



## Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, the construction industry is one of our nation's largest industries, employing more than 5 million individuals in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, construction craft professionals play a critical role in Alaska's economy and the development of our Alaskan workforce; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's world class system of Joint Apprenticeship Training Committees oversee a successful network of construction training centers that continuously renew Alaska's construction workforce; and

WHEREAS, Careers in Construction Month is an annual month designated to increase public awareness and appreciation of construction craft professionals and the entire construction workforce; and

WHEREAS, employers, associations, and schools are encouraged to conduct job fairs, panel discussions, and local community events to inform students of the vast employment opportunities in construction; and

WHEREAS, the Associated General Contractors of Alaska and Alaska's Construction Academies participate in the Build Your Future campaign to narrow the skills gap by guiding America's youth and displaced workers into opportunities that lead to long-term rewarding careers in construction; and

WHEREAS, contractors and unions have built strong pre-apprenticeship programs to ensure that youth, women, minorities, and veterans can enter Alaska's highly competitive construction apprenticeship opportunities and become construction craft professionals; and

WHEREAS, many other states and the federal government support apprenticeship as a cornerstone of construction workforce development.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as:

## Careers in Construction Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to seek out information regarding the many benefits to a career in construction, opportunities to enter construction through Registered Apprenticeships, and celebrate the impact construction professionals have on our infrastructure and economy.

Dated: September 15, 2016

Bill Walker, Governor who has also authorized the seal of the State of Alaska to be affixed to this proclamation.