



## SEMCA MICHIGAN WORKS! WORKFORCE INTELLIGENCE NETWORK NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its 12th anniversary of raising awareness on the vital role apprenticeships play in preparing the future labor force in southeast Michigan with the qualifications and competencies needed for a strong and highly-skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, The advancement and economic vitality of southeast Michigan depends upon the continued development of skilled workers in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeships are proven pathways to fulfilling careers in diverse industries such as information technology, healthcare, energy, aerospace, construction, advanced manufacturing, hospitality, financial services, and more; and

WHEREAS, Apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the changing demands of southeast Michigan economy and provide the education required to develop in-demand skills through its earn-while-you-learn model; and

WHEREAS, The SEMCA Michigan Works! Workforce Intelligence Network recognizes that robust apprenticeship programs provide tangible value to both job creators and apprentices, with the potential to increase productivity, improve diversity and inclusion, and reduce recruitment and training costs while providing a pathway to prosperous careers for job seekers.

THEREFORE, On behalf of the SEMCA Workforce Intelligence Network Board of Directors, we, Michele Economou Ureste, WIN Executive Director, and Gregory E. Pitoniak, SEMCA Michigan Works! CEO, do hereby support apprenticeship building awareness events during National Apprenticeship Week April 26 – May 2, 2026, in support of the U.S. Department of Labor funded apprenticeship programs Apprenticeship Building America, in southeast Michigan.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory E. Pitoniak".

Gregory E. Pitoniak  
CEO, SEMCA Michigan Works!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michele Economou Ureste".

Michele Economou Ureste, MPA  
Executive Director, WIN