

**WHEREAS,** more than 51.4 million Americans can't read or write at the most basic level and 75.1 million lack basic math skills, as well as the credentials and skills necessary to succeed in postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio, 1.5 million lack basic reading and writing skills while 2.4 million lack basic math skills; and

WHEREAS, every year, one in three young adults drops out of high school; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ohio Job Outlook Employment Projections show that more than 75 percent of the net job growth through 2028 is expected to be in occupations typically associated with some form of postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, approximately 609,600 working-age adults in Ohio do not have a high school equivalency; and

WHEREAS, adult education programs such as Aspire and Ohio Adult Options contribute to solving these challenges by helping Americans move along the continuum in their educational journey to achieve basic skills and get prepared for career and college; and

WHEREAS, adult education programs in Ohio Technical Centers, school districts, community colleges, universities, and Aspire and Ohio Adult Option locations offer no-cost, high-value programs that upgrade the skill set of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ohio celebrates Adult Education & Family Literacy Week as a proud participant in the national Educate & Elevate Campaign, which helps our citizens learn about all of their adult education options to attain their professional and personal goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 16-20, 2024 as

## **ADULT EDUCATION & FAMILY LITERACY WEEK**

On this 16th day of September 2024.

Mike DeWine Governor Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor