

# Proclamation



*Jane Castor, Mayor*

**WHEREAS, Nurse Practitioners (NPs)** are registered nurses with extensive education and clinical training who have earned graduate degrees including Masters and Doctorates, and are qualified to treat certain medical conditions without the direct supervision of a doctor, and in the United States, there are over 290,000 licensed Nurse Practitioners, with 18,000 in the state of Florida; and

**WHEREAS,** Nurse Practitioners are highly skilled, and they assess and evaluate health status, perform and interpret diagnostic tests, diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions, and they prescribe medications, therapies, and treatments. In 22 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, Nurse Practitioners are granted Full Practice Authority, giving patients more direct access to the primary, acute, and specialty care service that NPs provide; and

**WHEREAS,** Nurse Practitioners are committed to excellence, safety, and cost-effectiveness for their patients, and they provide health care to people of all ages and in diverse settings including private office practice, hospitals, long-term and managed care facilities, schools, state and local health departments, and retail-based clinics, and they focus on health promotion, disease prevention, health education, counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices, and they are dedicated to expanding access to underserved communities, ending health disparities and combating systemic racism in health care; and

**WHEREAS,** the **Tampa Bay Advanced Practice Nurses Council**, an affiliate of the **Florida Nurse Practitioner Network** and the **American Association of Nurse Practitioners**, is committed to improving the health status of all Tampa area residents, and its mission is to stimulate, support, and promote the profession and business development of advanced nurse practitioners, and provide and facilitate better access and education on the latest healthcare options to improve the healthcare needs for multi-cultural groups; and

**WHEREAS, *National Nurse Practitioner Week*** is held annually to celebrate the dedication of Nurse Practitioners, provide an opportunity to bring recognition to their role, and increase awareness of the exceptional contributions they make to the health of millions of Americans, and this year in 2020, special recognition is given to NP's across the nation for their tireless efforts in treating those patients diagnosed with COVID-19 and combating the disease's spread, and in honoring those NP's who have lost their lives during the pandemic in service of others.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim November 8-14, 2020 as

## ***“NATIONAL NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing this dedicated group of health care professionals and in thanking them for the many contributions they make to the health and well-being of the citizens of our community and nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.



*Jane Castor*  
Mayor