

1 Introduced by Council Members Freeman, Carlucci and Clark-Murray and  
2 Co-Sponsored by Council Member Johnson:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2023-524-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS  
7 LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE;  
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting  
11 the free exchange of information and ideas for all, and play a crucial  
12 role in the education and development of children, from early  
13 childhood reading programs to homework help and college planning for  
14 high schoolers; and

15 **WHEREAS**, libraries are welcoming and inclusive spaces for  
16 people of all backgrounds to learn together and engage with one  
17 another across cultural, ethnic, generational, and economic lines,  
18 strengthening the social fabric of the communities they serve.  
19 Libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections  
20 that are as diverse as the populations they serve and ensure equity  
21 of access for all; and

22 **WHEREAS**, libraries help people of all ages navigate the  
23 complexities of life, providing access to research, information, and  
24 government services that allow everyone to lead more productive and  
25 fulfilling lives. They also contribute to a strong local economy by  
26 providing access to the technology and training that are critical to  
27 the success of jobseekers, entrepreneurs, and students; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in times of crisis, libraries and library  
29 professionals play an invaluable role in supporting their communities  
30 both in person and virtually. Additionally, the shared resources  
31 libraries offer reduce the number of items households buy and dispose

1 of, providing a simple way to save money, conserve resources, and  
2 reduce waste; and

3 **WHEREAS,** a library card sparks creativity and empowers all  
4 people to explore new passions and interests and pursue a path of  
5 lifelong learning. More than one-third of all households in Duval  
6 County have actively used their Jacksonville Public Library Card in  
7 the past year and 90 percent of Jacksonville Public Library  
8 cardholders agree that they learned more by attending a library  
9 program; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Public Library cardholders have checked  
11 out more than 4.5 million books, DVDs, e-books, e-audiobooks, and  
12 streaming videos in the last year; now therefore

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

14 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby proclaims September 2023  
15 as Library Card Sign-Up Month in Jacksonville and encourages all  
16 county residents who do not have a Jacksonville Public Library Card  
17 to obtain one for free online or at any Jacksonville Public Library  
18 location. The Council also challenges all current cardholders to urge  
19 their friends, colleagues and neighbors who do not have a Jacksonville  
20 Public Library Card, to obtain a free one and begin enjoying all the  
21 benefits it confers.

22 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
23 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
24 without the Mayor's signature.

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26 Form Approved:

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28           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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