

1 Introduced by Council Member Becton and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Morgan, Diamond, Boylan, Gaffney, Ferraro, & Pittman:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2022-175-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 25, 2022 AS GREEK  
7 INDEPENDENCE DAY AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE  
8 GREEK REVOLUTION OF 1821; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
9 DATE.

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, the Ottoman Empire colonized and occupied Greece for  
12 over 400 years. In 1814, a secret organization called Filiki Eteria  
13 (Society of Friends) was founded with the aim of liberating Greece.  
14 201 years ago, inspired by the same ideals of liberty, self-  
15 governance, and passionate belief in democracy that sparked the  
16 American Revolution, the people of Greece declared their  
17 independence. After a nine-year war, Greece gained its independence  
18 in 1830; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Greek Independence Day falls on March 25<sup>th</sup> and has been  
20 celebrated annually since the end of the Greek Revolution. It is also  
21 known as the Celebration of the Greek Revolution and honors the  
22 Greeks' fight for freedom. This day is also when the Feast of the  
23 Annunciation is commemorated; and

24 **WHEREAS**, within Greece and Cyprus a common feature of Greek  
25 Independence Day are local school parades in many villages, towns,  
26 and cities. Schoolchildren march in traditional Greek folk costumes  
27 and carry Greek flags. The largest celebration takes place in Athens  
28 where an annual military parade commemorates the event, attended by  
29 the president and other high ranking state officials, along with  
30 hundreds of civilian spectators; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Greece is a crucial NATO ally and friend of the United

1 States, and a leader for peace and prosperity in the Eastern  
2 Mediterranean, Black Sea, and Western Balkans regions; and

3 **WHEREAS**, on Greek Independence Day, we celebrate the history and  
4 values of the Hellenic Republic, and the courage, decency and honor  
5 that defines the Greek community, and their unwillingness to bend in  
6 the face of injustice; now therefore

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

8 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby joins the Greek  
9 community in commemorating independence and the creation of the modern  
10 Greek state. Jacksonville City Council recognizes March 25, 2022 as  
11 Greek Independence Day and the Celebration of the Greek Revolution.

12 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
13 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
14 without the Mayor's signature.

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16 Form Approved:

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18  /s/ Paige H. Johnston

19 Office of General Counsel

20 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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