

1 Introduced by Council Members Howland, J. Carlucci, Salem, Peluso,
2 Lahnen, Gay, Amaro, Arias, Johnson, Miller and Freeman:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2026-349**

6 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF MAY 16-22,
7 2026, AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK IN
8 JACKSONVILLE AND ENCOURAGING ALL RESIDENTS AND
9 VISITORS TO PRACTICE SAFE BOATING HABITS;
10 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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12 **WHEREAS**, the State of Florida, dubbed the "Boating Capital of
13 the World" by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
14 is home to more than one million registered vessels, yet leads the
15 nation in boating fatalities each year, underscoring the critical
16 importance of boating safety education and awareness; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville is blessed with an extensive
18 network of waterways, including the St. Johns River, the Intracoastal
19 Waterway, and the Atlantic coastline, serving the recreational and
20 commercial needs of tens of thousands of boaters; and

21 **WHEREAS**, through basic boating safety procedures, carrying
22 lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing
23 life jackets, attending safe boating courses, participating in free
24 vessel safety checks, and staying sober when navigating, boaters on
25 Jacksonville's waterways and Florida's coastal, inland, and offshore
26 waters reduce the risk of accidents and save lives; and

27 **WHEREAS**, boating safety in Jacksonville is encouraged and
28 enforced by several agencies and organizations, including the U.S.
29 Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Florida Fish and
30 Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
31 Marine Patrol, and the Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron; now

1 therefore

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

3 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the week of May
4 16-22, 2026, as National Safe Boating Week in Jacksonville and
5 encourages all residents and visitors to practice safe boating habits
6 and to take advantage of boating safety education and resources
7 available through government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

8 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
9 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
10 without the Mayor's signature.

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12 Form Approved:

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14 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

15 Office of General Counsel

16 Legislation Prepared By: Steven Libby, City Council Research

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