

**PETITION FOR A CLOTHING-OPTIONAL BEACH
IN THE TAMPA BAY AREA**

To: Bay area tourism interests and government officials

As residents of the area, we support the proposal of Tampa Area Naturists, Inc. to establish a designated, family-oriented clothing-optional naturist beach in the Tampa Bay area, such as a small section at Ft. DeSoto Park.

The closest such facility in Florida is at Canaveral National Seashores, requiring a drive of several hours.

While common in European countries, naturist beaches are not so available in the United States. The two largest in usage are at Gunnison Beach at Sandy Hook in New Jersey, and at Haulover Park in Miami-Dade County. The latter, which has existed since 1991, is extremely popular with residents, and generates hundreds of millions of dollars in tourism revenue annually.

The experience with these beaches shows that such facilities are extremely popular with individuals of all ages and families, cause no secondary effects, and result in few if no complaints if the proper signage is posted.

Naturism is a large niche market, and the 2006 YPB&R National Leisure Travel Monitor found that 15% of U.S. travelers indicated nude recreation opportunities are “extremely desirable” in a travel destination; this percentage is even higher among younger Americans. Further, the International Naturist Federation, with affiliates in 36 countries, estimates that there are 33 million naturists worldwide, with many looking for suitable vacation destinations each year.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Signature(s)

Date

Name(s)

Address

Please send petitions to: TAN, PO Box 923, Lutz, FL 33548-0923