## PROCLAMATION OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMING MAY 19 – 25, 2024 AS NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK IN SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, the vitality of Seminole County's economy is significantly enhanced by the travel and tourism sector, which brings cultural enrichment and economic benefits and fosters community pride; and

**WHEREAS**, Seminole County is renowned for its natural beauty, cultural attractions, and hospitality, offering a diverse range of activities and experiences that appeal to tourists of all ages and interests, from scenic parks and recreational areas to historical sites and modern entertainment venues; and

**WHEREAS**, the tourism industry in Seminole County not only enriches the quality of life for its residents but also acts as a significant economic catalyst, fueling the area's progress and prosperity through the creation of jobs, expansion of businesses, and influx of investments; and

**WHEREAS**, travel to and within Seminole County generated \$4.2 billion in economic impact, provided \$192.2 million in state and local taxes, and supported more than 27,600 jobs for local residents in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, in Fiscal Year 2022/23, Seminole County surpassed the previous fiscal year's Tourist Development Tax collections by over 30.8%; and

**WHEREAS**, Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association (CFHLA) is the largest regional hospitality association in the United States representing more than 129,500 hotel rooms throughout the Central Florida Region, as well as nearly 500 "supplier" organizations that do business with the hospitality and tourism industries; and

**WHEREAS**, CFHLA plays a pivotal role in bolstering and promoting the tourism industry in Seminole County through its representation of a vast network of hospitality entities, thereby enhancing the region's allure to visitors from across the globe; and

**WHEREAS**, the collaborative efforts of CFHLA, local small businesses, governmental entities, and community partners are essential to the continued success and expansion of Seminole County's tourism industry, ensuring a welcoming environment for all who visit; and

**WHEREAS**, National Travel and Tourism Week is an opportune time to celebrate the achievements of the travel and tourism industry in Seminole County, acknowledge the ongoing efforts of CFHLA and its members, and reaffirm our commitment to making Seminole County a top destination for travelers;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED* that we, the Seminole Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, May 19– 25, 2024 as:

## NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK IN SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADOPTED this 14th day of May 2024.

Jay Zembower, Chairman Seminole County, Board of County Commissioners