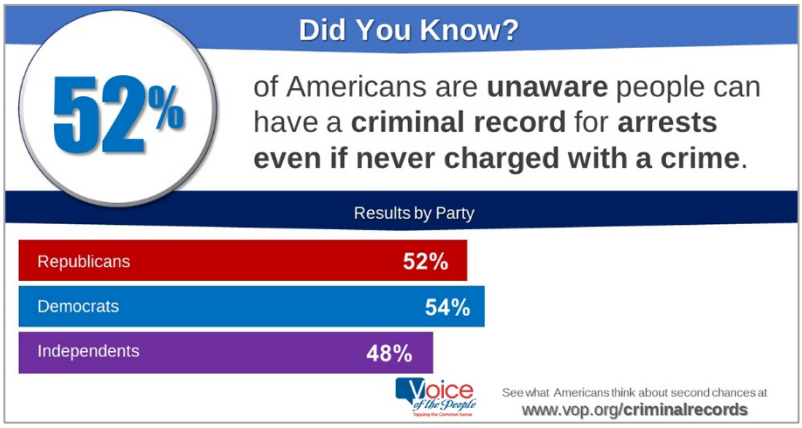
Second Chances Social Media Toolkit

A new survey by the University of Maryland's Program for Public Consultation has found that **large majorities of American voters** support removing barriers to economic opportunities, housing, and voting for people with criminal records.

One in three adults in the United States currently have a criminal record, many for being arrested but never charged, or charged but never convicted, and many for minor and non-violent offenses.

This social media toolkit can help spread awareness about public support for reform that limits the impact of these records.



Did you know that people can have a criminal record for an arrest when they were never charged with a crime or convicted? #SecondChanceMonth

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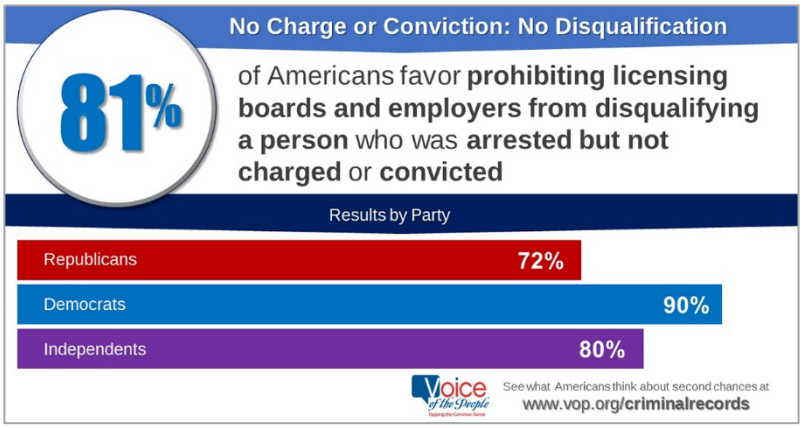

8 in 10 Americans want to prohibit employers from disqualifying from a job someone who was arrested but never charged or convicted #SecondChanceMonth

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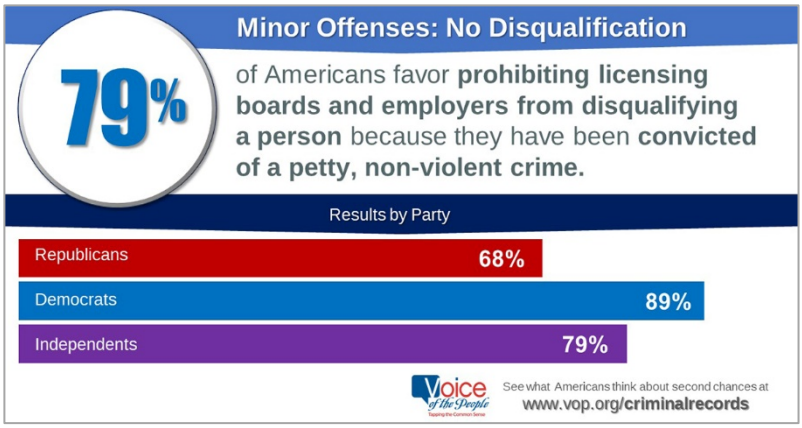

