# GIVE NORTH CAROLINIANS A SECOND CHANCE

Increase state funding for expungement assistance

### CERTIFICATE OF RELIEF AND EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL RECORDS

- Certificates of Relief and expungement opportunities relieve North Carolinians from the effects of collateral consequences triggered by criminal convictions
- These options erase low-level criminal charges for those who qualify, especially individuals who committed non-violent offenses before the age of 21
- Relief results in citizens being able to obtain jobs, safe housing and reliable transportation

#### 1.5 MILLION

the number of North Carolinians with criminal records



one in three Americans have been arrested by the age of 23

At the age of 17, Janay pled guilty to Misdemeanor Larceny and was given a Prayer for Judgment Continued. Like many North Carolinians, she did not understand the consequences of her criminal record would be far-reaching and severe. "This charge alone was the reason I would get hired, but then denied a start date when my criminal background came through.



As a single mother of one, I was caught in the struggle of life. For years, I worked dead end jobs to make ends meet. But I was committed to turning my life around by volunteering in the community, and going back to school. I am confident that those who truly desire to change their lives can do the same with support from the community and a second chance in society."



a job applicant with a criminal record is 50% less likely to receive a call back interview

2,028

the number of expungement or certificate of relief actions conducted by North Carolina legal aid providers in 2015

## NORTH CAROLINA ACCESS TO JUSTICE CAMPAIGN

www.ncaccesstojustice.org

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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