

## TRADES FUTURES NAW PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week marks its 11th anniversary, celebrating the essential role Registered Apprenticeships play in creating opportunities by allowing apprentices to earn while they learn, paving the way to well-paying, quality jobs across the nation; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures acknowledges the pressing need for a highly skilled workforce to meet industry demands and strengthen the economy. TradesFutures, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor, has secured to expand equitable access within the construction industry. In collaboration with the National Urban League, this program aims to enroll over 13,000 participants from underserved communities, with a goal of placing at least 7,000 into Registered Apprenticeships over four years; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures recognizes the pivotal role of Apprenticeship Readiness Programs in creating pathways to workforce opportunities for historically underserved and marginalized groups. Our mission is to develop, promote, and improve ARPs that equip participants with the essential skills needed to choose, obtain, and succeed in Registered Apprenticeships within the construction industry. Through ARP curricula development, community support, and dedicated efforts to increase access for women, veterans, justice-impacted individuals, and people of color, TradesFutures promotes lasting careers. Building Trades ARPs offer the Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3), a standardized 120-hour course designed to set participants up for success. Today, 275 ARPs operate nationwide, with 72% of our participants identifying as people of color and 22% as women, all contributing to a prepared next generation of skilled workers; and

WHEREAS, TradesFutures acknowledges that Apprenticeship Readiness Programs serve as critical entry points to Registered Apprenticeships for underserved demographics, offering a proven, industry-driven model for training the future workforce. These programs play a key role in recruitment, retention, job quality, and providing access to careers that sustain families. They also address the nation's most urgent workforce challenges—rebuilding infrastructure, supporting clean energy, modernizing cybersecurity, and meeting supply chain and care economy needs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allison Balanc, Digital Media and Marketing Manager of TradesFutures, call upon the building and construction trades unions to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship Readiness Programs and to promote awareness and expansion in celebration of the National Apprenticeship Day, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

IN SUPPORT,

**TRADES FUTURES**

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