

1 Introduced by Council Members Pittman, Clark-Murray, Johnson,  
2 Gaffney, Jr. and Carrico:  
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5 **RESOLUTION 2026-55**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE 2025  
7 WILLIAM M. RAINES HIGH SCHOOL VIKINGS FOOTBALL  
8 TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2025 FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL  
9 ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP  
10 AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE LEADERSHIP OF HEAD COACH  
11 DONOVAN MASLINE AND INVALUABLE SUPPORT FROM THE  
12 BAND, CHEERLEADERS, COACHES, FACULTY, PARENTS,  
13 ALUMNI, AND COMMUNITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
14 DATE.  
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the athletic tradition at William M. Raines High School  
17 has become legendary across the State of Florida, forged by  
18 generations of student athletes and coaches who transformed Viking  
19 football into a symbol of resilience, discipline, and championship  
20 caliber performance; and

21 **WHEREAS**, on December 12, 2025, the Raines Vikings completed one  
22 of the most remarkable championship runs in Florida high school  
23 football history by defeating Miami Northwestern Senior High School  
24 by a score of 23 to 22 in the Florida High School Athletic Association  
25 Class 3A Championship Game at Pitbull Stadium in Miami, securing the  
26 program's fourth state title and finishing the season undefeated at  
27 14 and 0; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the championship was sealed dramatically when senior  
29 quarterback TJ Cole, in the final moments of his high school career,  
30 with 10 seconds remaining in the game, delivered a 17-yard touchdown  
31 pass to running back Tadarius Washington, culminating a 78-yard two-

1 minute drive now etched into Jacksonville sports lore; and

2       **WHEREAS**, the Vikings' championship run was defined by  
3 extraordinary defensive effort, leadership, and teamwork, including  
4 pivotal plays by Geterius Brown, Cameron Washington, Shareef Jackson,  
5 Johdeem Jones, Makhel Smith-York, Tony Williams, and Jucoby Marion,  
6 whose final defensive stand preserved the victory as chants of  
7 "Duuuval" echoed across South Florida; and

8       **WHEREAS**, this victory marked a decisive moment of redemption,  
9 nearly one year after a loss at the same venue, ending a 23-game  
10 winning streak by nationally ranked Miami Northwestern and  
11 solidifying the Vikings as the most successful public high school  
12 football program in Jacksonville; and

13       **WHEREAS**, Head Coach Donovan Masline, a Viking alumnus and  
14 steward of the program's legacy, exemplified leadership, vision, and  
15 faith in his players, guiding them through a season defined by  
16 discipline, resilience, and unity; and

17       **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville proudly celebrates this  
18 historic accomplishment as a reflection of the Vikings' enduring  
19 spirit and strength, and the commitment of coaches, mentors, and  
20 educators to uplift young people through opportunity, hard work, and  
21 belief; now, therefore

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

23       **Section 1.**       The City Council hereby honors and commends the  
24 William M. Raines High School Vikings Football Team for winning the  
25 2025 FHSAA Class 3A State Championship, recognizing this achievement  
26 as one of the most significant moments in Jacksonville high school  
27 athletic history. The City Council commends the band and cheerleaders,  
28 Head Coach Donovan Masline, the coaching staff, faculty, parents,  
29 alumni, and community partners, whose leadership and commitment made  
30 this championship possible.

31       **Section 2.       Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become

1 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
2 without the Mayor's signature.

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4 Form Approved:

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6       /s/ Shannon MacGillis      

7 Office of General Counsel

8 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

9 GC-#1729403-v5-Reso\_Raines\_Football\_Championship\_(Pittman)