

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Tampa, Florida is a welcoming city filled with a richly diverse and cultural background, full of world-class attractions, entertainment venues, museums, festivals, parades, major sporting events, and culinary experiences that make the community a premier destination for visitors, commerce, and conventions, and the Tampa Bay region has been named on of Time Magazine's *50 World's Greatest Places for 2023*; and

WHEREAS, the travel and tourism industry is significant to the Tampa Bay area, which vastly contributes to our economic prosperity, employment, international trade and affairs, and the visitors to our region contribute greatly to our economy, quality of life, and in creating intercultural understanding and goodwill, and the citizens of Tampa are proud of our uniqueness including magnificent award-winning parks, restaurants, shopping districts, historic Ybor City, Bayshore Boulevard, the Tampa Riverwalk, new Midtown Tampa, developing Water Street Tampa, and more; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay area has become a top destination for travelers from around the globe, and the tens of millions of visitors to our community each year contribute to our city's success by generating billions of dollars in spending, and creating over 51,000 jobs through transportation, accommodations, entertainment and historical venues, and the food and beverage industry; and

WHEREAS, *Visit Tampa Bay* plays a primary role in promoting the travel and tourism industry for our region and its mission is to promote Tampa Bay as an attractive destination to strengthen its economic position for the community by increasing visitation, and the organization encourages visitors to unlock their inner adventure-seeker through collaboration and partnership with businesses, civic leaders, and the community to tell the story of Tampa Bay including its distinctive history of the cigar industry, Cuban sandwiches, and the world's largest pirate festival, Gasparilla; and

WHEREAS, established in 1983 by a congressional resolution, **National Travel and Tourism Week** (NTTW), is held the first full week in May to celebrate the significance travel holds for the economy, businesses, and personal well-being, and this year, NTTW celebrates with the theme *Travel Forward*, that spotlights the travel industry's essential role in stimulating economic growth, cultivating diverse communities, creating fresh job opportunities, inspiring new businesses, and uniting millions in the fundamental connection of travel.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 7-13, 2023, as

"NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the travel and tourism industry for their contributions to the economic success of our community and nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 7th day of May, 2023.



Jane Castor

Mayor