

**NCSL STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY DIRECTIVES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**2023 NCSL SUMMIT  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
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2 **POLICY: APPRENTICESHIP RESOLUTION**

3 **TYPE: RESOLUTION**

4 **SPONSORS: SEN. KAREN KEISER (WASHINGTON)**

5 ~~WHEREAS, the continuing COVID pandemic has contributed to a significant dislocation~~  
6 ~~and displacement of the workforce, and~~

7 WHEREAS, Employers continue to need highly skilled employees to fill jobs in nearly all  
8 sectors of our economy. ~~The workforce dislocation of the COVID pandemic has~~  
9 ~~generally recovered, and job growth has been robust, and~~

10 WHEREAS, the potential for an expanded registered apprenticeship program in the  
11 United States can help workers reconnect to the economy while enhancing their skills  
12 and opportunities, and

13 WHEREAS, innovative new registered apprenticeship programs in non-traditional  
14 economic sectors such as health care, technology, and personal services will open  
15 pathways for increased diversity and inclusion in those occupations, and

16 WHEREAS, the traditional “earn while you learn,” approach of registered apprenticeship  
17 will reduce economic barriers to higher skilled occupations that currently are limited to  
18 paid tuition and fee based courses, and

19 WHEREAS, the traditional “on-the-job” learning requirements of registered  
20 apprenticeship are a successful learning style for many students who prefer learning  
21 skills through hands-on experience in addition to tradition classroom coursework, and

22 WHEREAS, providing incentives to employers to participate in registered apprenticeship  
23 programs in non-traditional sectors through tax policies and apprentice utilization  
24 agreements, when combined with long-term employer commitments, will establish a  
25 sustainable future for apprenticeship programs, and

26 WHEREAS, the success of traditional registered apprenticeship programs that are  
27 financially sustainable and jointly managed create tens of thousands high wage and  
28 high skilled jobs to ensure future generations of skilled apprentices for high demand  
29 occupations in our country, and

30 WHEREAS, replicating the success of traditional registered apprenticeship programs to  
31 non-traditional occupations will take significant resources and support from the United  
32 States Department of Labor,

33 WHEREAS, there are very successful apprenticeship programs in the United States and  
34 throughout the world,

35 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCSL support federal initiatives and funding to  
36 expand state registered apprenticeship programs into both non-traditional occupations  
37 and careers, and also traditional apprenticeships or federal registered apprenticeship  
38 programs in states that do not have state registered apprenticeship programs  
39 considering best practices and policies found in other countries.