

"As a leader in the faith community, I believe mass incarceration is one of the top moral issues of our time. The system is not working, Incarceration rates have surged, and ex-offenders are not being effectively rehabilitated in order to resume full participation in society.

"It is incredibly hard for ex-offenders to be reintegrated into society; they face difficulty in finding jobs and housing, and they and their families are often outcasts in their communities. They are treated as societal outcasts without the benefits of full citizenship.

"We, as believers in Christ know what it means to be forgiven and redeemed, therefore, we should extend that same forgiveness and redemption to ex-offenders who have served their time and are looking for a second chance to get it right.

"Texas has been a leader in right-sizing the criminal justice system. We pray that other states will begin to follow our lead"

Kathryn Freeman

Director of Public Policy

Christian Life Commission