

**STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS**

PROCLAMATION

Executive Order

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

- WHEREAS,** the state of Indiana has cultivated a strong and diverse economy to ensure Indiana remains an attractive destination for companies to start here and existing companies to reinvest, grow and innovate here; and
- WHEREAS,** Hoosier businesses, workers, communities and students alike are impacted by rapid advancements in technology, changing their awareness of and access to infrastructure needed to ensure the skills necessary to compete in a global marketplace; and
- WHEREAS,** talent attraction, development and connection are keys to continued economic investment growth; and
- WHEREAS,** growing 21st century talent is no longer the province of any single agency, organization or unit of government alone, but involves collaboration across public and private sectors at the state, regional and local levels; and
- WHEREAS,** the 21st Century Talent Region initiative was launched to ensure every student is on a learning path to adult prosperity, every adult Hoosier has access to training aligned to work with future growth opportunities and every employer has the tools they need to recruit, train and retain talent; and
- WHEREAS,** the Greater Lafayette Region has committed to working across geographic lines to attract, develop and connect talent while working together with the Office of Career Connections and Talent, Indiana Economic Development Corporation and CivicLab. The region is developing a data-driven plan to grow population, increase educational attainment and raise household income; and
- WHEREAS,** the Greater Lafayette Region, a nine-county region encompassing Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren and White Counties, commenced implementation of priorities identified in the plan to receive a designation as a 21st Century Talent Region and identified the goals to: (1) leverage quality-of-life assets to boost population by 18,000, resulting in a net 9% population increase by 2026, (2) utilize quality public and private K-12 educational corporations to maintain the region's more than 90% high school graduation rate and increase the high school equivalency rate, (3) identify increased skill levels in the region by developing a mechanism to capture all certifications that are obtained through trades, postsecondary institutions, apprenticeships, dual credit and some college through regional education and industry partnerships, and (4) build upon equitable economic opportunities to increase median household income to greater than the U.S. median household income by 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby designate the Greater Lafayette Region as a 21st Century Talent Region and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

*In Testimony Whereof, I hereto
set my hand and cause to be affixed the
Great Seal of State. Done on this 1st
day of June in the year of our
Lord 2021 and of the Independence
of the United States 243.*

BY THE GOVERNOR: _____