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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, created in 1970, Earth Month is held annually in the month of April, with Earth Day held on April 22^{nd} , and its mission is to bring environmental awareness and create consciousness around the issues that affect mother nature globally, and its mission includes inspiring the integration of sustainable practices into everyday activities and encouraging participation in improving the health of the earth; and

WHEREAS, during Earth Month each year, leaders and environmental activists from around the world join to create sustainable development and offer climate solutions in order to minimize our carbon footprint and prevent further harm to our planet's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 theme for Earth Month and Earth Day is *Invest in Our Planet* which focuses on engaging governments, institutions, businesses, and the more than one billion citizens who participate annually in Earth Day to do their part – everyone accounted for, everyone accountable, and it encourages all of us to come together in partnership for the planet, and for its sustainability because it is essential for the world's future and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, organizations, environmentalist, businesses, and individuals around the globe are celebrating Earth Month including in the city of Tampa, Florida, such as the University of South Florida (USF) Patel College of Global Sustainability students who are establishing its Earth Month Advocacy Global Initiative Center (EMAGIC) to bring about awareness and inspire others to become environmentally sensitive, not just during Earth Month and Earth Day, but each day of the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2023, as

EARTH MONTH

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.

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Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of April, 2023.