

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, innovation and technology are valuable industry sectors in Illinois, contributing to the state's economy, delivery of services, advancement of cybersecurity practices, workforce expansion, and educational and career development; and,

WHEREAS, the technology industry continues to grow and expand in Illinois at a rapid rate, contributing an estimated 6.7 percent, or \$48.7 billion to the overall state economy; and,

WHEREAS, the technology industry employs approximately 437,200 individuals across Illinois, at an average yearly salary of \$100,580; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois employers posted 122,730 jobs for technology positions last year that will continue to increase as technology continues to develop; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to develop a pipeline of talent and development programs necessary to meet workforce demand; and,

WHEREAS, career and technical education programs in elementary and secondary education across Illinois include IT competency-based curriculum for work readiness and the encouragement of STEM career exploration; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois colleges and universities provide a multitude of options for degree and certificate programs in various tech sectors, including software developers, computer systems and security analysts, and network and computer infrastructure support; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT) is responsible for the information and technology functions for the Illinois Executive Branch; and,

WHEREAS, DoIT's mission is to empower the State of Illinois through high-value, customer-centric technology by delivering best in-class innovation to client agencies, fostering collaboration and empowering employees to provide better services to residents, businesses, and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, DoIT delivers statewide information technology and telecommunication services and innovation to state government agencies, boards and commissions, policy and standards development, lifecycle investment planning, enterprise solutions, privacy and security management, and the exploration of innovative solutions that could be of benefit to the agencies and taxpayers of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, DoIT implements technology to meet the business needs of State of Illinois agencies and allow Illinoisans to easily interact with their state government through secure and easily accessible connection points; and,

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as **INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY MONTH** in Illinois in celebration of the important work being done by IT professionals statewide, and to encourage communities and schools to explore this sector as a contributor both to the economy and workforce, allowing students to understand the growing opportunities in both innovation and technology.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this FIRST *day of* APRIL *, in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
NINETEEN *, and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and FIRST *.*



Deese Whitt
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR