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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, an initiative of the I Am An Immigrant Foundation organization, Immigrant Heritage Month was established in 2014 to celebrate and honor our nation's immigrants, and our origins and development as a great nation; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrants from all over the globe have played a significant role in the development and progress of the United States from the time Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492; and

WHEREAS, immigrant explorers and pioneers established missions and settlements that became some of America's most important urban and cultural centers, and they have contributed greatly to our nation's economy, to our way of life, and to our culture; and

WHEREAS, immigrants play a vital role in our city, state, and nation, and they contribute substantially economically, socially, culturally, philanthropically, and in other important areas, and their commitment, determination, and hard work have strengthened and sustained our great country; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa, Florida is a unique and diverse community with an especially rich history, including the considerable contributions made by the immigrants who established our city beginning with historic Ybor City, built on the cigar industry with thousands of dedicated immigrants who worked in the factories as skilled artisans rolling cigars, making cigar bands and beautiful cigar boxes, and they shared and blended their heritage through food, clothing, music, and more.

**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 June 2023, as

## "IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to recognize those men and women who have immigrated to our community and who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors, and contributions, thereby enriching the lives of all of us.

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Dated in Tampa, Florida this 5th day of May, 2023.