

RESOLUTION 09-22

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE  
SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF RURAL AREAS OF  
ECONOMIC CONCERN CONTINUE TO APPLY TO CALHOUN,  
FRANKLIN, GADSDEN, GULF, HOLMES, JACKSON, LIBERTY  
& WASHINGTON COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, IN 1999 Governor Bush, by executive order, identified eight counties (Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington) as Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern, and that this designation was renewed in 2004; and

WHEREAS, in 2000 Opportunity Florida was created to promote and improve economic development in the eight counties designated as Rural Areas of Critical Economic concern; and

WHEREAS, the various counties and municipalities in the Opportunity Florida region request that a Governor Charlie Crist renew the designation as a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern; and

WHEREAS, Opportunity Florida has assisted in establishing Enterprise Zones in each of the eight counties; and

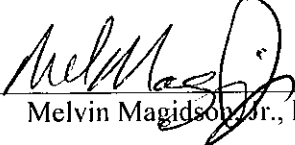
WHEREAS, Opportunity Florida has made great strides in improving the economic outlook for these areas of Critical Economic Concern by assisting with recruiting new industries, supporting infrastructure projects and working together with local communities and other organizations such as Enterprise Florida, and the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the progress that has been made since 2004, there is still much work that needs to be done to help these eight counties compete economically with other parts of the state; and

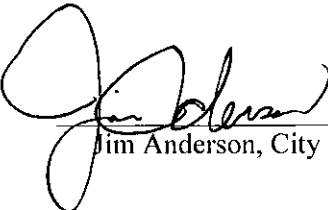
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Port St. Joe does hereby express its support of the following:

1. That the designation of Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern continue to apply to Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington counties;
2. That all existing Enterprise Zones in these counties continue to exist;
3. The continuation of all staff grant funding for Opportunity Florida through Enterprise Florida.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of Port St. Joe on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 2009.

  
Melvin Magidson, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jim Anderson, City Clerk