

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, in 1776, nearly 300,000 Irish nationals emigrated to the American colonies and played a crucial role in America's War for Independence including eight signers of the Declaration of Independence that were either of Irish decent or Irish born; and,

**WHEREAS**, over the years, Irish Americans have continually provided leadership and service to this nation's political, business and religious establishments and shaped our nation's history with their outstanding achievements; and,

**WHEREAS**, when the Irish arrived in Spanish "*La Florida*" in the 1500s, they worked as missionaries, mercenary soldiers, planters, traders, businessmen, doctors and administrators but quickly became powerful political leaders with three Irish military officers becoming Spanish Governors and Andrew Jackson serving as Florida's military governor following its acquisition by the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, Fr. Richard Arthur, an Irish-born priest from Limerick who was appointed parish priest for St. Augustine in 1597 and ecclesiastical judge of "*La Florida*," established the first public school in America and opened it to both boys and girls of all races; and

**WHEREAS**, twenty-two Presidents have proudly proclaimed their Irish American heritage; and,

**WHEREAS**, with the many valuable contributions of Irish Americans to our nation, it is only fitting that we celebrate their rich cultural heritage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA** does hereby recognize March as

### **IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED**, in regular session, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, A.D., 2026.

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THAD ALTMAN, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

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RACHEL SADOFF, CLERK