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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the United States of America's Armed Forces have served this nation in times of peace and war, and in doing so, have thereby assured the safety and prosperity of all her citizens, and Tampa, Florida is fortunate and proud to be home to MacDill Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, **Armed Forces Day** was created in August 1949, by Louis Johnson (1891-1966) who served as the United States Secretary of State, and the first official celebration was held on May 20, 1950, featured the theme *Teamed for Defense*; and

WHEREAS, recognized on the third Saturday in May, this year occurring on May 18, 2019, Armed Forces Day was created to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days following the unification of the armed forces under the Department of Defense, and it now commemorates all branches of the United States Military on one day annually; and

WHEREAS, Armed Forces Day provides a day to bring awareness to the public about the military, the vital role they play, their contributions to the community, its important history in the protection in the nation, and it allows an opportunity for all Americans to honor and thank the service men and women, and civilian personnel for their efforts, sacrifices, and dedication serving in the name of freedom and ensuring the United States' way of life; and

WHEREAS, locally, on Saturday, May 18, 2019, American Legion Posts throughout the Tampa Bay area will take time to thank the nation's service members for their commitment to the United States of America and in the protection of each of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 18, 2019 as

"ARMED FORCES DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in honoring, recognizing, and thanking the members of United States Armed Forces every day.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 9th day of May, 2019.

Mayor

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