

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, February has been designated Career and Technical Education Month by the Washington Association for Career and Technical Education; and

**WHEREAS**, profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our education system; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education provides Washington's citizens a school-to-careers connection and is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce, fostering productivity in business and industry and contributing to our leadership in the international marketplace; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education gives high school students experience in practical, meaningful applications of basic skills such as reading, writing, and mathematics, thus improving the quality of their education, motivating potential dropouts, and giving all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills providing them with career choices and potential satisfaction; and

**WHEREAS**, the cooperative efforts of career and technical educators, business, and industry stimulate the growth and vitality of our local economy and the entire nation by preparing graduates for career fields expected to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim February 2012 as

### ***Career and Technical Education Month***

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2012

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

