

January 2, 2019

Dear Governor-Elect Kemp,

The undersigned organizations and individuals have each been involved in various aspects of criminal justice reform -some for decades, some for a few years, all with compassion, determination and ***each with a constituent base that is engaged and eager for continued change.***

We are writing you today to implore you to ***continue the good work*** that Governor Deal set in motion eight years ago.

We ask that you take a close look at our jails and prisons by ***touring the most desperate places*** where we house our ***mentally ill, elderly and infirm*** inmates.

We ask that you ***sit down with our organizations*** to hear about the ground-breaking work we do and the gaps we understand must be filled.

We ask that you have ***listening sessions with the families*** and loved ones impacted by high incarceration rates as well as with the people that have been involved in the justice system themselves.

We ask that you ***keep leadership in place*** in the Georgia Department of Corrections and Community Supervision and explore the idea of building on the good work each department has done.

We ask that you work closely with our ***business leaders to better engage "Ban the Box" measures*** and encourage hiring those with former convictions.

We ***encourage you to attend*** the ***8th annual Justice Day at the Capitol*** on February 26th. Last year 33 organizations committed to criminal justice reform co-sponsored the event and over 450 people came to speak to their lawmakers about the impact of mass incarceration on our communities. We expect an even bigger turnout this year.

We will also be hosting ***Justice Tuesdays*** at the State Capitol beginning January 22nd (see the attached calendar) These are other opportunities to meet with us, hear our ideas and begin to build bridges of hope for all of us.

With respect,

Georgia Organizations for Criminal Justice Reform

The following organizations and individuals have signed on to this letter to Governor-elect Brian Kemp dated January 2, 2019.

Georgia Public Policy Foundation

Georgia Center for Opportunity

The National Incarceration Association, Inc

Mental Health America of Georgia

Women on the Rise

Motherhood Beyond Bars

RestoreHER

City of Refuge

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia

Rehoboth Family and Community Services

Faith in Public Life

Freedom is a Choice

Uplifting People, Inc

Georgia Justice Project

Urban League of Greater Atlanta

Southern Center for Human Rights

ACLU of Georgia

End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network

End New Jim Crow Action Group- Atlanta Area

Georgia NAACP

Racial Justice Action Center

Francys Johnson

Sharon Turner