

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, in honor of the *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* of the signing of Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act, also known as the **Fair Housing Act**, and in remembrance of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968, April is designated as *Fair Housing Month* to bring attention to the landmark legislation that has guaranteed fair housing and equal opportunity for our nation's citizens concerning the sale, rental and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin, handicap and sex, enabling individuals to live free and in communities open and welcoming to everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, providing fair housing opportunities for all citizens is an essential goal of the City of Tampa, and it joins with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, concerned citizens, and the housing industry in working to realize the dream of fair and affordable housing for all city residents and in celebration of the passage of the Fair Housing Act because diverse communities make all Americans stronger to live in healthy, robust neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tampa is proud of its efforts to further fair housing and recognizes that this can only be accomplished through forging partnerships with other governmental agencies, corporations, for profit and non-profit organizations, entrepreneurs, and all persons interested in furthering fair housing, and the City of Tampa Office of Human Rights has worked for more than forty years to advance the enjoyment of housing opportunities by enforcing local, state and federal anti-discrimination laws, and it constantly improves and refines its commitment to fair and affordable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, in celebration of **Fair Housing Month**, the Tampa Bay Fair Housing Consortium is hosting a *Fair Housing Symposium* on Friday, April 20, 2018 at the Pinellas Realtor Organization, and the mission of the all-day event is to honor the past, embrace the present and prepare for the future in the entire Tampa Bay area, and to recognize the right of all persons to live in a strong, sustainable and inclusive community; and

**WHEREAS**, by supporting, promoting and enforcing fair housing laws, as well as equal opportunity, we are contributing to the quality of our city, state, and nation by encouraging others to abide by the letter and the spirit of the federal Fair Housing Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2018 as

## **“FAIR HOUSING MONTH”**

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to observe this month by recognizing, preserving and promoting each person's right to housing choice within their means without regard to their status, and to celebrate the Fair Housing Act that protects these rights under the law.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

