

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE 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 Economic Development Authority of Jones County has as its mission the betterment of the quality of life for all citizens of Jones County through job creation and the creation of wealth; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the Economic Development Authority of Jones County and its members that restoration and redevelopment of the Port at Gulfport is essential to the continued economic recovery and development of the entire State from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina; 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; facilitate and maximize the future growth of Port operations through private investment; and at the same time, seeks to minimize community displacement, disruption and intrusion caused by future storms; 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 business and economic development opportunities across Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Authority of Jones County finds that the plan for restoration and redevelopment of the State Port at Gulfport aligns with and enhances our organization's mission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Economic Development Authority of Jones County 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.

On Behalf of the Board of Directors,



Marlo Dorsey, Chair

Signed this 18th day of November, 2009, as approved by the Board of Directors 11/17/09.