



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK
November 13-19, 2017

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a rich heritage in the fields of agriculture, manufacturing, trade labor, and higher education and we must take advantage of these historic strengths to succeed in an ever-changing global economy; and

WHEREAS, by connecting our education and job training systems to our economic drivers, both workers and employers benefit; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projections show that a significant portion of 2020's anticipated workforce shortfall of nearly 3 million Americans who lack the post-secondary education required to fill these jobs could be resolved by apprenticeships; and

WHEREAS, studies show that apprenticeships provide a good return on investment not only for workers, but also for employers – forming industry partnerships and addressing the skills gap; and

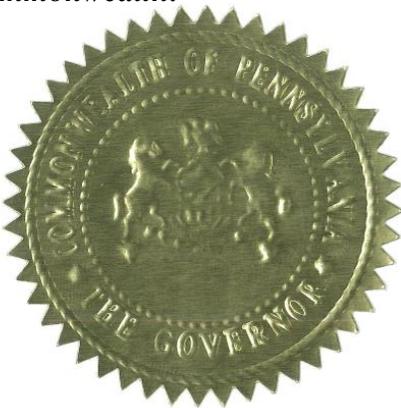
WHEREAS, our economy is strongest when we level the playing field by making the market's opportunities available to all by establishing constructive partnerships between government, business, and non-profits; and

WHEREAS, programs at the federal, state, and local levels ensure that Registered Apprenticeship is a viable opportunity for interested parties. In fiscal year 2016, Pennsylvania ranked 5th in the country with the largest number of active apprentices at 14,100, 745 active programs, and 1,190 completers; and

WHEREAS, the path forward is clear: greater levels of education and training, aligned with employer needs, lead to more economic opportunity for Pennsylvanians.

THEREFORE, in recognition of the role apprenticeships have played in the development of our commonwealth's economy, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim November 13-19, 2017, to be NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK. I encourage all citizens to recognize the economic potential of and success achieved by apprenticeship programs in the commonwealth.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-fifth of October two thousand seventeen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-second.



Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor