



# THE SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT

Supporting Small Businesses, Employing Returning Citizens, and Improving Public Safety

Illinois businesses are struggling to hire employees to support their operations. Formerly incarcerated citizens often struggle to find employment, contributing to high recidivism rates.

Providing wage subsidies for businesses that hire formerly incarcerated individuals, and an increased tax credit for small businesses that hire returning citizens, will support small businesses struggling to hire employees, foster opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals, improve public safety, and reduce the costs of incarceration. House Bill 3418 provides the framework for this impactful program.

## RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

### SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF

HB 3418 provides wage subsidies and a meaningful tax credit to small businesses in disinvested areas that hire formerly incarcerated individuals. Businesses of all sizes are eligible for wage subsidies to maximize the number of returning citizens entering the workforce.



### PUBLIC SAFETY

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

## IMPROVE ILLINOIS ECONOMY

### ILLINOIS ECONOMY

HB3418 will reduce reincarceration costs and increase revenue for the state through the income and sales taxes paid by returning citizens. This will foster long-term economic growth for the state.

HB 3418 passed the House and remains in the Senate. Let's build bridges between businesses and formerly incarcerated people by passing this legislation in 2024!