

*Office of the Mayor*  
*Foley, Alabama*

# *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico is an ocean basin bounded on the north, northeast and northwest by the Gulf Coast of the United States, on the south and southwest by Mexico, and on the southeast by Cuba. The Gulf of Mexico is bordered by five Gulf States and the Gulf region contributes to the nation's economy, security, energy, environment, heritage, beauty, diversity, and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico's watershed covers more than half of the continental United States and the Mississippi river drains more than one-third of the nation. The Gulf supports our nation's seafood industry through commercial fishing but also provides recreational adventures; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico is key to our nation's security and defense; oil, gas and energy production; trade of import and exports; and aerospace exploration. The value of the Gulf to provide these key national services is immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico is more than just a pretty picture; it provides thousands of miles of beautiful, affordable shoreline living. The Gulf Coast region is also one of the most culturally diverse regions in the nation with residents tracing their heritage to Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Gulf Coast embraces a variety of traditions and invokes a strong sense of place; and

WHEREAS, Gulf Coast tourism generates hundreds of billions of dollars each year, and if the Gulf region was a country, our economy would rank among the top 10 worldwide. By increasing awareness of the Gulf of Mexico's many treasures and limitless value, we ensure a sustainable future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor John Koniar, do hereby proclaim and observe 2020 as "The Year to Embrace the Gulf" in the City of Foley and I commend this observance to all citizens beginning January 1, 2020.

*In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
on this 4<sup>th</sup> Day of November, 2019*

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Attest: \_\_\_\_\_