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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, it is vital that individuals around the United States and globally demonstrate concern for the world's environment and participate in improving the health of the earth, and for nearly fifty years, Earth Day has been celebrated worldwide each April 22nd to bring awareness about nature, ecology, and environmental concerns, and the 2022 Earth Day theme is *Invest in Our Planet*; and

WHEREAS, the planet is increasingly endangered, threatened by global warming, tropical deforestation, and ground, air, and water pollution, requiring action by all sectors of society; and

WHEREAS, there are many opportunities for individuals, corporations, and governments to unite and make the environment a priority, create a global green economy, and educate communities on important issues including land, water and energy conservation, the value of mass transportation, wildlife appreciation, and promoting the greenways, blueways, and park systems so essential to everyone's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, locally, in celebration of Earth Day, Learning Gate Community School and the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) is hosting the **13**th **Annual EcoFest** on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at MOSI in Tampa, Florida, in an effort to bring awareness to citizens on the importance of acting in an environmentally sensitive manner, and to celebrate the many businesses, organizations, and individuals in the Tampa Bay area dedicated to the principles of sustainability, ecology, equity, and economy; and

WHEREAS, a free family-friendly event made possible by generous supporters and sponsors, EcoFest includes live music, local artists, demonstrations, informational booths, green living products and services, green businesses, environmental organizations, alternative health practitioners, renewable energy specialists, and organic farms and gardens with produce.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, April 23, 2022, as

"ECOFEST: EARTH DAY TAMPA BAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in pledging to do our utmost to save the planet and our community through environmental awareness, advocacy, and practices.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 23rd day of April, 2022.

Mayor

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