

# SENATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, innovation and technology are valuable, rapidly evolving, industry sectors in Illinois, contributing to the state's economy, delivery of services, advancement of cybersecurity practices, workforce expansion, and educational and career development; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois supports a growing ecosystem of technology startups, incubators, and accelerators that translate research and innovation into market-ready products, create new employment opportunities, and drive economic investment across the state; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois colleges and universities offer nationally recognized programs in computer science systems and technology fields, ranking among the top institutions for research and development, and continue to increase the number of STEM degrees earned by statewide learners; and,*

*WHEREAS, in 2024 and 2025 the Illinois Innovation Voucher Program awarded a combined total of \$4.7 million to 69 small- and mid-sized businesses to partner with Illinois' institutions of higher education on STEM-related research and development projects; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois is a leader for STEM practitioners identifying as women, championing innovation, professional growth, and equitable access to technology throughout statewide partnerships and public service; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois is emerging as a global leader in quantum science and microelectronics, with nationally designated research centers, a first-in-the-nation quantum information sciences tech hub, and the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park positioning the state for future economic growth and high-skilled job creation; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois is building an environment that spurs inclusive economic development through collaboration with business, industry, academic institutions, government, and organizations such as the Illinois Innovation Network and ISTC;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2026 as **Innovation and Technology Month** in Illinois to celebrate the work being done by innovation and technology professionals statewide and to encourage communities and schools to explore this sector as a contributor both to the economy and workforce, allowing students to better understand the growing opportunities in both innovation and technology.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
*this TWENTY-SEVENTH day of MARCH, in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
*TWENTY-SIX, and of the State of Illinois,*  
*two hundred and SEVENTH.*



*Alexi Giannouli*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR