

**RESOLUTION OF THE PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
IN SUPPORT OF THE  
RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES  
COVID-19 RESTART SUPPORT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, PALM BEACH NORTH BUSINESSES ARE FACING PERHAPS THE GREATEST ECONOMIC CHALLENGES IN A CENTURY;

**WHEREAS**, THE RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES HAVE BEEN DEVASTATED BY COVID-19 AND RELATED MANDATORY SHUTDOWNS AND OCCUPANCY LIMITATIONS;

**WHEREAS**, WHEREAS, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF JOBS HAVE BEEN LOST IN PALM BEACH COUNTY IN THE RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES;

**WHEREAS**, PALM BEACH COUNTY WILL BE ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR DESTANTIS TO BEGIN LIFTING RESTRICTIONS ON RESTAURANTS AS EARLY AS MAY 11, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE INITIAL RE-OPENING OF RESTAURANTS WILL LIMIT INTERIOR SEATING TO 25% OF THE EXISTING APPROVED OCCUPANCY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT ALONG WITH OTHER SOCIAL DISTANCING AND PROTECTIVE MEASURES;

**WHEREAS**, WHILE THE LIMITS MAY BE RELAXED OVER TIME, BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM APPLICABLE HEALTH AUTHORITIES AND CONSUMER SAFETY NORMS ARE EXPECTED TO PREVAIL LONG AFTER LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED;

**WHEREAS**, THE ECONOMIC DEVASTATION IS RESULTING IN SIGNIFICANT HARDSHIP FOR THESE INDUSTRIES AND MANY BUSINESS CLOSURES;

**WHEREAS**, THE SEASONAL RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES WILL HAVE TO TRY TO ENDURE A NEGATIVE CASH FLOW DURING THE PERIOD OF JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER, AND THIS IS DIFFICULT EVEN WHEN OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY;

**WHEREAS**, MANY NORTH COUNTY BUSINESSES ALSO FACE THE TURMOIL SURE TO BE CREATE BY THE MULTI-YEAR CLOSURE OF THE US HIGHWAY ONE BRIDGE OVER THE LOXAHATCHEE RIVER;

**WHEREAS**, REDUCED OCCUPANCY, SOCIAL DISTANCING, INCREASED COSTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND PERSONNEL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND RISING FOOD COSTS RESULTING FROM DISRUPTIONS IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN WILL CONTINUE TO CRIPPLE THE INDUSTRIES;

**WHEREAS**, THE APPLICABLE AUTHORITY ORDERS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES, INCLUDING THE CRITICAL COVID-19 GUIDANCE STANDARDS FOR HOSPITALITY REOPENING DEVELOPED BY THE FLORIDA RESTAURANT AND LODGING

ASSOCIATION ENDORSE PRACTICES TO BE ADOPTED BY THE INDUSTRIES FOUND IN THE ATTACHED RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES COVID-19 RESTART SUPPORT PLAN;

**WHEREAS**, THE PLAN CONTAINS RECOMMENDED ACCOMODATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTED BY OUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES AND THE COUNTY IN AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE AS MANY OF OUR BUSINESSES AND JOBS AS POSSIBLE AND CREATE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PUBLIC TO REGAIN CONFIDENCE TO PATRONIZE LOCAL BUSINESS AND RENGAGE IN LEISURE ACTIVITIES; AND

**WHEREAS**, MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO IMMEDIATELY ISSUE EMERGENCY ORDERS PROVIDED FOR THE RELAXATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS OVER AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY RETURNS TO PRE-PANDEMIC ECONOMIC LEVELS.

**NOW, THEREFORE** BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT:

**THE PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENCOURAGES THE MUNICIPALITIES IN PALM BEACH NORTH AND PALM BEACH COUNTY TO IMPLEMENT THE RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES COVID-19 RESTART SUPPORT PLAN IN ORDER TO:**

- **PROVIDE RESIDENTS SAFE PLACES TO EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY**
- **PROVIDE PEOPLE WITH GREATER CONFIDENCE IN THE SAFETY OF BUSINESS**
- **SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES IN TIME OF NEED**
- **SUPPORT EMPLOYMENT – IN THE RESTAURANT AND HOSPITALITY INDUSTRIES**
- **SUPPORT BUSINESS STARTUPS**
- **SUPPORT BUSINESS THAT WILL BE DEVESTAED BY THE IMPENDING US HIGHWAY ONE BRIDGE WORK IN NORTH COUNTY**
- **SUPPORT TAX BASE GROWTH**

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

By: N. (M.S)

Its: President and CEO