



SR0056

LRB102 12801 LAW 18141 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, February is nationally recognized as Career and  
3 Technical Education Month; and

4 WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education (CTE) is an  
5 essential strategy for Illinois' economic recovery efforts  
6 amid the COVID-19 pandemic; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 398,000 students are enrolled in  
8 CTE across the State of Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, CTE programs lead in providing instruction for  
10 careers in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand occupations in  
11 such fields as business and finance, healthcare, information  
12 technology, advanced manufacturing, and education; and

13 WHEREAS, CTE in Illinois places equity at the forefront of  
14 decision-making, instructional programming, and student  
15 support services; and

16 WHEREAS, CTE programs provide relevant academic and  
17 technical coursework leading to college credits and  
18 industry-recognized credentials for secondary and  
19 postsecondary learners; they offer smooth pathways to and  
20 through postsecondary education and employment, career

1 exploration for K-12 grades, and assistance in meeting the  
2 Illinois Learning Standards; and

3 WHEREAS, CTE programs are instrumental in ensuring  
4 equitable access to learning opportunities, supporting local  
5 communities, fostering innovation, and promoting continuous  
6 improvement; and

7 WHEREAS, CTE prepares students for tomorrow's careers and  
8 drives economic growth by matching employability skills with  
9 workforce demand, imbedding work-based learning opportunities,  
10 and allowing for local flexibility; and

11 WHEREAS, All students benefit from equity-centered  
12 teaching practices, career-connected learning, opportunities  
13 to develop and discover practical skills and strengths, and  
14 career exploration; and

15 WHEREAS, February 23, 2021 marks the 104th anniversary of  
16 the signing of the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act of  
17 1917, which was the first major federal investment in Career  
18 and Technical Education and laid the foundation for the  
19 bipartisan, bicameral support for Career and Technical  
20 Education that continues today with the Strengthening Career  
21 and Technical Education for 21st Act; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate February  
3 2021 as Career and Technical Education Month to celebrate  
4 Career and Technical Education across the State of Illinois.