

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE NATION'S OLDEST PORT HERITAGE AREA ALLIANCE IN ITS PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Wexford Strategies have provided information to the St. Johns County Board of County Commission on the Nation's Oldest Port Heritage Area Alliance; and

**WHEREAS**, National Heritage Areas function like business enterprise zones. They work through coordination and promotion, not regulation. They leverage resources and provide grants and technical support to communities interested in preserving and celebrating their heritage resources, but do not adversely affect those who are not interested; and

**WHEREAS**, starting in 2007, community members and organizations, known as the Nation's Oldest Port Heritage Area Alliance, have met to share how rich the maritime landscape, converging waterways and the Atlantic Ocean have uniquely shaped the culture and traditions of the Northeast Florida's Nassau, Duval, St. Johns and Flagler Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal is to celebrate the heritage and natural resources of the region and to recognize this area as a special place in America; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nation's Oldest Port Heritage Area Alliance is dedicated to connecting residents and visitors with historic, cultural, natural, recreational, educational, and scenic assets for the region through education, preservation, and promotion of the area's distinctive stories, resources and traditions; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve this goal, the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum and the Heritage Area Alliance are working together to prepare heritage products, *per Nation's Oldest Port Heritage Area Alliance Brochure ("Brochure")*, attached as Exhibit A.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:**

1. The above recitals are hereby adopted as findings of fact.
2. The Board of County Commissioners supports the Nation's Oldest Port Heritage Area Alliance, seeking to preserve and celebrate America's defining landscapes and diverse cultural traditions, and to stimulate economic growth within its proposed boundaries by establishing a National Heritage Area as described by the Brochure.
3. To the extent that there are typographical and/or administrative errors and/or omissions that do not change the tone, tenor, or context of this Resolution, then this Resolution may be revised without subsequent approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida this 18th day of June, 2013.

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Pam Halterman  
Deputy Clerk

By: [Signature]  
John H. Morris, Chair

Rendition Date: 6/20/13

Effective Date: 6/20/13

