

Introduced by Council Member Miller:

RESOLUTION 2025-747

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE
MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025 AS FILIPINO AMERICAN
HISTORY MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING
EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING
AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Filipino American History Month is observed annually
during the month of October to honor the history, resilience, and
contributions of Filipino Americans; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Filipino American History Month in
October commemorates the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the
continental United States which occurred on October 18, 1587, when
the Luzones Indios landed from the Spanish galleon Nuestra Señora de
Esperanza at what is now Morro Bay, California; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the United States Congress officially
recognized October as Filipino American History Month, paying tribute
to the rich history and significant contributions of Filipino
Americans to the growth and diversity of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans constitute the second-largest Asian
American Group in the United States, and in 2024 Jacksonville had the
largest Filipino American population in the Southeast, demonstrating
their significant presence throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American community has played an integral
role in shaping the history, culture, and identity of Jacksonville,
enriching our City's diversity through their leadership, talent, and
dedication; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance of Filipino American Organizations of

1 Northeast Florida, Inc. ("The Alliance"), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
2 organization composed of nine of the most prominent and
3 active Filipino American Organizations in NE Florida; and

4 **WHEREAS**, The Alliance is a collaborative network united in their
5 mission to celebrate Filipino heritage, strengthen community bonds,
6 and promote the well-being of Filipino Americans throughout the
7 region; and

8 **WHEREAS**, The Alliance honors this mission through annual
9 celebrations of Philippine Independence Day and active participation
10 in Jacksonville's city-wide cultural showcase, the World of Nations,
11 thereby preserving Filipino traditions and fostering cross-cultural
12 understanding within the broader community; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Filipino Americans have enriched the nation through a
14 wide array of professions including education, healthcare, business,
15 public service, and military service; notably, between 250,000 and
16 400,000 Filipinos served under U.S. command during World War II, and
17 the community continues to include distinguished veterans and active-
18 duty personnel, a legacy especially meaningful to Jacksonville's
19 sizeable veteran population; and

20 **WHEREAS**, as the largest Asian American constituency in Northeast
21 Florida, the Filipino American community, through The Alliance, has
22 demonstrated a deep commitment to civic engagement, cultural
23 education, and public service, helping to build a vibrant city for
24 all; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Filipino American History Month serves as an
26 opportunity for communities nationwide, including the City of
27 Jacksonville, to recognize the deep heritage, cultural richness, and
28 civic and military contributions of Filipino Americans; now therefore

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

30 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes and
31 celebrates the month of October 2025 as Filipino American History

1 Month in Jacksonville, Florida, and encourages all citizens to
2 celebrate the invaluable contributions of Filipino Americans to our
3 City and nation. Let us continue to embrace the diversity and richness
4 that Filipino culture brings to Jacksonville, fostering a community
5 of inclusion, mutual respect, and shared prosperity.

6 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
7 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
8 introduction of this Resolution is requested. The nature of this
9 emergency is to ensure timely recognition of Filipino American History
10 Month within the designated period.

11 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
12 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
13 without the Mayor's signature.

14 Form Approved:

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16 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

17 Office of General Counsel

18 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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