

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, in honor of the *56th Anniversary* of the signing of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act, also known as the **Fair Housing Act**, April is designated as *Fair Housing Month* to bring attention to the landmark legislation that guarantees fair housing and equal opportunity for our nation's citizens concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin, enabling individuals to live free and in communities open and welcoming to everyone; and

WHEREAS, by supporting, promoting, and enforcing fair housing laws, as well as equal opportunity, we are contributing to the quality of our city, state, and nation by encouraging others to abide by the letter and the spirit of the national Fair Housing Act; and

WHEREAS, providing fair housing opportunities for all citizens is an essential goal of the City of Tampa, and it joins with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), concerned citizens, and the housing industry in working to realize the dream of fair and affordable housing for all city residents, and we celebrate the passage of the Fair Housing Act because diverse communities make all Americans stronger, living in healthy, robust neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is proud of its efforts to further fair housing and recognizes that this can only be accomplished through forging partnerships with other governmental agencies, corporations, for profit and non-profit organizations, entrepreneurs, and all persons interested in furthering fair housing, and the City of Tampa Office of Human Rights has worked for over five decades to advance the enjoyment of housing opportunities by enforcing local, state and federal anti-discrimination laws, and it constantly improves and refines its commitment to fair and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa Office of Human Rights is a member of the **Tampa Bay Fair Housing Consortium, Inc.**, whose mission includes affirmatively furthering fair housing through quality education and outreach programs, and in recognition of Fair Housing Month, the organization is hosting a *Fair Housing Symposium* on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the Tampa River Center in Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park, Tampa, Florida, featuring the theme *Advancing Fair Housing in Today's Market*, and the event includes networking, workshops, discussions, presentations and the conference topics include Fair Housing 101.

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 April 2024, as

“FAIR HOUSING MONTH”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to observe this month by preserving, supporting, and promoting each person's right to housing choice within their means without regard to their status, and to celebrate the Fair Housing Act that protects these rights under the law.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of March, 2024



Jane Castor

Mayor