



HR0595

LRB103 39219 LAW 69369 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, February is nationally recognized as Career and  
3 Technical Education (CTE) Month; and

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WHEREAS, CTE's origins stem from the signing of the  
5 Smith-Hughes Vocation Education Act of 1917, which was the  
6 first major federal investment in CTE and laid the foundation  
7 for bipartisan, bicameral support for CTE that continues today  
8 through the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for  
9 21st Act, and February 23, 2024 marks the 107th anniversary of  
10 the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act being signed into  
11 law; and

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WHEREAS, Approximately 382,383 secondary and postsecondary  
13 students are enrolled in CTE across the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, CTE in Illinois places equity at the forefront of  
15 decision-making, instructional programming, and student  
16 support services, and it is instrumental in ensuring fair and  
17 equal access to learning opportunities, supporting local  
18 communities, fostering innovation, and promoting continuous  
19 improvement; and

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WHEREAS, CTE programs lead in supplying instruction for  
21 careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations in

1 a number of fields, including agriculture, health care,  
2 business and finance, information technology, advanced  
3 manufacturing, and education; and

4 WHEREAS, CTE programs provide relevant academic and  
5 technical coursework, leading to college credits and  
6 industry-recognized credentials for secondary and  
7 postsecondary learners; these programs also offer smooth  
8 pathways to and through postsecondary education and  
9 employment, career exploration for grades K-12, and assistance  
10 in meeting the Illinois Learning Standards; and

11 WHEREAS, CTE prepares students for tomorrow's careers and  
12 drives economic growth by matching employability skills with  
13 workforce demand, embedding work-based learning opportunities,  
14 and allowing for local flexibility; and

15 WHEREAS, All students benefit from equity-centered  
16 teaching practices, career-connected learning, opportunities  
17 to develop and discover practical skills and strengths, and  
18 career exploration; and

19 WHEREAS, CTE programs will play a critical role in  
20 becoming the largest training provider for Electric Vehicle  
21 Technology, thereby bolstering, supporting, and delivering  
22 Governor JB Pritzker's goal for the State of Illinois to reach

1 100% clean energy by 2050; therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
3 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we declare the month of February 2024 as Career and Technical  
5 Education Month in the State of Illinois.