



**NEXTGEN POLICY
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026 PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week annually raises awareness of the proven impact of Registered Apprenticeship programs in expanding access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs, while addressing critical workforce shortages and needs; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are industry-driven, high-quality career pathways that enable employers to develop and train their future workforce and individual program participants to obtain paid work experience with a mentor as well as receive progressive wage increases, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally recognized credential; and

WHEREAS, NextGen Policy (NGP) recognizes the urgent need to advance public-sector workforce training and development programs, particularly targeted at underserved populations and under-resourced communities.

WHEREAS, NGP leads an effort to build a Registered Apprenticeship Hub in partnership with the Institute for Local Government and the Clover Agency, which supports non-traditional apprenticeship programs in California's public sector. The Hub is developing pathways for sustainable careers in high-demand industries (e.g., information technology, human resources, education, health care, legal services, and social services) to improve retention and long-term career mobility; and

WHEREAS, NGP recognizes the pivotal role educators, school counselors, and educational institutions play in not only bringing awareness of Registered Apprenticeship opportunities to students and parents, but also serving as training providers, program sponsors, and intermediaries; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs are uniquely able to meet the diverse labor needs of California's state economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Arnold Sowell Jr., Executive Director at NGP, do hereby recognize April 26th through May 2nd as National Apprenticeship Week 2026 and call upon stakeholders and partners to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeship programs and to promote their awareness and expansion during National Apprenticeship Week.

IN SUPPORT,

Arnold Sowell Jr., Executive Director, NextGen Policy
Website: nextgenpolicy.org
Email: info@nextgenpolicy.org