

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education (CTE) offers students the opportunity to gain the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for true 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 Alaska 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: healthcare, energy, natural resources, and information technology; and

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

WHEREAS, the Alaska Departments of Education and Early Development and Labor and Workforce Development and the University of Alaska system are jointly implementing the statewide CTE plan to ensure a comprehensive, integrated career and technical education system for Alaska; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim February 2017, as:

Career and Technical Education Month

in Alaska, and urge all citizens to become familiar with the services and benefits offered by the CTE programs in Alaska and to support and participate in these programs.

Dated: January 30, 2017



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker".

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*