



MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE STATE PORT AT GULFPORT

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER ACKNOWLEDGING AND ENDORSING THE RESTORATION AND REDEVELOPMENT CONCEPT AS ADOPTED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AT GULFPORT.

WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina struck the Mississippi Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, and with neighboring states caused the greatest natural disaster ever to occur in the State of Mississippi and the United States, including almost complete destruction of the facilities and infrastructure of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi World Trade Center is dedicated to assisting Mississippi businesses with all aspects of international trade; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the Mississippi World Trade Center and its members that restoration and redevelopment of the Port at Gulfport from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina is essential to the continued economic recovery and development of the entire State; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners for the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport has adopted a concept that focuses on restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities in such a way as to maintain and protect investment by existing customers at the Port and facilitate and maximize the future growth of Port operations through private investment; and

WHEREAS, the restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities would allow and accommodate future growth of Port facilities which could bring new and better jobs, a higher quality of life, and economic development and business opportunities to the entire State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi World Trade Center believes restoration and redevelopment plan for the State Port at Gulfport aligns with and enhances our organization's mission to assist Mississippi businesses with international trade, as well as furthers international waterborne commerce to and from the State of Mississippi; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi World Trade Center does hereby express its support for the concept adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the State Port at Gulfport.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Hendrix". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John Hendrix, MSWTC Board President