

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the **National Federation of the Blind (NFB)** was established in 1940, and is an organization that believes in the full capacity of blind people and utilizes power, influence, diversity and determination to help transform dreams into reality; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Association of the Blind is not an organization speaking for the blind, but is the blind speaking for themselves, and its elected leaders and membership believe individuals can live the life they want and that blindness does not hold them back from realizing their dreams and aspirations; and

**WHEREAS**, through the NFB organization, people find hope and a way to move forward after vision loss, have access to local and national networks for support and information relating to living, working, learning and thriving as a blind person, work with other blind individuals to change misconceptions about blindness, learn about technology that enhances an active and productive life as a blind person, and make valuable friendships; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Federation of the Blind has affiliates throughout the United States including the **National Federation of the Blind of Florida (NFBF)** with chapters throughout the state including the local Tampa Bay Chapter, and its motto is *Live the life you want*, and

**WHEREAS**, the Tampa Bay Chapter is hosting the National Federation of the Blind of Florida's 2016 State Convention on January 15-18, 2016 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Tampa Westshore Hotel with the theme *Building the Federation* and the event's mission is to achieve widespread emotional acceptance and intellectual understanding that the real problem of blindness is not the loss of eyesight, but the misconceptions and lack of information which exists, and this goal is accomplished by bringing blind people together to share successes, to support each other and to create imaginative solutions.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim Saturday, January 16, 2016 as

## ***“NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF FLORIDA DAY”***

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in thanking local, state and national leaders and members of the National Federation of the Blind for their dedication and commitment to improving the quality of life for blind and visually impaired individuals.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

