

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, secondhand smoke contains a deadly mixture of more than 7,000 chemicals, hundreds of which are toxic and, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, 69 are identified as those that can cause cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, each year approximately 2,520 non-smokers in Florida die primarily from exposure to secondhand smoke, and those exposed increase their risk of developing heart disease and lung cancer by up to thirty percent; and

**WHEREAS**, exposure to secondhand smoke doubles an infant's risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and children are more likely to have lung problems, ear infections and severe asthma from being around tobacco smoke, and more than forty percent of children who go to emergency rooms for asthma attacks live with a smoker and severe asthma attacks can put a child's life in danger; and

**WHEREAS**, Tobacco Free Florida is a statewide campaign and its mission is to educate the public about the health issues connected with secondhand smoke exposure, convey the importance of quitting tobacco use, promote tobacco use prevention, and strives for a smoke-free environment for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the focus of Tobacco Free Florida Week is to educate, empower, and inspire Floridians to seek out smoke-free air and understand the importance of creating a tobacco free environment for all citizens, and the City of Tampa is committed to the goals and objectives of the Tobacco Free Florida Week campaign.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 26 to April 1, 2012 as

## ***"TOBACCO FREE FLORIDA WEEK"***

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in supporting efforts to protect our city, state and nation's citizens from second hand smoke.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

