

#WORKINGfuture

A campaign led by JLUSA



The [#WORKINGfuture campaign](#) is led by people with records organizing to challenge and remove the devastating policies that exclude us from employment, food access, housing, voting, and other basic human and civil rights.

We believe that everyone deserves access to affordable basic services, safety in their communities, and dignity in their lives — **no matter where they live or what their record states.**

BAN THE BOX IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Twenty seven percent of people with records are unemployed nationwide. In South Carolina, there are **712 state laws** that bar people with records from crucial everyday needs— from employment, to education, to housing— ensuring a permanent second class status and a lifetime of stigmatization.

Even as South Carolina reduces its incarcerated population, **it is one of the nation's leaders in** erecting barriers for people with records that are near impossible to traverse.

1,212,190

people have arrest records or convictions in South Carolina

27%

of people with records are unemployed nationwide

31%

of South Carolinians have a criminal record

30%

increase in employment for people with records after fair hiring policies

NO ONE SHOULD BE BANNED FROM WORK BECAUSE OF A PRIOR CONVICTION

- As of 2018, more than [150 cities and 33 states](#) nationwide have passed “ban the box” laws, delaying job applicants from having to disclose their criminal record early in the application process which increases discrimination and decreases employment. “Banning the box” gives applicants an opportunity to be evaluated on qualifications and skill set.
- New studies show that fair hiring policies increase public employment for people with records by as much as 30 percent.
- Currently, **no South Carolina jurisdiction** has passed a comprehensive fair hiring ordinance.
- Economists estimate that poor job prospects for people with records reduces the nation’s gross national product by at least [\\$78 billion](#) per year.
- A study found that employment is the foremost important influence on stabilizing over-criminalized communities.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEEDS A WORKING FUTURE

In South Carolina, the #WORKINGfuture campaign partners with local organizations led by directly impacted leadership to demand an end to the criminalization of people in this state.

We organize to:

- Support comprehensive fair hiring ordinances at the municipal and county level.
- Pass [House Bill 3463](#) to “ban the box” for state employment.
- Promote economic and racial justice in communities most harmed by mass criminalization.

South Carolinians with records have a right to meaningful employment, affordable basic services, and dignity.

Join us as we create a #WORKINGfuture for all of South Carolina.
justleadershipusa.org/workingfuture