part because of a prior conviction of a crime, unless the criminal conviction directly relates to the duties and responsibilities for the licensed occupation.

**HB1468** (Toalson Reisch) - states that a person shall not be prohibited from participating in the sale of alcohol solely on the basis of being found guilty of a felony offense, and repeals language requiring an employer to report any employee convicted of a felony to the Division of Liquor Control at the Dept. of Public Safety. It also repeals language prohibiting the sale of lotto tickets for those convicted of a criminal offense.

The Smart Sentencing Coalition is staffed by Empower Missouri. Contact Christine Woody, Senior Policy and Organizing Coordinator, at christine@empowermissouri.org to learn more about the coalition and this legislation.