

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; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Committee, comprised of current and retired City of Tampa employees, will be commemorating its 23rd anniversary this year at a celebration to be held at the Tampa Theatre on October 17, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Committee continues to this day its efforts to promote, conserve and educate others of our community's Hispanic culture and heritage and to celebrate and appreciate all employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, 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, 2011 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 to congratulate the members of the Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Committee for their many contributions to our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 1st day of October, 2011.

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Mayor