



SR0750

LRB103 39218 LAW 69368 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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21 WHEREAS, CTE programs lead in supplying instruction for
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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the month of
4 February 2024 as Career and Technical Education Month in the
5 State of Illinois.