

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Salem, Gaffney, Jr. and Amaro:

3
4
5 **RESOLUTION 2024-775-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING CHARLES
7 SPENCER FOR HIS LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT AND
8 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY;
9 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

10
11 **WHEREAS,** Charles Spencer was born and raised in the East 21st
12 Street Community four blocks from the Talleyrand waterfront and,
13 after graduating from Matthew W. Gilbert High School, he went to work
14 at the port at the age of 19; and

15 **WHEREAS,** Mr. Spencer found his calling working for the port,
16 quickly rising through the ranks and earning the respect of his peers,
17 being elected President of the International Longshoreman's
18 Association("ILA") Local 1408 at the age of 19; and

19 **WHEREAS,** Charles Spencer currently serves as the Executive
20 Vice President Emeritus of the International Longshoreman's
21 Association's South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District; and

22 **WHEREAS,** in addition to serving with the ILA, Mr. Spencer has
23 been a leading community advocate for labor throughout his career,
24 having held top leadership posts with the A. Philip Randolph
25 Institute, including Florida State Chapter President and National
26 Board of Directors member; and

27 **WHEREAS,** through the ILA, Mr. Spencer established the ILA
28 Scholarship Fund, which focuses on providing scholarships in the form
29 of financial assistance to academic high achievers and/or financially
30 disadvantaged graduating high school seniors and returning college
31 students from the Jacksonville area; and

1 **WHEREAS,** the National Association for the Advancement of
2 Colored People ("NAACP") has recently recognized Charles Spencer for
3 his "significant contributions to racial equity and commitment to
4 fairness in the workplace" by awarding him the 2024 Benjamin L. Hooks
5 "Keeper of the Flame" Award on July 16th, 2024, at the NAACP's 115th
6 National Convention; now therefore

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

8 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
9 Charles Spencer for his consistent presence and leadership in the
10 Jacksonville community, which has and will continue to lift people
11 up to pursue fulfilling and dignified work. The Council particularly
12 congratulates him on his receipt of the NAACP's 2024 Benjamin L.
13 Hooks "Keeper of the Flame" Award, recognizing that Mr. Spencer has
14 been a champion of civil rights and social justice, and it extends
15 its best wishes for continued success.

16 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
17 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
18 without the Mayor's signature.

19
20 Form Approved:

21
22 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

23 Office of General Counsel

24 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

25 GC-#1653306-v1-2024-775-A.docx