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Jane Castor, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, Outback Steakhouse Restaurant opened its doors on March 15, 1988, in the city of Tampa, Florida on Henderson Boulevard, and was the vision of local entrepreneurs and hospitality industry veterans Chris Sullivan, Bob Basham, Tim Gannon, and Trudy Cooper; and

WHEREAS, with the Australian theme that fits the relaxed, friendly, and fun image, and the slogan "No Rules, Just Right" that speaks to the atmosphere that Outback Steakhouse takes food very seriously, but without taking themselves too seriously, they quickly became known as a place that provided quality food, outstanding service, and a restaurant that genuinely cared about the comfort and joy of their valued guests; and

**WHEREAS**, Outback Steakhouse has grown over the past 35 years to almost 900 locations across the United States of America and 13 international countries, it is a part of Bloomin' Brands, Inc., a publicly traded company that operates a portfolio of unique, founder-inspired brands, and has received international recognition for food and service including notably Newsweek Magazine's *America's Favorite Restaurant Chains – Steak* in 2023; and

WHEREAS, from its beginning, Outback Steakhouse has been strongly committed to improving the quality of life in the communities in which its restaurants and employees live, and supports local organizations and events to provide assistance, including local capital improvement projects with Feeding Tampa Bay to help feed food insecure neighbors, and the Skills Center to provide critical resources to address systemic challenges for the underserved area youth; and

WHEREAS, Outback Steakhouse has created a reputation of excellence over the past 35 years and its success is a direct result of its Principles and Beliefs that are a part of the organization's mission, and they include the tenet that people want to be a part of something they can be proud of, that is fun, and that includes and values them, and it is reflected in all aspects of the Outback Steakhouse business and how they take care of "Our People" – Outbackers, Customers, Suppliers, and the Community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Monday, August 28, 2023, as

## "OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating them on this special 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary occasion, thanking them for their commitment to the Tampa community and wishing them continued success.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, 28th day of August 2023.

Mayor

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