Designating the Third Week in October as "Cybersecurity Career Week".

RESOLUTION

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- Whereas investment in cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development in the United States plays a critical role in transforming society and is crucial to national security and to the ability of the United States to compete in the global economy;
- Whereas cybersecurity practitioners employ their knowledge and skills for the betterment of the United States;
- Whereas the discovery and design of secure products and services and the supply chain is critical to enterprises, consumers, and our national security;
- Whereas there are 469,930 cybersecurity job openings throughout the United States as of the summer of 2024;
- Whereas the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reports there will be approximately 11 million jobs in the STEM fields by 2031, with half of those jobs expected to be in computing and information technology, and the job outlook for Information Security Analysts has an expected increase of 35% through 2031, which is described as much faster than the average for all occupations.
- Whereas the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 established at NIST a National Cybersecurity Awareness and Education Program, known as NICE, to energize, promote, and coordinate a robust community working together to advance an integrated ecosystem of cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development.
- Whereas cybersecurity education is supported through multiple Federal programs and other related efforts, including—
 - (1) the Office of the National Cyber Director;
 - (2) the NICE Community Coordinating Council;

(3) the Advanced Technological Education program administered by the National Science Foundation;

(4) the CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service program administered by the National Science Foundation, in collaboration with the Office of Personnel Management and the National Security Agency;

(5) the Cybersecurity Education Training Assistance Program (CETAP), a Department of Homeland Security initiative provides cybersecurity curricular resources and professional development to elementary and secondary schools;

(6) the Department of Defense Cybersecurity Scholarship Program administered by the Department of Defense;

(7) the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative administered by the Partnership for Public Service;

(8) the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award administered by the Department of Education;

(9) Career Technical Education (CTE) CyberNet Academies administered by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education of the Department of Education;

(10) widely used resources, including CareerOneStop, Occupational Outlook Handbook, and O*NET OnLine administered by the Department of Labor; and

(11) the Registered Apprenticeship Program administered by the Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor; and

Whereas in 2014 Congress reauthorized the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) with overwhelming bipartisan support in recognition of the need to strengthen the focus of the United States on the skills necessary to fill jobs in local and regional industries;

Whereas the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) supports employment, training, and support services for individuals with barriers to employment, including—

(1) individuals who earn low incomes;

(2) individuals who are out of work, including the long-term unemployed;

(3) individuals displaced by outsourcing;

(4) individuals living in rural areas or areas with persistently high unemployment;

(5) individuals looking to learn new skills; and

(6) individuals with disabilities;

Whereas community and technical colleges and other workforce development training providers serve millions of students annually at a comparatively low cost and are well situated—

(1) to train the next generation of workers in the United States; and

(2) to address the educational challenges created by emerging industries and technological advancements;

- Whereas participation in a career and technical education (referred to as "CTE") program decreases the risk of students dropping out of high school, and all 50 States and the District of Columbia report higher graduation rates for CTE students, as compared to other students;
- Whereas the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (<u>Public</u> <u>Law 115–224</u>; 132 Stat. 1563) supports the development and implementation of highquality CTE programs that combine rigorous academic content with occupational skills;
- Whereas there are more than 600,000 registered apprentices in the United States, and there is growing and bipartisan support for expanding quality earn-and-learn strategies to help current and future workers gain skills and work experience;
- Whereas Cybersecurity Career Week is a campaign to raise awareness and create a sense of urgency about the importance of growing and sustaining a world-class cybersecurity workforce through outreach, education, celebration, and volunteerism to keep the United States a global leader in cybersecurity education and workforce development;
- Whereas by engaging youth, parents, and educators in hands-on science, technology, engineering, math, and computer science programs, cybersecurity practitioners help them discover how they can make a meaningful difference in the world;
- Whereas the partnership between cybersecurity professionals, teachers, and faculty inspires future generations of cybersecurity and technology talent;
- Whereas cybersecurity awareness, training, education, and workforce development are crucial to sustaining economic security for cybersecurity workers in the United States;

Resolved, That _____

(1) designates the third week in October as "Cybersecurity Career Week";

(2) encourages the people of the United States to recognize that there are multiple pathways to a rewarding career in cybersecurity;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of Cybersecurity Career Week to increase understanding of and interest in cybersecurity-related careers and to promote digital citizenship, technological literacy, and cybersecurity education and training;

(4) recognizes that cybersecurity education is a critical component of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), including computer science, education and is essential to improving the United States educational system and economic prosperity;

(5) encourages schools, educators, parents, researchers, colleges, universities, business leaders, community-based organizations, and policymakers to contribute to Cybersecurity Career Week by enabling students, job seekers, and employees to participate in the week-long campaign, creating sustainable learning experiences and identifying mechanisms for teachers and staff to receive cutting edge professional development and training.