WHEREAS, Colorado has reimagined “earn while you learn” apprenticeships as a foundation of readiness for tomorrow’s economy; and

WHEREAS, our people need new skills and training for the future of work — a future we face with hope not fear, knowing that our children can experience the American Dream when there are doors of opportunity, and the keys to unlock them, available to all; and

WHEREAS, we will celebrate honor in all paths, recognizing that high school graduation, immediately followed by higher education, graduation, and then work, is a path that will not unfold for many students in our state; and

WHEREAS, registered apprenticeships in construction, manufacturing and the skilled trades, and now, through innovation and industry leadership, apprenticeships in non-traditional areas like healthcare, information technology, advanced manufacturing, transportation and logistics, aerospace, and energy, are keys that work; and

WHEREAS, Colorado has become a national leader in work-based learning by identifying high-demand jobs and the skills they require; convening industry sector partnerships to address skills gaps, often by industry-designed apprenticeships leading to credentials and career pathways; and enabling a labor market based on identified skills rather than proxies for skills; and

WHEREAS, Colorado industries are building apprenticeships at scale for high school students and workers facing mid-career job changes alike, such that Colorado has more than 6,000 apprentices with an average age of 29, working in hundreds of occupations; and

WHEREAS, we plan with urgency for ten percent of all Colorado high school students to be non-traditional apprentices, exploring well-paying career opportunities and imagining roles, industries, and belonging in tomorrow’s world of work; and

WHEREAS, we see this future and embrace it, so that Colorado will field a thriving workforce whose competitive fire will fuel our industries to shine in the global marketplace;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, the period between November 12, 2018 and November 18, 2018, as

COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twelfth day of November, 2018

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor