

RESOLUTION NO. ___ OF 2019

A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MAY 22, 2019, AS NATIONAL MARITIME DAY, AND TO ENCOURAGE CITIZENS OF SHREVEPORT TO CELEBRATE THIS OBSERVANCE AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

BY: COUNCILMAN JERRY BOWMAN, JR

WHEREAS, on May 22, 1819, the steamship The Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, thus making a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1933, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled and approved that May 22 of each year shall be designated and known as National Maritime Day; and

WHEREAS, during WWII in what became the world's largest sealift operation, more than 250,000 members of the American Merchant Marine served their country, with more than 6,700 giving their lives, hundreds being detained as prisoners of war and more than 800 ships being sunk or damaged; and

WHEREAS, waterways have enabled much of the commerce that has expanded America's economy, sprouted cities near waterways and facilitated vast domestic and international commerce crucial to our economy today; and

WHEREAS, merchant mariners have served America with distinction throughout our history, but especially at critical moments of war an natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marine and thousands of other workers in our Nation's maritime industry continue to make immeasurable contributions to our economic strength and our ongoing efforts to build a more peaceful world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Merchant Marine also shepherds the safe passage of American goods, move exports to customers around the world, support the flow of domestic commerce on our maritime highways, strengthen our Nation's economy, bolster job creation and, along with the transportation industry, employ Americans on ships and tugs, and in ports, like our Port of Shreveport Bossier; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Shreveport City Council to increase the awareness of the maritime industry within the City of Shreveport.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in due, legal and regular session convened that the Shreveport City Council joins the President of the United States of America and the Caddo Bossier Parishes Port Commission in proclaiming May 22, 2019, as National Maritime Day and calls upon the citizens of Shreveport to celebrate this observance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or application, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office