

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week marks its 10th anniversary, celebrating the vital role that Registered Apprenticeships play in fostering economic opportunity across Illinois, allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and providing a direct pathway to good, quality jobs, well-paying careers, and career advancement; and,

WHEREAS, the economic growth and prosperity of Illinois are deeply tied to our ability to broaden workforce opportunities, ensuring they are inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality; and,

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs in Illinois enable employers to build and train their future workforce while offering career seekers accessible and affordable paths to secure family-sustaining careers, thereby strengthening our state's economy; and,

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are uniquely equipped to meet the evolving demands of the Illinois economy, providing a pathway for all qualified individuals - including women, youth, people of color, rural communities, justice-involved individuals, and individuals with disabilities to become apprentices and contribute significantly to our state's key industries; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois recognizes that Registered Apprenticeship is a proven, industry-driven training model and a key strategy for improving job quality and expanding access to family-sustaining careers. This model is essential for addressing critical workforce challenges in Illinois, such as rebuilding infrastructure, meeting supply chain demands, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing cybersecurity efforts, and responding to core economy needs;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim November 17-23, 2024, as **National Apprenticeship Week** in the State of Illinois.*

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,

this TWENTY-NINTH day of OCTOBER, in

the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and

TWENTY-FOUR, and of the State of Illinois,

two hundred and FIFTH.



Alexi Giannouch
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR