

Resolution

WHEREAS, by 1776 nearly 300,000 Irish nationals had emigrated to the American colonies and played a crucial role in America's War for Independence; and

WHEREAS, Irish-Americans helped to fashion a system of government for our Nation as evidenced by eight signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Irish origin and twenty-two Presidents have proudly proclaimed their Irish-American heritage; and

WHEREAS, in 1792 Irish-born James Hoban designed the architectural plans for the White House and served as one of the supervising architects for the construction of the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Irish-born Commodore John Barry was recognized by the United States Congress in September of 2002 as the "First Flag Officer of the United States Navy" and fought the last sea battle of the American Revolutionary War off the coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, the five Sullivan brothers made the ultimate sacrifice for democracy and freedom during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal and later had the destroyer USS Sullivan commissioned in their memory; and

WHEREAS, the Irish first came to Spanish "*La Florida*" in the 1500s and Irish-Floridians can look back with pride on the legacy of their Irish forebears who have contributed to American education, business, sports, literature, science, engineering, medicine, science and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Irish-Americans, since America's inception, have provided and continue to provide leadership and service to this nation's political, business and religious establishments; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to celebrate the rich cultural heritage and the valuable contributions of Irish-Americans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA does hereby proclaim the Month of March as

Irish-American Heritage Month

Done, Ordered, and Adopted, in regular session, this 10th day of March 2020.