

Introduced by Council Member Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Amaro, Arias, Boylan, J. Carlucci, Carlucci, Carrico, Clark-Murray, Diamond, Freeman, Gaffney, Jr., Gay, Howland, Johnson, Lahnen, Peluso, Pittman, Salem and White and amended on the Floor of Council:

RESOLUTION 2025-699-A

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2025 AS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is observed each year from September 15 to October 15 to honor the histories, cultures, and contributions of individuals whose ancestry traces to Spain, Mexico, and Central and South America; and

WHEREAS, the starting date of September 15 marks the independence anniversaries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, with Mexico and Chile celebrating soon after, making the month a symbolic recognition of Latin American independence and heritage; and

WHEREAS, in September 1968, President Lyndon Johnson issued the first Hispanic Heritage Week proclamation, and the celebration was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a month from mid-September to mid-October, which encompasses the time period when numerous Hispanic countries declared their independence from Spain; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino communities are a significant demographic group in the United States, now representing nearly one

1 in four children, highlighting the growing influence and role in
2 shaping the nation's future; and

3 **WHEREAS**, citizens of Hispanic and Latino heritage have had a
4 profound impact on our city's business, cultural, political, and
5 social scenes since its founding. They operate successful businesses,
6 serve in the armed forces, hold public offices, participate in
7 numerous community benefit organizations and activities, tantalize
8 our tastebuds with delicious and varied cuisines exemplifying their
9 cultural heritage, and enliven our cultural scene with all manners
10 of visual and performing arts; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the City Council celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month
12 2025 to affirm the diversity of its residents, encourage cultural
13 understanding, and honor the achievements of Hispanic and Latino
14 communities in enriching our shared civic life; now therefore

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

16 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the period from
17 September 15 through October 15, 2025 as Hispanic Heritage Month 2025
18 in Jacksonville, and urges all citizens to seek out, recognize, and
19 enjoy the influence that Hispanic and Latino cultures continue to
20 have on our city's quality of life.

21 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
22 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
23 introduction of this Resolution is requested. The nature of this
24 emergency is to ensure timely recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month
25 within the designated period.

26 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
27 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
28 without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

/s/Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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