WHEREAS, South Carolina’s workforce is one of its strongest assets, and the state is dedicated to providing the education and training opportunities needed to ensure South Carolinians are skilled and ready to fill the high-demand jobs in our state; and

WHEREAS, registered apprenticeship programs have been proven an ideal workforce development tool, providing employees the opportunity to learn while they earn and employers the prospect of expanding their pipeline of skilled workers by building their own workforce; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 2007, Apprenticeship Carolina has increased the number of programs in the state at a phenomenal rate from 90 to nearly 1000 and the number of total apprentices to just over 29,500 from a mere 777 in 2007; and

WHEREAS, while many imagine traditional trades such as construction, electrician, and plumber as the ideal occupations for apprenticeship, Apprenticeship Carolina has broadened that scope to include nontraditional industry sectors like health care, information technology, tourism, energy, biomedical, and advanced manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, youth apprenticeship is a forward-focused component of Apprenticeship Carolina that is growing in popularity, with youth programs in the Palmetto State increasing from five to nearly 200 over the past five years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2018 as

SOUTH CAROLINA APPRENTICESHIP MONTH throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the SC Technical System and its Apprenticeship Carolina program for their positive contributions to ensuring South Carolina’s continued competitiveness through a well-trained and prepared workforce.

HENRY MCMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA