

**RESOLUTION OF GULFPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY'S RESTORATION
PLAN AND THE USE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS
FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PORT**

WHEREAS, the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit corporation formed for the purpose of supporting and resourcing businesses and advocating business interests in the City of Gulfport and across the Mississippi Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport is critical to the economic revitalization of the City and the entire Gulf Coast Region; and

WHEREAS, the MSPA's Restoration Plan would enhance the competitive position of the Port in the maritime marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the Port would provide necessary and valuable stimulus to the overall Coast economy and, more particularly, engender the revitalization of numerous existing Gulfport businesses and foster a climate conducive to the investment in and development of new businesses across the City and especially in the downtown district;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce that the Chamber does hereby support the redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport and further requests that the Mississippi Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Urban Development approve the use of Community Development Block Grant funds for this project.

This is the 19th Day of February, 2009.



BRANDON A. PIKE, PRESIDENT



THECLA HINKEBEIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR