

P.L. 2019, Joint Resolution No. 33, *approved January 21, 2020*
Assembly Joint Resolution No. 180

- 1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the month of February each year
2 as “Career and Technical Education Month” in New Jersey.
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- 4 **WHEREAS**, The month of February 2018 was celebrated nationally as
5 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month; and
6 **WHEREAS**, Career and technical education programs in the 21st
7 century link rigorous academics, technical knowledge, real-world
8 experiences, and college-level learning to help students develop
9 career-ready skills and prepare them for post-secondary education
10 with a clear career focus; and
11 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey employers recognize that career and technical
12 education programs provide clear career pathways for students,
13 develop a strong pipeline of well-prepared future employees, and
14 ultimately strengthen the Garden State’s economy; and
15 **WHEREAS**, More than 32,500 high school students and over 5,000
16 adults are enrolled in New Jersey’s 21 county vocational-technical
17 school districts. These students benefit from a wide array of career
18 and technical education programs through which they gain valuable
19 preparation for college and the workforce, including industry-
20 recognized credentials, hands-on experience, and college credits;
21 and
22 **WHEREAS**, The Legislature has demonstrated strong support for career
23 and technical education by approving a package of legislation to
24 increase the focus on career readiness, expand technical education
25 opportunities, approve new funding for innovative high school CTE
26 programs, and restore adult programs; and
27 **WHEREAS**, The State’s business community has demonstrated its
28 support through the New Jersey Employer Coalition for Technical
29 Education, which seeks to promote CTE, encourage employer
30 involvement with technical schools, shrink the skills gap, and
31 ensure the State’s continued economic prosperity; and
32 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper that the Legislature and the people
33 of New Jersey celebrate the month of February each year as “Career
34 and Technical Education Month” to recognize and promote the
35 many benefits of CTE in this State; now, therefore,
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- 37 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the*
38 *State of New Jersey:*
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- 40 1. The month of February in each year is designated as “Career
41 and Technical Education Month” in New Jersey in order to

1 recognize and promote the many benefits of career and technical
2 education in this State.

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4 2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation
5 calling upon students, parents, and other citizens of the State to
6 learn more about career and technical education, county vocational-
7 technical school programs, and well-paying career pathways that
8 can be launched with an industry credential or a technical degree.
9 The proclamation shall also call upon New Jersey employers to
10 become active partners with county vocational-technical schools to
11 align curriculum with their workforce needs and provide
12 meaningful work-based learning opportunities to students.

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14 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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17 STATEMENT

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19 This joint resolution designates the month of February each year
20 as “Career and Technical Education Month” in New Jersey in order
21 to recognize and promote the many benefits of career and technical
22 education in this State. The joint resolution requests the Governor
23 to annually issue a proclamation calling upon students, parents, and
24 other citizens of the State to learn more about career and technical
25 education, county vocational-technical school programs, and well-
26 paying career pathways that can be launched with an industry
27 credential or a technical degree. The proclamation will also call
28 upon New Jersey employers to become active partners with county
29 vocational-technical schools to align curriculum with their
30 workforce needs and provide meaningful work-based learning
31 opportunities to students.

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36 Designates February in each year as “Career and Technical
37 Education Month” in New Jersey.