

**PORT OF GALVESTON
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION**

BUSINESS ITEM

SUBJECT: Discuss and Consider a Resolution in Support of the Return of Cruising to the Port of Galveston in 2021

DISCUSSION: This item was placed on the agenda for Trustee consideration and approval.

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A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RETURN OF CRUISING TO THE PORT OF GALVESTON IN 2021

WHEREAS, the Port of Galveston is the fourth most popular cruise port in the U.S. and only cruise homeport in Texas; and

WHEREAS, more than 1 million cruise passengers embarked from the Port of Galveston in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the cruise industry in Texas generates an estimated \$1.2 billion in direct spending, 23,000 jobs and \$1.6 billion in wages annually; and

WHEREAS, the cruise business has significant economic benefits for the Galveston region, including \$115 million in local spending annually and 3,638 cruise-related jobs, and

WHEREAS, the Port of Galveston has voluntarily invested \$100,000 in health and safety upgrades in our cruise terminals; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Galveston is and will continue communicating and coordinating with local health authorities and county, state and federal agencies to ensure that this region is prepared for safe, sustainable cruising.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Galveston Wharves Board of Trustees supports ongoing efforts by the cruise industry and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to establish guidelines to allow resumption of safe cruising from Galveston and other U.S. ports as soon as possible in 2021.