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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, as the citizens of the United States of America enjoy their freedoms and the right to pursue happiness and prosperity, they should be mindful of the sacrifices made by the men and women who bravely served, and continue to serve the nation in protection of our precious liberty and way of life; and

WHEREAS, the American Veterans of the United States Armed Forces have served their country in times of peace and war, and their sacrifices and brave efforts have protected the rights and safety of all American citizens, and they are owed our gratitude and support; and

WHEREAS, founded on September 25, 1920, the **Disabled American Veterans** (DAV) is a leading nonprofit charity that provides lifetime support for veterans of all generations and their families including widows, widowers, and orphaned children, and for a century the DAV has been a strong and influential advocate for veterans' rights; and

WHEREAS, the Disabled American Veteran organization is dedicated to its purpose of empowering veterans and their families so they may lead high-quality lives, and in obtaining benefits and services they have earned through their military service that is provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government, and it assists more than one million veterans each year in positive, life-changing ways; and

WHEREAS, the DAV provides professional assistance, representation before federal, state and local governments, advocation for critical VA caregiver benefits and services, has created a volunteer corps and a job fair program, supplies emergency assistance through the DAV Disaster Relief Program, offers school assistance through the Jesse Brown Memorial Youth Scholarship program, and so much more; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is pleased to congratulate the Disabled American Veterans organization on their milestone 100th Anniversary and is appreciative of all they do on behalf of our nation's veterans.

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, September 25, 2020 as

"DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to thank the Disabled American Veterans organization for providing the veterans of our nation with the services, opportunities and support they have earned through their selfless service to our country, and to show gratitude to them and active military members for their dedication to the United States of America on behalf of us all.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 25th day of September, 2020.

Dave Contar Mayor