PROCLAMATION OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMING MAY 4 – 10, 2025 AS NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK IN SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the travel and tourism industry plays a vital role in strengthening Seminole County's economy—generating revenue, creating employment opportunities, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike and

WHEREAS, tourism generated over \$4.1 billion in economic impact for Seminole County and supports approximately 26,200 jobs for our local residents in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Seminole County has emerged as a premier destination for sports tourism, welcoming athletes, teams, and spectators for tournaments, training, and events that energize the local economy and showcase the region's top-tier facilities and hospitality and

WHEREAS, the county's abundant natural beauty—including its scenic rivers, lush parks, and protected wildlife areas—continues to draw nature enthusiasts, outdoor adventurers, and eco-tourists, reinforcing Seminole County's reputation as Florida's Natural Choice and

WHEREAS, tourism in Seminole County provided more than \$320 million in state and local taxes in 2023, which resulted in nearly \$1,700 in annual tax savings for each family household; and

WHEREAS, the strong partnerships between CFHLA, local businesses, government leaders, and community stakeholders remain critical to fostering a thriving tourism economy and ensuring Seminole County remains a warm, inviting place for visitors year-round; and

WHEREAS, the 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, National Travel and Tourism Week offers a meaningful opportunity in 2025 to honor the accomplishments of Seminole County's travel and tourism community, highlight the continued efforts of CFHLA and its partners, and reaffirm our dedication to growing the county's presence as a must-visit destination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that we, the Seminole Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, May 4– 10, 2025 as:

NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

in Seminole County, Florida, and encourage residents to celebrate National Travel and Tourism Week, support workforce development in the hospitality and tourism industries, and participate in local initiatives highlighting travel's importance to our community's economic growth and quality of life.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2025.