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Jane Castor, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, Apprenticeship can be defined as job training for novices and inexperienced individuals that involves following and studying a master of a trade while on the job, and typically the apprentice is earning a wage while learning the required skills and techniques; and

**WHEREAS**, *Independent Apprenticeships* are those organized and managed by employers without involvement from educational institutions, and *Cooperative Apprenticeships* are organized and managed in cooperation between educational institutions and employers; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the skilled trades that rely on apprenticeship programs are machinists, welders, plumbers, electricians, cabinet makers, mechanics, and more, and they play a critical roles in the manufacturing, construction, automotive, aircraft, and repair industries, all a vital part of our nation's workforce, and important components to our nation's productivity and success; and

WHEREAS, typically, once an apprentice has completed the training, the pay scale can be substantial with many opportunities for advancements, and currently there is a shortage of skilled workers in our nation due to many employed in the trades reaching retirement age, creating opportunities for people to become apprentices and learn a new and lucrative trade; and

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) was established by the United States Department of Labor five years ago to celebrate apprenticeship, and to give businesses, communities, and educators the opportunity to showcase their apprenticeship programs while providing valuable information to career seekers; and

WHEREAS, established in 1957, the Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc. (IEC) is a nationally recognized trade association with 76 Chapters across the United States including locally, the Florida West Coast Chapter whose mission is to advance programs and increase the available skilled labor in the Tampa Bay area, and they lead apprenticeship programs within the region including at Hillsborough Community College where, in recognition of National Apprenticeship Week, the organization is hosting a *Building and Construction Trades Apprenticeship Career Fair* on Wednesday, November 6, 2019.

**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 11-17, 2019 as

## "NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the contributions apprenticeship programs and the participants play in providing those skilled services that enhance the quality of life for communities nationwide.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 25th day of October, 2019.

Jane Castar Mayor