



Councilmember Elissa Silverman

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the week of November 12 through November 18, 2018, as Apprenticeship Week in the District of Columbia, in celebration of the benefits of apprenticeships in preparing a highly-skilled workforce to meet the talent needs of employers across diverse industries.

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is a national celebration commissioned by the U.S. Department of Labor during the week of November 12 through November 18, 2018;

WHEREAS, the national registered apprenticeship system enables residents to earn a paycheck while they learn workplace skills, reducing their need to take on student debt and helping employers build a talented workforce by ensuring high-quality, on-the-job training;

WHEREAS, there are over 545,000 apprentices nationwide who are developing skills in more than 1,000 occupations and are on the path toward long-term, living wage employment;

WHEREAS, nearly nine out of ten apprentices nationwide are employed after completing their apprenticeship, securing an average wage of approximately \$60,000 annually;

WHEREAS, workers who complete an apprenticeship program earn approximately \$300,000 more in wages over the span of their career than non-apprenticeship participants;

WHEREAS, apprenticeship programs have been shown to be highly cost-effective methods of developing workplace skills with potential to also reduce youth

43 unemployment, raise wages for working adults, ease transitions after graduation from
44 school to the workforce, and use limited federal resources more effectively;

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46 WHEREAS, apprenticeship programs have also been shown to produce high
47 returns for employers through benefits that include highly skilled employees, reduced
48 turnover costs, lower investment in recruitment, higher productivity, and a more diverse
49 workforce;

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51 WHEREAS, the vast majority of current apprentices are men, there is a need to
52 ensure that apprenticeship opportunities are also available and accessible to women.

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54 WHEREAS, the vast majority of registered apprenticeship programs in the District
55 are in the construction trades, and there is a need to expand apprenticeships into other
56 high-demand industries in the District;

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58 WHEREAS, newly passed District law, the Pathways to District Government
59 Careers Act of 2018, establishes a public-sector apprenticeship initiative that requires
60 District government to create apprenticeship programs in five high-demand occupations,
61 including one in healthcare and one in information technology, in order that the District
62 government lead by example and provide the benefits of apprenticeships to its agencies
63 and employees;

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65 WHEREAS, by contacting the D.C. Department of Employment Services, District
66 residents can learn how apprenticeships provide an avenue toward long-term, living
67 wage careers and District businesses can learn how apprenticeships can address long-
68 term hiring needs;

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70 IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF
71 COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Apprenticeship Week Recognition
72 Resolution of 2018".

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74 Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the week of November 12 through November 18,
75 2018, as Apprenticeship Week in the District of Columbia and.

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77 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of
78 publication in the District of Columbia Register.