

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's correctional system, originating under the leadership of William Penn in 1682, was the first to suggest changes in punishments for crimes, and continued to evolve from the establishment of Philadelphia's Walnut Street Jail in 1773 and the Eastern Penitentiary in 1829; and

WHEREAS, the "Pennsylvania System," as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

WHEREAS, today, Pennsylvania faces continued difficult challenges in corrections; with twenty-three state correctional institutions, one motivational boot camp, one training academy, two central office buildings, seven community corrections centers, twenty-one contract facilities, the Commonwealth's state-level correctional facilities house over 38,400 incarcerated people, the Parole Field Service supervises approximately 30,100 reentrants, and the Bureau of Community Corrections provides treatment and programming for approximately 2,500 reentrants; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's correctional services also extend to the county level with sixty-three institutions housing nearly 23,000 incarcerated people and the federal level with ten facilities housing nearly 9,000 incarcerated people; and

WHEREAS, the secure and safe operation and management of all these facilities rests in the hands of approximately 31,000 trained, skilled, and dedicated professionals; from corrections officers to treatment specialists to parole agents to reentry specialists, and many more workers in various areas, these workers are committed to a common goal: the effective and humane operation of our Commonwealth's correctional facilities.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 4-10, 2025, to be

### CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEES WEEK

I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize the vital role these dedicated professionals play in ensuring the effective operation of our correctional system in the interest of public safety.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this twenty-fifth day of April two thousand twenty-five, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-ninth.

Governor Josh Shapiro