

A PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

WHEREAS, recreational boating is fun and enjoyable and the citizens and visitors of the Isle of Palms are fortunate that we have sufficient resources to accommodate the wide variety of pleasure boating demands; and,

WHEREAS, at times our waterways can become crowded and boating, to the unprepared, can be a risky activity; and,

WHEREAS, not knowing or obeying the Navigation Rules or the nautical “Rules of the Road” or drinking alcohol or taking drugs while operating a boat or choosing not to wear life jackets are examples of human error or a lack of proper judgment; and,

WHEREAS, on average, seven hundred (700) people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; approximately seventy percent (70%) of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and,

WHEREAS, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors; and,

WHEREAS, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and,

WHEREAS, today’s life jackets are more comfortable, more attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today’s boating public,

So, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED on this day, May 24, 2011, that the Mayor and City Council of the Isle of Palms, on behalf of the City, do urge all those who boat to wear a life jacket and practice safe boating habits.



Dick Cronin, Mayor