



# THE SAFER COMMUNITIES & SMALL BUSINESS ACT

## Supporting Small Businesses and Formerly Incarcerated Citizens

Illinois businesses are struggling to hire qualified employees, impacting their operations and recovery from the pandemic. The unemployment rate among formerly incarcerated individuals is extremely high. This undermines public safety and contributes to high recidivism rates.

HB 3418 will support small businesses struggling to hire employees, foster opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals, improve public safety, and reduce the costs of incarceration. This initiative will provide wage subsidies to businesses that hire formerly incarcerated individuals and increased tax incentives to small businesses that hire returning citizens.

### TAX INCENTIVES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

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HB 3418 would deliver economic relief to small businesses via tax credits of up to \$5,000 for every formerly incarcerated worker that is hired into a new position.



#### WAGE SUBSIDIES

HB 3418 creates wage subsidies for businesses that hire formerly incarcerated individuals to facilitate the entry of returning citizens back into the workforce.

### IMPROVE ILLINOIS ECONOMY

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Not only will HB 3418 support small businesses and formerly incarcerated individuals, but it will also save significant money in reduced reincarceration costs and increase revenue for the state through the income and sales taxes paid by returning citizens.



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

When individuals returning from incarceration become stably employed, their risk of recidivism drops by 62%. This legislation can reduce crime and improve public safety.

Encourage Illinois politicians to support small businesses and formerly incarcerated individuals, while improving our economy, by championing HB 3418!

HB 3418 passed the House and now needs Senate approval.