

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, 2014 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the landmark legislation, the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**, which prohibits discrimination in a broad array of conduct including public accommodations, governmental services, and education to improve the life for African Americans and other American minority groups; and

**WHEREAS**, after the longest debate in its nearly 180-year history, the United States Senate passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 on June 19<sup>th</sup> and thirteen days later, on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the United States House of Representatives passed the bill with President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the bill into law that same evening, realizing the dream of his predecessor, the late President John F. Kennedy, and many others who worked and sacrificed for it to become a reality; and

**WHEREAS**, the major features of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 addressed the outlawing of discrimination and encouraged desegregation, and while the Act did not resolve all of the problems of discrimination, it was the catalyst to implement progress for those who struggled against prejudice and injustice including providing more job opportunities, strengthening voting laws and lessening racial restrictions on the use of public facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits employment discrimination based on race, sex, color, religion, and national origin, and it applies to private employers, labor unions and employment agencies in recruitment, hiring, wages, assignment, promotions, benefits, discipline, discharge, layoffs and in almost every aspect of employment, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), a five-member, bipartisan commission whose mission is to eliminate unlawful employment discrimination was established under Title VII on July 2, 1965; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to enforcing Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the City of Tampa's Community Affairs Division provides the public the opportunity to file discrimination complaints in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodations through its enforcement of the City of Tampa's Human Rights Ordinance along with other state and federal laws; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 2, 2014, on the occasion of the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**, the City of Tampa joins with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Hillsborough County Equal Opportunity Office to commemorate this historic and important event.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim July 2, 2014 as

## **"CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DAY"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in honoring those that sacrificed to bring this law into place and thanking the efforts of those who are dedicated to enforcing and protecting the rights of all citizens.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor