

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, Medicare is a federal government social insurance program signed into law on July 30, 1965 that guarantees access to health insurance for Americans ages 65 years of age and older, and younger people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, as our nation's largest health insurance program, 49 million Americans are currently enrolled in Medicare with more than 181,400 Hillsborough County residents currently eligible, and it is estimated that approximately 10,000 baby boomers will turn 65 years old every day for the next decade; and

WHEREAS, because of its size, Medicare is complex and can be confusing, and as the Medicare-eligible population quickly grows, there will be an even greater number of people in need of clear information so that they will have an understanding of what is available to them; and

WHEREAS, National Medicare Week was established to inspire and encourage Medicare beneficiaries, as well as their families and caregivers, to become educated about their health care options; and

WHEREAS, taking the time to learn about Medicare during National Medicare Education Week can help citizens feel prepared to make informed, confident health care decisions during the Open Enrollment Period, which occurs October 15 through December 7 annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 15-22, 2012 as

“NATIONAL MEDICARE EDUCATION WEEK”

in the City of Tampa, Florida and encourage all Medicare-eligible citizens in our community, as well as across the nation, to educate themselves on the health care options available so that they may make informed choices.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, on this 31st day of August, 2012.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

