

MODEL

Model Executive Order No. _____

**Restoration of Voting Rights For People Convicted of Criminal
Offenses and/or Incarcerated People**

WHEREAS, Article [Insert], Section [Insert], of the Constitution of the State of [STATE] empowers the Governor to restore the civil rights of a person convicted of a criminal offense; and

WHEREAS, The right to vote is a fundamental right of every citizen of United States of America; and

WHEREAS, this [State] disenfranchisement policy is rooted in a tragic history of racism, voter suppression and marginalization of people of Color; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has yet to pass a constitutional amendment to permanently repeal disenfranchisement upon conviction and/or sentencing and/or incarceration for a criminal offense; and

WHEREAS, the Governor is committed to doing everything in his or her power to restore the voting rights of disenfranchised residents of this State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the Governor of the state of [STATE], pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State to restore the civil rights of convicted, sentenced and incarcerated people, do hereby order that the civil right to vote be restored as follows:

- 1) People currently disenfranchised or disqualified from voting by reason of conviction of a criminal offense are hereby restored to the status of "qualified electors" and restored the right to vote, and shall be eligible to vote in any election in [Insert State]; and
- 2) People currently disenfranchised or disqualified from voting by reason incarcerated in a prison, jail, correctional facility or community correctional center, are hereby granted a restoration of their status as "qualified electors" and restoration of their right to vote, and shall be eligible to vote in any election in [Insert State]; and
- 3) The State Departments and Agencies [Insert State agencies here, for example, Department of Corrections, Department of Elections/Voter Registration] responsible for maintaining the information for identifying disenfranchised individuals

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are hereby ordered to immediately make and promulgate such regulations as are necessary to:

- a. Distribute this order of restoration of voting rights to formerly disenfranchised convicted and/or incarcerated people and inform them in writing that their right to vote has been restored;
- b. Remove such disenfranchised people from the Prohibited Voter list;
- c. Provide for formerly disenfranchised convicted and/or incarcerated people to register to vote; and
- d. Provide for currently incarcerated people to vote by absentee mail-in ballot; and
- e. Promulgate such supplemental guidelines as may be appropriate to the specific obligations of that department or agency.

GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

SECRETARY OF STATE