

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, Tampa, Florida is has a unique culture and rich heritage, and our city is proud to be well-known globally as a diverse and inclusive community, and celebrates all its citizens, businesses and organizations for the contributions and positive impact they make within our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the **Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber**, previously known as the Tampa Bay Gay and Lesbian Chamber and the Tampa Bay Diversity Chamber of Commerce, was established on January 20, 1983, and it serves the Florida counties of Hillsborough, Hernando, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber includes advancing common business interests, economic growth, and equality in the workplace and in society for its LGBT and allied businesses, corporations, and professional members by providing educational and networking opportunities, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, for well over three decades, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber has been the voice of the Tampa Bay region for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender business community representing more than 250 businesses, community groups and individuals, and the organization serves as a business advocate and important link between business and government in an effort to promote equality and opportunity for everyone; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber accomplishes its goals involving membership, economic opportunities, community engagement, empowerment and advancements through events including the Diamonds in Diversity Gala, the annual Membership Luncheon, and the Breakfast N' Learn Series, Community Roundtables, Supplier Diversity Initiatives and Pride in Business programs, and it hosted the prestigious National LGBT Chamber of Commerce International Business and Leadership Conference in Tampa, Florida in August 2019; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 17, 2020, the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber is hosting its inaugural **State of the Chamber Annual Luncheon** at the Centre Club in Tampa, Florida, and the event includes a Member Marketplace, Recognition of Community Leaders, and it provides the opportunity to celebrate its vast accomplishments for over thirty-five years, and to plan for continued success in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim Friday, January 17, 2020 as

“TAMPA BAY LGBT CHAMBER DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join in respecting the rights of all people, and celebrate the diversity and richness of our city by supporting the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber and thank them for their contributions to our community over the years.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 17th day of January, 2020.



Jane Castor

Mayor