

**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,** Indiana Uplands of southwest central Indiana including Brown, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange, Owen and Washington counties have 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 region commenced implementation of priorities identified in the plan to receive a designation as a 21st Century Talent Region and identified the goals of: (1) ROI will establish and maintain a regional dashboard intended to serve all partners across the region to deepen consistent regional collaboration through shared goals and operating practices, (2) The Indiana Uplands will establish and advance short and long-term goals for achieving a 10 percent increase in the number of citizens with a post-secondary credential by 2025, and (3) The region will adopt an equity focus with the intention of narrowing the achievement gap for disadvantaged and/or minority populations that are underserved across the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby designate the Indiana Uplands and its 11-county partnership 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 at the
City of Bloomington, this 18th
day of November in the year of our
Lord 2019 and of the Independence
of the United States 243.*

BY THE GOVERNOR: _____