

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Career Technical Education (CTE) offers students the opportunity to gain the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for college and career readiness; and

WHEREAS, CTE provides career exploration opportunities and authentic, meaningful experiences earlier in students' educational experience, which enables them to make informed decisions about their future academic coursework, programs of study, and career pathways; and

WHEREAS, leaders from business and industry in Vermont and nationwide report increasing challenges related to the skills gap and connecting qualified professionals with available careers in critical and growing CTE-related fields, including construction, manufacturing, healthcare, information technology, agriculture & natural resources, and hospitality & tourism; and

WHEREAS, CTE prepares students for these and other fulfilling careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education, including registered apprenticeships, and lead to the attainment of industry-recognized credentials; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Agency of Education's CTE team is leading the work of implementing a state-wide career pathways system for students beginning in grade 7; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Department of Labor, Agency of Commerce & Community Development, and Vermont's Workforce Development Board are working to support the career pathways initiative and better integrate the systems of workforce development for the benefit of all Vermonters; and

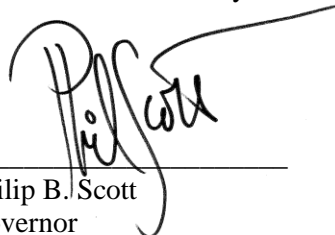
WHEREAS, ensuring that Vermont employers have access to a qualified workforce is a crucial step in Vermont's economic growth and global competitiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as

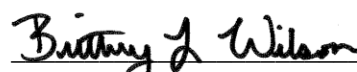
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of February, A.D. 2018


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs