



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*

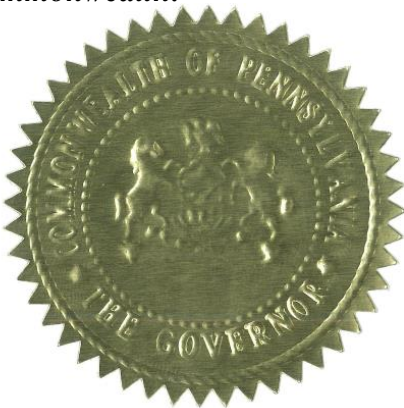
*WHEREAS, our economy is strongest when we level the playing field by making the market's opportunities available to all by establishing constructive partnerships between government, business, and non-profits; and*

*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 5<sup>th</sup> 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