

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, Tampa, Florida has a unique culture and rich heritage, and our city is proud to be well-known globally as a diverse and inclusive community, and celebrates all its citizens, businesses and organizations for the contributions and positive impact they make within our neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber**, previously known as the Tampa Bay Gay and Lesbian Chamber and the Tampa Bay Diversity Chamber of Commerce, established on January 20, 1983, serves the Florida counties of Hillsborough, Hernando, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber includes advancing common business interests, economic growth, and equality in the workplace and in society for its LGBT and allied businesses, corporations, and professional members by providing educational and networking opportunities and community engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber has been the business voice of the Tampa Bay LGBTQ community for forty years, representing more than 1,250 businesses, community groups, and individuals, and the organization serves as a business advocate and important link between business and government to promote equality and opportunity for everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber accomplishes its goals of advocating, educating, and connecting and facilitating the mission of equitable economic growth in Tampa Bay through established partnerships with the United States Small Business Administration, National LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Florida Chamber of Commerce, and over twenty local Chamber of Commerce organizations and Business Associations in order to collaborate and increase access to tools and resources and economic growth for LGBT businesses involving membership, economic opportunities, community engagement, empowerment and advancements; and

**WHEREAS**, on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber is hosting its **40<sup>th</sup> Annual State of the Chamber Luncheon** in Tampa, Florida, and the event includes its Annual Impact Awards, Recognition of Community Leaders, and it provides the opportunity to celebrate its vast accomplishments over the past four decades, and to plan for continued success in the future.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 22, 2023, as

**“TAMPA BAY LGBT CHAMBER ANNIVERSARY DAY”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join in respecting the rights of all people and celebrate the diversity and richness of our city by supporting the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber, thank them for their contributions to our community over the years, and congratulate them on this 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2023.



*Jane Castor*  
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Mayor