

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Pittman and Miller:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2026-228-A**

6 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING AND HONORING THE 100TH
7 BIRTHDAY OF MRS. JANIE R. ROBINSON, RECOGNIZING
8 A CENTURY OF FAITH, FAMILY, EDUCATION, AND
9 SERVICE TO THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY, AND
10 EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION FOR A
11 LIFE THAT HAS INSPIRED GENERATIONS AND STANDS AS
12 A LIVING TESTAMENT TO THE POWER OF
13 DETERMINATION, THE DIGNITY OF FAMILY, AND THE
14 TRANSFORMATIVE PROMISE OF EDUCATION; PROVIDING
15 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
16

17 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Janie R. Robinson was born on March 29, 1926, in
18 Round O, South Carolina, to Easley and Beulah Robinson, and was later
19 raised in Jacksonville, Florida by Mattie and James Edward Hutchins,
20 both families instilling in her the values of faith, discipline, and
21 reverence for education; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson shared an extraordinary love story with
23 her husband and lifelong partner Mr. Roxwell Robinson, Sr., whose
24 companionship and devotion spanned eighty-four years, including
25 eighty years of marriage, together raising and educating four children
26 who attended Bethune Cookman University, Florida A&M University,
27 Rollins College, and Hampton University; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in her early professional journey, Mrs. Robinson broke
29 barriers as one of the first African American consultants for the
30 Carnation Company, traveling across communities to teach new mothers
31 the preparation of infant formula and serving as a trusted educator

1 and resource during an era when such opportunities for African
2 American women were rare; and

3 **WHEREAS**, determined that opportunity would never be limited by
4 circumstance, Mrs. Robinson enrolled as an adult learner at Edward
5 Waters College, now Edward Waters University, while raising four
6 children including one only eighteen months old, ultimately earning
7 her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and later a Master's
8 Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Florida A&M University; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson devoted her professional life to the
10 students of Duval County Public Schools, serving first as an English
11 teacher and later as a guidance counselor and founding faculty member
12 of Sandalwood Junior-Senior High School, where she frequently
13 transported students in her own car to nearby colleges so they could
14 witness firsthand the possibilities of higher education; and

15 **WHEREAS**, her pursuit of education ignited a powerful
16 generational legacy in which each of her children earned at least a
17 bachelor's degree, one attained a Ph.D., and all nine grandchildren
18 earned bachelor's degrees with several achieving advanced graduate
19 and professional degrees; and

20 **WHEREAS**, her life has remained deeply rooted in faith through
21 lifelong service in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, currently
22 worshipping at St. Paul AME Church, while also honoring the legacy
23 of her bonus father J. E. Hutchins, one of Jacksonville's pioneering
24 African American architects who designed the historic H. Y. Tookes
25 Building at Edward Waters University; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson has continued her lifelong commitment to
27 education and community service through her contributions to Edward
28 Waters University, her support of its Alumni Association, and through
29 the Beverly Robinson Campbell Foundation, Inc., established in memory
30 of her daughter and providing scholarships for deserving students
31 since 1994; and

1 **WHEREAS**, even in retirement, Mrs. Robinson remains an active
2 community leader as a Life Member of Gamma Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha
3 Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Life Member of the Women's
4 Missionary Society of the AME Church, Life Member of the James Weldon
5 Johnson Branch of the NAACP, and member of the Duval County Retired
6 Teachers Association; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Mrs. Robinson continues to inspire generations with her
8 guiding philosophy: "Serve God, pursue education, manage finances
9 wisely so that you may live a comfortable and purposeful life," often
10 followed by her powerful testimony: "Don't tell me it can't be done.
11 I'm a living witness that it can"; now therefore

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

13 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby proudly celebrates and
14 honors Mrs. Janie R. Robinson upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday,
15 recognizing a century of faith, scholarship, family leadership, and
16 service that has enriched the City of Jacksonville and inspired
17 countless lives. The City Council expresses its deepest admiration
18 and gratitude to Mrs. Robinson and her family, affirming that her
19 remarkable life reminds us that a single life lived with purpose can
20 shape generations and illuminate the path forward for an entire
21 community.

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: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research