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LRB102 22897 MST 32050 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 412,000 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, 2022 marks the 105th 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 2022 as Career and Technical Education Month to celebrate
4 Career and Technical Education across the State of Illinois.