The City of Philadelphia strongly believes in finding and developing our young people to be able to adapt and find success in the workforce. They must be properly prepared, educated, and trained in order to meet the standards required by their future employers. In particular, the at-risk and in-need populations of our City can be lifted from the disabling impact of poverty by becoming better prepared for job markets and realizing their full potential through vocational training and apprenticeship programs. The City of Philadelphia strongly encourages initiatives that support this training and thanks those organizations striving to provide these essential opportunities for our students.

The National Registered Apprenticeship System was established to provide a renewed focus on expanding these apprenticeship positions and has taken a leading role in creating new opportunities and building the skills of our current labor corps. Apprenticeships can be very useful in helping to fill potential voids in the workforce. There are currently 775 registered apprenticeship programs and 16,675 registered apprentices in Pennsylvania.

The program is designed to address a projected shortfall by the year 2020 from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The registered apprenticeship program is a vital component in many high demand and high growth industries, and is recognized as a crucial post-secondary education training ground for future employment. The program has provided a good return on the investment of both the workers and employers.

To highlight the virtues of these initiatives, National Apprenticeship Week will be held during the week of Monday, November 12 to Sunday, November 18, 2018 to offer leaders in business, labor, education, and other critical partners to express their support for apprenticeship programs, and showcase them to the community. In Philadelphia, the program is being coordinated with the support of Philadelphia Works, Inc., a nonprofit agency working to connect employers to workforce talent and career seekers to jobs.

THEREFORE...

I, James F. Kenney, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia do hereby proclaim the week of Monday, November 12 to Sunday, November 18, 2018 to be NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK in Philadelphia, and urge all citizens to recognize the importance of workforce development through job training and apprenticeships to create a more inclusive and economically viable City, and commend those organizations and people working to create more apprenticeship opportunities for the workers in our City and region.

James F. Kenney  
Mayor

Given under my hand and the seal of the City of Philadelphia on this twelfth day of November, two thousand and eighteen