

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R18-0911.02 Gwynne Middleton x4340

**HR18-1006**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Covarrubias and Coleman,**

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**House Committees**

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION 18-1006**

101      **CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADES IN**  
102           **TODAY'S WORKFORCE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
103           **DESIGNATING MARCH 21, 2018, AS "COLORADO TRADES AND**  
104           **CTE DAY".**

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1           WHEREAS, Skilled trades have not received the recognition they  
2           deserve; and

3           WHEREAS, A competitive global economy requires workers who  
4           are trained in skilled trades; and

5           WHEREAS, According to the most recent National Association  
6           of Manufacturers survey, 80% of respondents indicated a moderate to  
7           severe shortage of qualified skilled production employees, including  
8           front-line workers such as machinists, operators, craft workers,  
9           distributors, and technicians; and

10          WHEREAS, Career and technical education (CTE) ensures that  
11          competitive and skilled workers are ready, willing, and capable of holding  
12          jobs in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand career fields such as  
13          science, technology, engineering, mathematics, nursing, allied health,

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 construction, information technology, energy sustainability, and many  
2 other career fields that are vital in keeping Colorado competitive in the  
3 global economy; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the federal Bureau of Labor and  
5 Statistics, the three fastest-growing occupations require an associate's  
6 degree or a degree with fewer requirements, and each has an annual  
7 median salary greater than \$50,000; and

8 WHEREAS, The average annual wage for a Coloradan employed  
9 in construction is \$57,581; and

10 WHEREAS, There are more than 155,000 Colorado men and  
11 women employed in a skilled trade; and

12 WHEREAS, Skills learned through an on-the-job and classroom  
13 apprenticeship program provide graduates with meaningful opportunities  
14 to advance to management, executive, and business ownership positions;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Many skilled trade apprenticeship programs offer free  
17 training to enrollees and place students directly in hands-on work  
18 environments; and

19 WHEREAS, Approximately 60,000 more workers will be needed  
20 by 2023, and 70% of those will be working for subcontractors; and

21 WHEREAS, Men and women in skilled trades contribute to  
22 creating the infrastructure necessary to maintain the booming economy  
23 in Colorado; and

24 WHEREAS, Men and women in skilled trades, such as linemen,  
25 pipefitters, excavators, steel workers, and welders, are often part of first  
26 response teams who help rebuild communities after natural disasters,  
27 taking on great personal risk to ensure public safety in these communities;  
28 now, therefore,

29 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first*  
30 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

31 That we, the Colorado General Assembly:

1           (1) Recognize the importance of skilled trades to both our  
2 economy and infrastructure;

3           (2) Recognize skilled trade workers as essential and valuable  
4 assets for the success of Colorado;

5           (3) Encourage students to explore career and technical education  
6 paths that are not traditionally taken, but lead to competitive salaries and  
7 meaningful careers; and

8           (4) Designate Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as "Colorado Trades  
9 and CTE Day".

10           *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
11 to Pickens Technical College, Delta-Montrose Technical College, Emily  
12 Griffith Technical College, Warren Tech, Colorado Contractors  
13 Association, Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Colorado, Build  
14 Colorado, American Subcontractors Association of Colorado, Colorado  
15 Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), International  
16 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, International Association of Plumbers  
17 and Pipefitters, SMART Union, Laborers International Union, Affiliates  
18 of Colorado Building and Construction Trades Council, and Hispanic  
19 Contractors of Colorado.