

# PROCLAMATION

The City of Philadelphia holds access to education and opportunities for future success as the highest priority for its citizens. The at-risk and in-need populations of our City can be lifted from the disabling impact of poverty by better preparing our students, youth, and adult learners for job markets and assisting citizens to realize their full potential through vocational training and apprenticeship programs.

President Barack Obama brought Registered Apprenticeship into the national spotlight in his 2014 State of the Union address. The President set a goal to double the number of apprentices over a five-year period nationwide. The National Registered Apprenticeship System was established to provide a renewed focus on expanding Registered Apprenticeships and has taken a leading role in creating opportunity and building a skilled workforce.

By the year 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected a significant workforce shortfall. A portion of this shortfall can be attributed to the lack of a sufficient post-secondary education required to fill available jobs. A great percentage of this shortfall could be resolved by apprenticeships. Apprenticeships have been shown to be a good return on investment for both workers and employers.

Since late 2013, the National Registered Apprenticeship System has expanded apprenticeships in the United States by approximately 55,000 to record nearly 430,000 active apprentices.

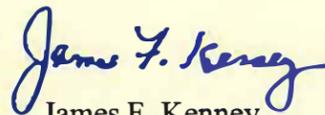
The second annual National Apprenticeship Week sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor is observed November 14 – 20, 2016 with the support of Philadelphia Works, Inc., a nonprofit agency working to connect employers to workforce talent and career seekers to jobs.

## THEREFORE...

I, James F. Kenney, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia do hereby proclaim the week of Monday, November 14 – Sunday, November 20, 2016 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.

  
James F. Kenney  
Mayor

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

