

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the travel and tourism industry is among the nation’s largest services export industries and one of America’s largest employers, supporting millions of jobs; and

WHEREAS, tourism within the State of Florida is the number one industry and is responsible for welcoming tens of millions of visitors every year; and

WHEREAS, for every 81 visitors to the State of Florida, there is one job created in the state; and

WHEREAS, travel and tourism in Marion County supports thousands of industry jobs; and

WHEREAS, travel and tourism in Marion County offsets hundreds of dollars annually in household taxes for Marion County residents; and

WHEREAS, travel and tourism has been negatively impacted due to COVID-19 pandemic, and Marion County continues to support efforts towards the road to recovery; and

WHEREAS, Marion County launched a multifaceted tourism recovery campaign inspiring Floridians to imagine their next vacation in Marion County and marketing, for the first time, to locals, encouraging residents to get out and support local hospitality businesses; and

WHEREAS, sports travel and tourism alone brought millions of dollars in direct economic impact to Marion County since the launch of the tourism recovery campaign in June 2020; and

WHEREAS, hotel occupancy in Marion County has started returning to pre-pandemic rates; and

WHEREAS, the rebound of travel will continue to play a major role in driving economic recovery;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim the week of **May 2 – May 8, 2021** be known as

“NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK”

DULY PROCLAIMED this 4th day of **May, 2021**.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

JEFF GOLD, CHAIRMAN

CARL ZALAK, III, VICE-CHAIR

KATHY BRYANT, COMMISSIONER

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER