PROCLAMATION

**HEREAS*, Tourism is the single largest industry in the State of Florida, welcoming an estimated 142.9 million visitors in 2024, employing more than 2.1 million Floridians and infusing tens of billions in visitor spending revenue into the state economy; and

**HEREAS*, Charlotte County welcomed over 1.1 million visitors in fiscal year 2024 and tourism provides an imported source of funds for the Charlotte County economy, making it one of its strongest revenue producers; and

HEREAS, Tourism directly supported 12,800 jobs, generating over \$390 million in wages and salaries (and an additional Charlotte County job is supported by every 90 visitors); and tourism generated \$8.7 million in tourist development tax revenues; and visitors to Charlotte County saved local residents, on average, \$1,078 per household in taxes in FY2024; and tourism provided \$859 million in direct expenditures and a \$1.26 billion economic impact; and

HEREAS, the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau markets Charlotte County to show how "Our Best Side is Outside," and focuses on the promising infrastructure growth while preserving natural areas, which will assist in further positioning the Charlotte Harbor Gulf Island Coast as a premier vacation, meetings and sporting events destination; and

HEREAS, local taxes from tourism help pay for quality of life projects important to all Charlotte County residents such as infrastructure, schools, public safety, parks, and environmental programs. May 4 through 10, 2025, is celebrated across the nation and throughout the state, emphasizing the importance of travel and tourism to America's economic, social and cultural well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the week of May 4 through 10, 2025 shall be known in all of Charlotte County as

National Travel and Tourism Week

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 22nd day of April 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Hector Flores, County Administrator

ATTEST:

By_______

Joseph Tiseo, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Roger D. Eaton, Clerk of Circuit
Court and Ex-Officio Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners