Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Hispanic men and women have played a significant role in the development and progress of the United States since October 12, 1492, when Christopher Columbus discovered America; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic explorers, pioneers and settlers established missions and settlements that became some of America's most important urban and cultural centers including the city of Tampa, Florida, where their contributions have substantially influenced our rich and unique history; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics have greatly enhanced our way of life in the fields of science, technology, politics, the arts, philanthropy, and other important areas, and continue to meet their challenges and responsibilities with dignity and a creative spirit; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans throughout the nation, because of their energetic commitment to hard work and determination to participate fully in the American dream, provide strength and inspiration to us all; and

WHEREAS, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc., a non-profit organization, was established in 1979 for the purpose of preserving, promoting and celebrating the diverse Hispanic culture of the Tampa Bay community, and to unite the voices of the growing Hispanic population in our region, and it accomplishes its objectives through its Leadership Classes where outstanding Hispanic leaders are recognized, the annual Hispanic Woman and Man of the Year Gala, Essay and Poster Contests, awarding scholarships through its Hillsborough Community College Endowment, and other important initiatives; and

WHEREAS, with the help of public and private partners, Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. continues with its mission and the tradition of recognizing those men and women in our community who represent excellence by their outstanding achievements, endeavors, and contributions, whereby enriching the lives of other Hispanics in our 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 the months of September, October, and November 2023 as

"HISPANIC HERITAGE SEASON"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to take part in the activities honoring the proud history of Hispanic people and thank and congratulate Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. for their many contributions for over four decades to our community.

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

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