

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## **Apprenticeship Week**

WHEREAS, the economy demands our residents are prepared for careers with post-secondary education and training credentials that provide an ability to respond to the evolving needs of business; and

WHEREAS, the state launched innovative grant programs such as Real Jobs RI which respond to the workforce needs of businesses through employer-led, demand-driven partnerships that develop effective solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, the state has set a goal for all secondary students in Rhode Island to be provided an opportunity for work-based learning and establish career pathways through our Prepare RI initiative;

WHEREAS, career pathways are established for residents of Rhode Island through Registered Apprenticeships, which provide opportunities for apprentices to "earn and learn" in structured, on-the-job training and post-secondary education leading to nationally-recognized credentials; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeships create meaningful connections between educational institutions, public workforce systems, community based organizations, government agencies, labor unions and private employers of our great state for all identified growth sectors of the Rhode Island economy; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeships are a proven and effective model of talent development for the skilled workforce needed by employers of Rhode Island in partnership with institutions of secondary and higher education, driven by private employers and supported by the state government of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeships are part of the solution to alleviate economic, racial and gender disparities for the diverse resident communities of Rhode Island, given one public workforce dollar invested in registered apprenticeship has been demonstrated to return twenty-seven dollars in economic activity; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship Rhode Island – in partnership with the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training and the Governor's Workforce Board – continues to expand and enhance the state apprenticeship system and provide partnership between industry, education and government to extend career opportunities for thousands of Rhode Islanders and develop Apprenticeships in multiple occupations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim November 13 - 19, 2017 as: *Apprenticeship Week* in the state and encourage all residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.

COVERNOR

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this / day of November, 2017

Gina M. Raimondo Governor

Nellie M. Gorbea Secretary of State