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Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality through programs of community services, advocacy, research and education; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes has made a real difference in saving babies' lives by funding cutting edge research that leads to lifesaving treatments for fatal birth defects, programs to ensure that more pregnant women and babies can get health services, and education for all Americans about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and prenatal care; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes, Tampa Bay Division is a valuable organization for the city of Tampa and the families of the community through its endeavors to embrace those who have experienced the birth of a premature baby or a baby born with a birth defect by forming a support system; and

WHEREAS, The March of Dimes holds an annual campaign that puts a face on the March of Dimes mission and provides an avenue to raise public awareness and funding, and more than \$2 billion has been raised since it began in 1970; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes serving the Tampa Bay area is hosting the March for Babies walk on April 28, 2012 at the Tampa Bay Times Forum, and funds raised during this event will assist the March of Dimes efforts in continuing their work to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2012 as

"MARCH FOR BABIES DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all residents to join me in thanking The March of Dimes for their commitment to the babies and their families of our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 28th day of April, 2012.

Bob Buchhow