Employers and professional licensing boards can disqualify workers who have been convicted of a petty, non-violent crime. Huge majorities of Democrats, Republicans, and Independents think that should change #SecondChanceMonth

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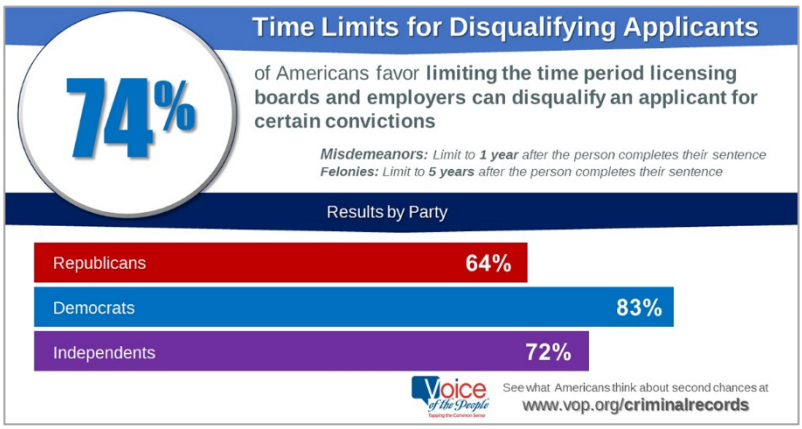

3 in 4 Americans want to limit the time period after serving sentences that workers can be disqualified from jobs and professional licensing #SecondChanceMonth

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Across the US, employers make hiring decisions based on laws that hold them responsible for damages done by someone they knowingly hired with a criminal record. Large majorities of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents believe we must end this practice #SecondChanceMonth

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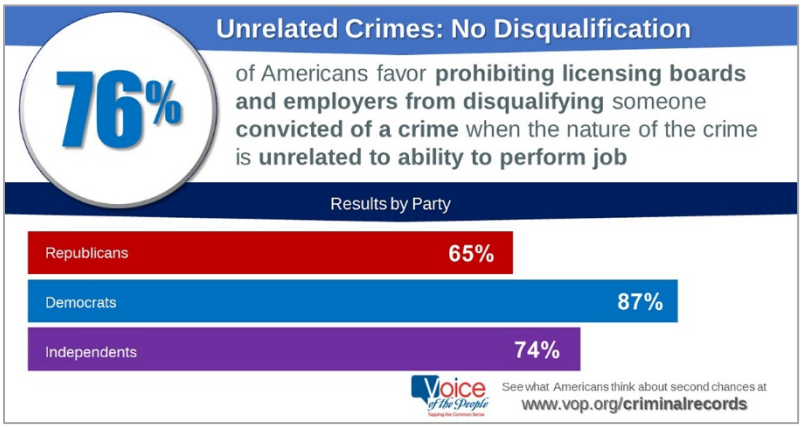

There are over 44,000 rules prohibiting people with criminal records from jobs, professional licenses and public housing. Americans want change, with 76% saying people should not be disqualified from a job for convictions having nothing to do with the work #SecondChanceMonth

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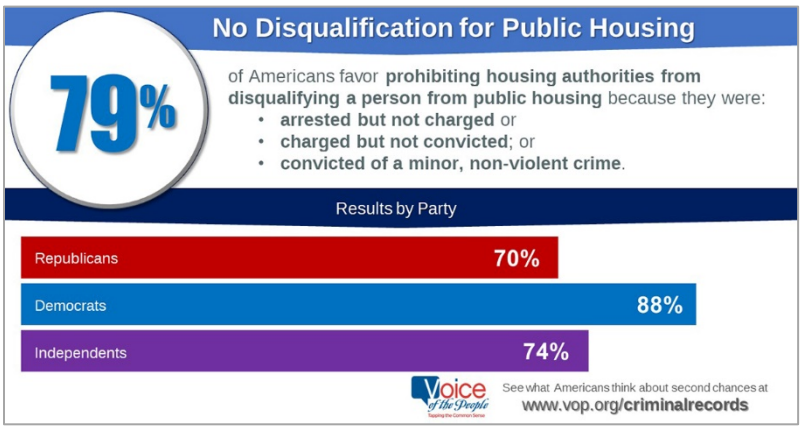

