

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS ACT THAT INCLUDES INCREASED FLEXIBILITY, USAGE OF RECENT AND RELEVANT DATA; EVALUATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF A COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER REFERENDA; PROVIDING AUTHORIZATION TO STAFF AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Port St. Joe is a Florida Municipality chartered on July 1, 1913;

**WHEREAS**, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (“the Magnuson-Stevens Act”) was originally enacted in 1976 and remains the primary law governing marine fisheries in federal waters in the United States:

**WHEREAS**, the Magnuson-Stevens Act lacks some critical components, like flexibility for states in managing recreational and commercial fisheries but contains other important features like stakeholder referenda requirements;

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf Coast’s diverse fishing opportunities is one of the nation’s most valuable assets;

**WHEREAS**, Florida is the number one state in angler expenditures (\$4.95 billion), according to 2011 USFWS Survey Information, making clear the importance of Florida’s stakeholders’ input;

**WHEREAS**, saltwater recreational fishing, including the red snapper fishery along the Gulf Coast, has a \$11.5 billion economic impact and supports 101,846 jobs, according to the National Marine Fishery Service, Fisheries Economics of the United States 2014;

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission provided a successful example of the flexibility needed at the state level when it held a 78-day summer recreational red snapper season in Florida’s Gulf of Mexico state waters during 2016. This season provided recreational harvest opportunities for Florida’s residents and visitors, economic opportunities for Florida businesses, while also allowing the continued recovery of the fishery; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal recreational red snapper season length has declined from 365 days per year to only nine days in 2016, during a time that red snapper has become more abundant as the stock continually improves, indicating the reliance on stale data;

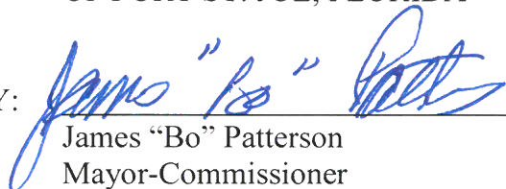
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City of Port St. Joe Board of City Commissioners the following:

**SECTION 1. SUPPORT CONGRESSIONAL REAUTHORIZATION.** The City of Port St. Joe Board of City Commissioners supports the Magnuson-Stevens Act with increased flexibility, usage of recent data, evaluation of economic and social needs of a community, and stakeholder referenda.


**SECTION 2. PUBLICATION OF THIS RESOLUTION.** City of Port St. Joe Board of City Commissioners are hereby authorized to publicize the Board's adoption of this Resolution No. 2017-05

**SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Resolution No. 2017-05 shall be effective on April 18, 2017.

CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY  
OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

BY:   
James "Bo" Patterson  
Mayor-Commissioner

ATTEST:

By:   
Charlotte M. Pierce  
Auditor / Clerk