Proclamation

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life, and nationally, April has been designated as Donate Life Month to recognize, honor organ and tissue donors, and bring awareness to the miracle of transplantation; and

WHEREAS, more than 39,700 Americans receive a lifesaving organ transplant every year, and more than 112,000 men, women and children are currently on the national waiting list for organ transplantation, with nearly 5,800 of those waiting in the West and Southwest Florida area; and

WHEREAS, a new patient is added to the national patient waiting list for an organ transplant approximately every ten minutes, and an average of 22 people die every day awaiting an organ transplant that did not arrive in time; and

WHEREAS, just one organ, tissue, and eye donor can save or enhance the lives of as many as 75 individuals, profoundly impacting each recipient, bringing a renewed quality of life and joy to them and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, everyone is a potential organ, tissue, and eye donor regardless of age, race or medical history, and people can register their wish to save lives through Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry at the ***www.DonateLifeFlorida.org*** website, or on their driver license or state identification card; and

WHEREAS, **LifeLink Foundation of Tampa** is a non-profit community service organization dedicated to the recovery of life-saving and life-enhancing organs and tissue for transplantation therapy, working in a sensitive, diligent, and compassionate manner, and the City of Tampa supports its lifesaving mission.

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

"DONATE LIFE MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, in honor of all those who have made the decision to give life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ donation and to encourage all Tampa Bay residents to consider giving life through organ donation, and to sign up on Florida's Organ and Tissue Donor Registry when renewing their driver's license or state identification card.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 2nd day of March, 2020.

Jane Castor

Mayor