WHEREAS, Profound economic, workforce development and technological changes in our society are rapidly impacting the structure and nature of work, thereby, placing increasing responsibilities on our educational system to prepare students for careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics); and

WHEREAS, Career and Technology Education promotes college and career ready standards by providing high school students with options to earn college credit and valid industry certifications ensuring a smooth transition to further postsecondary education and training programs, thus, creating a strong school-to-careers connection that is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, Preparation for Maryland students to be college and career ready demands the ever-increasing cooperative efforts of educators, school counselors, postsecondary faculty and advisors, workforce development professionals and business and industry representatives to prepare youth and adults for career fields that are forecasted to experience the largest and fastest growth in the next decade; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technology Education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn and apply new skills, which provide them with career choices and potential satisfaction fostering productivity in business and industry and contributing to America’s leadership in the international marketplace; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technology Education gives students opportunities to develop the 21st Century skills in demand for employment success in the global economy, thus, improving the quality of their education and giving all students leadership opportunities in their fields and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, February 2019 has been designated Career and Technology Education Month by the Association for Career and Technical Education and the Maryland State Department of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim February 1 - 28, 2019 as NATIONAL CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of February
Two Thousand and nineteen