In 2019, @KamalaHarris and @AOC introduced the Fair Chance at Housing Act which restricted the use of criminal records by public housing authorities. 8 in 10 Americans want to end blocking people from public housing because of arrests without conviction or non-violent offenses.

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Did you know if you have been arrested, but not charged or convicted of a crime, you may have a criminal record for the rest of your life? More than 3 in 4 Americans believe that anyone who has not been found guilty should be able to have their records sealed #SecondChanceMonth

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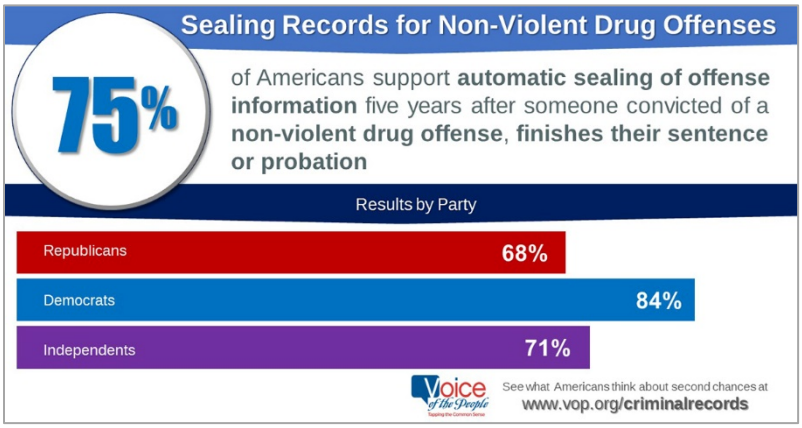

The @WhiteHouse declared April is #SecondChanceMonth. Huge majorities of Republicans & Democrats agree that someone convicted of a non-violent drug offense should have their records automatically sealed five years after their sentence or probation.

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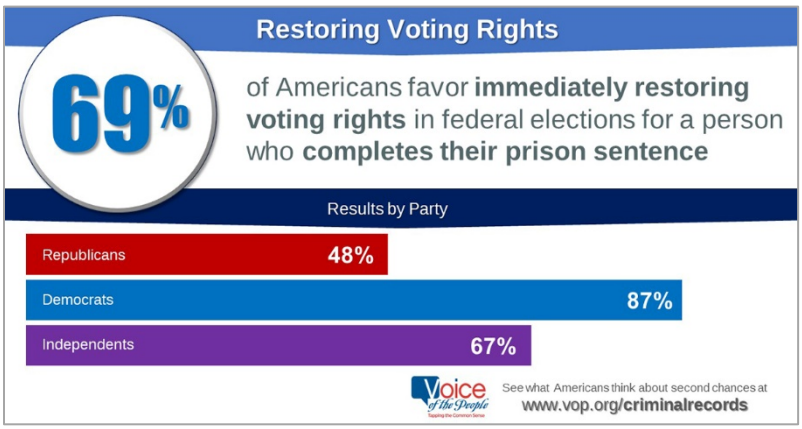

In 2020, more than 5 million people with felony convictions were not allowed to vote. In PPC's 2021 survey, 69% of Americans favor immediately restoring voting rights in federal elections for a person who completes their prison sentence. Survey Results: www.vop.org/criminalrecords

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Most Americans, Rs and Ds alike, agree on giving people with criminal records second chances. A new survey by UMD's Program for Public Consultation finds large majorities want to change how we treat people with criminal records in our society.
Survey: *www.vop.org/criminalrecords*

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