

# RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS

Kentucky is 1 of only 3 states that still denies voting rights to people with felony convictions in their past. The only way to restore rights is through a pardon granted by the Governor or expungement. This leaves Kentucky on the fringe, with one of the harshest voting restrictions in the country.

**1 in 4** African-Americans in Kentucky are denied the right to vote. **The highest rate in the country.**

**Denying someone the right to vote harms families and communities:**

**ISOLATION:** Disenfranchisement isolates people from their communities.

**POWER:** Denying one person the right to vote ripples out and dramatically decreases the political power of urban and minority communities.

**RECIDIVISM:** 27% of non-voters were rearrested, compared with 12% of voters.

**300,000**

Kentuckians have past felony convictions and are not allowed to participate in our democracy.

**243,000**

Kentuckians have completed their entire sentence, probation, and parole.

**1 in 11**

Kentuckians are denied the right to vote due to a past felony conviction

## THE SOLUTION: VOTING RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT (HB 232)

**House Bill 232, sponsored by Representative Jason Nemes, would give voters the chance to amend the Kentucky Constitution to automatically restore voting rights to people who have completed their entire sentence, probation and parole.** It would not apply to people convicted of election fraud, bribery related to an election, or treason.



**BROAD SUPPORT FOR HB 232:**

According to a 2018 poll, 66% of Kentuckians support automatic restoration for people who have completed their sentence. Support cuts across age, gender, and political affiliation.



**CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY:**

Voting is the most fundamental right in a democracy. We all make mistakes, and no person should be defined entirely by the worst moments of our past.