

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the **Federative Republic of Brazil**, is the largest country in both South America and Latin America, and it gained independence from the Portuguese Empire after more than three centuries of colonial dominance on September 7, 1822, proclaimed by Prince Pedro on the shores of the Ipiranga River; and

WHEREAS, Brazil, whose official language is Portuguese, is a melting pot of nationalities and home to a multicultural population of more than 207 million people, and one of the most diverse cultures in the world, which has contributed to its rich heritage and unique society; and

WHEREAS, a country well-known for its beauty, Brazil is the world's fifth-largest country, covering 47.3 percent of the South American continent with a coastline of 4,655 miles, and its Amazon River Basin includes a vast tropical rain forest that is home to an abundance of wildlife and a variety of ecological systems, natural resources and protected habitats; and

WHEREAS, Porto Alegre, Brazil and Tampa, Florida became Sister Cities on October 24, 2013 to foster friendship, understanding and to encourage mutually beneficial opportunities, and Tampa is proud of its diversity that is composed of many nationalities, and those of Brazilian heritage residing in our community have contributed substantially to the city's culture and to its success through civic participation, economic development, the arts, science, education, philanthropically, and many other ways that enhance the quality of life for the residents; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the **195th Anniversary of Brazil's Independence**, the Brazil-Florida Business Council will host a **Brazil Day Reception** at the Tampa Club on Thursday, September 7, 2017, and the event will offer the opportunity to celebrate and bring awareness to the history and culture of Brazil; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is pleased to congratulate Brazil, its citizens, and those of Brazilian descent in the Tampa Bay community on this special Independence Anniversary Celebration, and on Brazil's dedication to its freedom for the past 195 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Thursday, September 7, 2017 as

"BRAZIL INDEPENDENCE DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and call upon our citizens to join me in acknowledging the journey that Brazil has made as a country, and celebrate its cultural richness and contributions to the world.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 29th day of August, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor