

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, founded in 1959 by the Brass City detachment of the Marine Corps League in Waterbury, Connecticut, the **Young Marines** is a community based youth program for boys and girls ages eight through completion of high school, and its motto is *Strengthening the lives of America's Youth*; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops them into responsible citizens who enjoy and advocate a healthy, drug-free lifestyle, and the organization is dedicated to promoting the mental, moral and physical development of its members, and the Young Marine's National Program has been honored with the United States Secretary of Defense's *Fulcrum Shield Award* for its efforts in developing responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, an important initiative of the Young Marines is *Closing the Gate on Drugs*, and the efforts include raising awareness and demanding reduction of common gateway drugs such as tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, prescription drugs and marijuana that are either in homes or neighborhoods, and are often easily accessed by children and young adults; and

WHEREAS, included in the Closing the Gate on Drugs campaign are product and information packages available to the Young Marine members to deploy the initiative into their communities in order to reach out to their peers, and it has a positive impact in communities nationwide, including the Tampa, Florida region through the efforts of the **Tampa Bay Young Marines**; and

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week was established by the United States Congress in 1988 to encourage a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention and reduction efforts, and the Young Marine organization believes that one person can make a difference through their commitment to its motto *Our Mission is Possible to Live in a Drug Free Community* and to *Impacting America's future – one Young Marine at a time*.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 23-31, 2017 as

"RED RIBBON WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking the members of this organization for their many contributions to the youth of our nation, and to show their support of this important program by wearing a red ribbon during Red Ribbon Week.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 17th day of October, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

City of
Tampa
Florida