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2 **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A PROPERLY EQUIPPED AND MANNED U.S.**
3 **COAST GUARD**
4

5 **WHEREAS**, since 1790, the U.S. Coast Guard has safeguarded our Nation’s maritime interests
6 and natural resources on our rivers, in the ports, in the littoral regions, on the high seas, and in
7 theaters around the world.
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard is an adaptable, responsive, military force of maritime
10 professionals whose broad legal authorities, capable assets, geographic diversity and expansive
11 partnerships provide a persistent presence in the inland waters, ports, coastal regions and far
12 offshore areas of operations.
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard’s presence is local, regional, national and international.
15

16 **WHEREAS**, these attributes make the U.S. Coast Guard a unique instrument of maritime safety
17 and security.
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard protects those on the sea: leading responses to maritime
20 disasters and threats, ensuring a safe and secure maritime transportation system, preventing
21 incidents and rescuing those in distress.
22

23 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard protects America from threats delivered by the sea:
24 enforcing laws and treaties, securing our ocean resources, and ensuring the integrity of our
25 maritime domain from illegal activity.
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard protects the sea itself: regulating hazardous cargo
28 transportation, holding responsible parties accountable for environmental damage and cleanup,
29 and protecting living marine and natural resources.
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the United States is a maritime nation, with nearly 90% of global trade moving by
32 sea, much of it fueling U.S. jobs and industry, our nation’s economy and security are inextricably
33 linked to the sea, our ports and our waterways.
34

35 **WHEREAS**, the sea, our ports and waterways also serve as gateways for multiple challenges to
36 our nation’s safety and security, including: mass migration; smuggling of drugs, illegal aliens
37 and contraband; energy exploration; increases in commercial maritime trade and global shipping;
38 and catastrophic weather events. This growth in activity and threat vectors brings a
39 corresponding demand for U.S. Coast Guard authorities, capabilities, competencies, capacity and
40 partnerships.

41
42 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Coast Guard’s operating environment requires that its front-line personnel
43 maintain true proficiency in their specialty skills, it is commented to providing clear policy and
44 doctrine, superb training, equipment, tactics, techniques and procedures, and leadership for all
45 mission areas. This is the U.S. Coast Guard’s essential foundation and it is also commented to
46 being the consummate maritime professionals.

47
48 **WHEREAS**, tomorrow’s world will be increasingly reliant on and active in the maritime
49 domain, there is a need to continuously review and ensure the U.S. Coast Guard’s response,
50 mitigation, regulatory, law enforcement, inspection, and monitoring capabilities are at the
51 highest state of readiness.

52
53 **WHEREAS**, maritime activities will expand further offshore and into more remote areas in the
54 future, the U.S. Coast Guard’s ability to meet its responsibilities will hinge on the development
55 and deployment of new technologies, partnerships, competencies and assets.

56
57 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, members of the National Lieutenant Governors
58 Association recognize the value to our nation of a properly equipped and manned U.S. Coast
59 Guard. Members support the recapitalization of the U.S. Coast Guard, that replacement of its
60 aged, obsolete, and unreliable assets – cutters, boats, aircraft, Command, Control,
61 Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems,
62 and supporting shore infrastructure – is critical to ensuring the Service has the foundational
63 capabilities to achieve mission objectives and maintain the highest state of readiness—today and
64 into the future.

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67 Submitted this 1st day of February, 2012.

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69 Sponsors: Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll, Florida
70 Lt. Governor Tim Murray, Massachusetts

71 Co-Sponsors:
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