

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRY & CAREER ADVANCEMENT NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Institute for Industry and Career Advancement (NIICA), serving as a National Group Program Sponsor and Industry Intermediary for semiconductor, nanotechnology and advanced manufacturing Registered Apprenticeships (RAs) for the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Apprenticeship, leads a coordinated national effort to expand access to high-quality RAs that align with the evolving needs of the American workforce and economy; and

WHEREAS, NIICA is committed to expanding economic opportunity for all, with a specific focus on reaching underemployed workers, transitioning service members, veterans, and other populations who stand to benefit from greater access to career-connected learning and skills-based hiring models; and

WHEREAS, RAs provide a proven pathway for individuals to gain hands-on experience, earn industry-recognized credentials and access sustainable, high-quality careers while enabling employers to build a skilled and resilient workforce; and

WHEREAS, NIICA's work is rooted in strengthening the nation's talent pipeline for critical sectors such as the semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industries, which are vital to U.S. economic competitiveness, technological leadership, and national security; and

WHEREAS, NIICA fulfills its mission through sponsorship and support of nationally scalable workforce initiatives, including Growing Apprenticeships in Nanotechnology & Semiconductors (GAINS), the Semiconductor Industry Network of Colleges (SINC), the Gateway Apprenticeship Program, the Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing Technician Apprenticeship Program (SAM-TAP), the National Workforce Education, Career and Apprenticeship Network (WE CAN), VetConnect & Veteran's Fellowship Program, and the Robotics for Experiential and Applied Learning (R.E.A.L.) for Kids; and

WHEREAS, NIICA's national network of partners—including employers, community colleges, workforce boards, and training providers—play a vital role in delivering RAs that are responsive to industry demands and accessible to workers at every stage of their career journey;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael A. Russo, President & CEO, and I, Laury Ferguson, Associate Director of Program Administration and Marketing, as Sponsor Representatives of NIICA, call on all industry, education, and workforce stakeholders to join us in recognizing the value of RAs and supporting their growth and visibility during the 11th annual National Apprenticeship Day, observed on April 30, 2025.

IN SUPPORT,

Michael A. Russo and Laury Ferguson

National Institute for Industry & Career Advancement