

## NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP DAY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Day celebrates the vital role Registered Apprenticeships provide in creating opportunities by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn and preparing a pathway to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers in Burke County, North Carolina and the across nation; and

WHEREAS Western Piedmont Community College recognizes the urgent need to prepare and maintain a skilled workforce that is capable of meeting the demands of the industry we serve and fortifying our economy; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seekers pathways to good, quality jobs and well-paying careers; and

WHEREAS, Western Piedmont Community College recognizes that Registered Apprenticeship, a proven and industry driven training model, is recognized as a key strategy to improving job quality, and creating access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for all, starting with youth and young adults, while addressing some of our nation's pressing workforce challenges.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Joel D. Welch, President of Western Piedmont Community College, call upon our Industry and Partners to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeship, and to promote industry awareness and expansion during National Apprenticeship Day: April 30, 2025.

IN SUPPORT,

Joe D. Welch, Ph.D., PE

President, Western Piedmont Community College