



RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACKNOWLEDGING AND ENDORSING THE PROPOSED RESTORATION AND REDEVELOPMENT CONCEPT AS ADOPTED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AT GULFPORT

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

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization comprised of businesses in Harrison County and throughout South Mississippi; through a partnership among the Biloxi, Gulfport, Long Beach, and Pass Christian Chambers of Commerce, Coast Chamber promotes community and economic development on the Mississippi Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce and its members that restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport is vital to the continued economic recovery and development of Harrison County, as well as the entire of the State of Mississippi, from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the concept for restoration and redevelopment by the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport which has been adopted focuses on restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities in such a way as to protect persons and property in Gulfport from collateral damage in future storms due to port operations, maintain and protect investment by existing customers at the port, facilitate and maximize the future growth of port operations through private investment while at the same

time seeking to minimize community displacement, disruption and intrusion by port activities and operations; and

WHEREAS, the concept adopted for restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities would allow and accommodate future growth of port facilities which could bring substantial new and better jobs, higher quality of life, businesses and economic development opportunities into the coastal region and the state of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce wishes to express its support for the concept adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport, finding and declaring the same essential to our joint missions and purpose of advancing the well being of citizens of Mississippi, especially those in South Mississippi;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce does hereby express its support for the concept adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport.

With a majority of the Members of the Board of Directors present and by unanimous vote in the affirmative, the Chair declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted on the 18th day of February, 2009.



John McFarland, Chair
MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE