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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week annually raises  
3 awareness of the vital role registered apprenticeships provide  
4 in meeting critical industry workforce demands by developing  
5 the highly skilled workforce that employers need and by  
6 creating pathways for Americans to catapult into in-demand,  
7 high-paying careers; and

8           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeship programs are  
9 industry-driven, high-quality career pathways that enable  
10 employers to develop and train their future workforce, and  
11 individuals can obtain paid work experience with a mentor,  
12 progressive wage increases, classroom instruction, and a  
13 portable, nationally-recognized credential; and

14           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeships are a work-based  
15 training model that allows apprentices to earn while they  
16 learn and provides a pathway to lucrative and meaningful  
17 careers, enabling employers to develop and train their future  
18 workforce; and

19           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeships help employers grow  
20 their business by developing a skilled workforce, improve a  
21 business's productivity, profitability, and sustainability,  
22 and increase the loyalty and retention of workers; and

1           WHEREAS, Recent research demonstrates that employers  
2 participating in registered apprenticeships report a 44%  
3 return on investment, and that workers who have completed  
4 registered apprenticeship programs earn an average of \$300,000  
5 more over their career compared to peers who did not; and

6           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeships provide a critical  
7 talent pipeline that has helped address some of the most  
8 pressing workforce challenges in Illinois and the United  
9 States, such as filling the growing demand for skilled trades,  
10 advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence,  
11 cybersecurity, and other occupations; and

12           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeships can play a critical  
13 role in all industries, including health care, agriculture,  
14 technology, financial services, education, energy,  
15 transportation, hospitality, construction, and  
16 telecommunications, because a registered apprenticeship is a  
17 flexible model that is customized to meet the needs of every  
18 business and industry; and

19           WHEREAS, Registered apprenticeships are not only  
20 industry-vetted but also approved by state and federal  
21 agencies in order to leverage the power of coordination  
22 between the private and public sectors; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we declare April 26 to May 2, 2026 as Apprenticeship Week 2026  
4 in the State of Illinois; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That we urge stakeholders and partners to  
6 recognize the value of registered apprenticeships and to  
7 promote awareness and expansion of apprenticeships during  
8 Apprenticeship Week 2026.