

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



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State Rep. Brandon McGee Continues to Champion for Re-Entry Community

Rep. McGee focuses on the needs of individuals fighting for a second chance

Throughout 2018, [Representative Brandon McGee](#) (D – Hartford, Windsor) has been a champion for the needs of individuals re-entering the community following incarceration.

With the Commission on Equity and Opportunity, Rep. McGee has championed for their study, "[Hope for Success](#)." It was through the passage of his bill, [House Bill 6219](#), that the study was made possible. Alongside the Commission, Rep. McGee has held panel discussions to make known re-entry recommendations in regards to housing and employment opportunities.

"Everyone deserves a second chance. All too often, individuals who look to positively re-enter the community are turned away," said Rep. McGee. "We need to reduce recidivism in our communities and truly give these individuals a second chance. Through Hope for Success and panel discussions, I believe that we are beginning to offer the population some necessary tools that will allow for their smooth transition into productive and successful members of society."

With the passage of [House Bill 5375](#) co-sponsored by Rep. McGee in the 2018 legislative session, a working group was created to study available housing options for individuals re-entering the community following incarceration. The goal of the working group is to identify any potential areas of need and potential legislative remedies and report on its findings by Jan. 1, 2019.

"Housing is the first major challenge individuals re-entering the community face – it is essential to the individual's path in rebuilding their lives following incarceration," stated Rep. McGee. "However, it's all too common for their prison sentence to carry a stigma that hinders their re-entry. Housing can be the first step in offering these individuals a second chance. Through this working group, we aim to meet this need and find remedies to insure their second chance."

The working group is comprised of employees of the Commission on Equity and Opportunity, the Commissioner of Housing, the Commissioner of Correction, and community stakeholders.

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