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By:  VanDeaver H.R. No. 87

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The celebration of Career and Technical Education Month in February 2019 presents a fitting opportunity to pay tribute to the importance of career and technical education (CTE) in the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, For more than a century, CTE courses have enabled students to gain the academic and technical skills necessary for true career readiness, and today nearly 1.4 million secondary students are enrolled in one or more CTE courses in district and charter schools across the state; these courses constitute a vital part of the Foundation High School Program, which offers students pathways to receive recognized endorsements, performance acknowledgements, and industry-validated credentials; and

WHEREAS, CTE also provides students with career possibilities early in their educational experience, allowing them to make informed decisions about their course of study and to enroll in integrated secondary and postsecondary curriculums that significantly contribute to college readiness; and

WHEREAS, The state's nine CTE student organizations instill in their members the values, knowledge, and skills required to fully participate in their communities and in their professions as engaged citizens and effective leaders; these groups include the Texas Association of Future Educators, Future Business Leaders of America, Business Professionals of America, the Technology Student Association, DECA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America; and

WHEREAS, Ensuring that employers have access to a qualified workforce is crucial to the state's continued economic growth and global competitiveness, and the CTE students and teachers of Texas are playing a vital role in the future prosperity of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize February 2019 as Career and Technical Education Month in Texas and welcome to the State Capitol the elected leaders of these nine outstanding student organizations.