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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Republic of Peru, a country in western South America, is a representative democratic republic that officially proclaimed its independence from Spanish rule by José de San Martin on July 28, 1821, after the Peruvian War of Independence, a series of military conflicts that began in 1811, and the victorious Battle of Ayacucho in 1824 whereby affirming its independent status; and

WHEREAS, Peru has a wonderfully rich heritage and was home to ancient cultures including the *Inca Empire*, and the *Norte Chico* civilization, considered one of the oldest in the world, and it has evolved to include a multiethnic Peruvian population of approximately 34 million in twenty-five national regions and the Province of Lima; and

WHEREAS, the diverse city of Tampa, Florida is composed of many nationalities that upholds a spirit of multiculturalism, and the American citizens of Peruvian origin have greatly contributed to the Tampa Bay area by their generous philanthropy, cultural promotions, and active participation in educational, scientific, health, and other fields that enhance the community and quality of life of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is pleased to congratulate Peru, its citizens, and those of Peruvian descent in the Tampa Bay community and around the United States on this special 202nd Anniversary of Peru's Independence celebrated on July 28, 2023, and on Peru's dedication to freedom for over 200 years.

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, July 28, 2023 as

"PERU INDEPENDENCE DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and call upon our citizens to join me in acknowledging the journey that Peru has made as a country and celebrate its cultural richness and contributions to our community and to the world.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 21st day of July, 2023.

Mayor Mayor