

1 Introduced by Council Member Howland and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Miller, Salem, Gay and Freeman and amended by the
3 Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety
4 Committee:

7 **RESOLUTION 2025-693-A**

8 A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE COUNCIL'S SUPPORT
9 FOR LOCAL BILL J-2, TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE DUVAL
10 COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, WHICH WOULD AMEND
11 CHAPTER 2004-464, LAWS OF FLORIDA, AS AMENDED BY
12 CHAPTER 2005-328, TO PROVIDE THAT THE AUTHORITY
13 SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
14 CECIL AIRPORT AS A REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL
15 AEROSPACE AND RELATED INDUSTRY HUB, TO DEFINE
16 "AEROSPACE AND RELATED INDUSTRY," TO REQUIRE
17 ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
18 PLAN FOR CECIL AIRPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
19 REVIEW CONCURRENT WITH ITS REVIEW OF THE
20 AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET, AND TO REVISE THE
21 THRESHOLD AMOUNTS FOR CERTAIN PURCHASES BY THE
22 AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR THE STATE J-BILL
23 PROCESS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL
24 PROPONENT; DIRECTING THE DUVAL DELEGATION
25 COORDINATOR TO FORWARD TO CIVIC PLUS A COPY OF
26 ANY SPECIAL ACT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE THAT
27 WOULD EFFECTUATE THIS REQUEST; PROVIDING AN
28 EFFECTIVE DATE.

29
30 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville Aviation Authority (the "JAA") was
31 established as an independent authority within the Consolidated

1 Government of the City of Jacksonville with a mission "to manage,
2 operate, maintain and develop an airport system that exceeds the
3 aviation needs of the City of Jacksonville, Northeast Florida and
4 Southeast Georgia"; and

5 **WHEREAS**, through the strong leadership of its Board of Directors
6 and executive management team, the JAA has excelled in fulfillment
7 of this mission as evidenced by ongoing modernization and expansion
8 of the Jacksonville International Airport, culminating in the planned
9 addition of at least six additional gates in a new Concourse B; and

10 **WHEREAS**, while furtherance of this mission is integral to the
11 purpose for which the JAA was established, the authority also operates
12 with a vision to "enhance the JAA's standing as a premiere economic
13 engine for the City of Jacksonville and the Northeast Florida region";
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, the aforementioned vision statement recognizes the
16 JAA's unique position and responsibility to look beyond just the
17 aviation needs of the region, and takes into account the economic and
18 other opportunities a broader focus and reach has to offer; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the JAA is currently pursuing a number of projects and
20 initiatives at Cecil Airport with an eye toward expansion within the
21 aerospace industry; and

22 **WHEREAS**, during its meeting on August 7, 2025, the JAA Board of
23 Directors approved a specific effort to grow within the aerospace
24 market when it voted unanimously to approve pursuit of a Federal
25 Aviation Administration reentry license for Cecil Spaceport at Cecil
26 Airport along with potential development of a "space vehicle
27 facility"; and

28 **WHEREAS**, expansion of the JAA mission to develop opportunities
29 within the aerospace and related industries would have a significant
30 impact on the JAA's standing as a premiere economic engine not only
31 for the City and the region, but also within the United States and

1 international markets; and

2 **WHEREAS**, to ensure the continued success of its growth in the
3 aerospace and related industries, it is imperative that this be
4 delineated as a core function of the JAA, that this core function be
5 supported by a well-trained workforce, and that opportunities be
6 created to draw public and private industries to the region to drive
7 job growth and to support the economic success of these initiatives;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, to ensure the JAA's mission and forward-thinking vision
10 continue to align, the City Council hereby expresses its support for
11 Local Bill J-2 to amend the Charter of the City of Jacksonville to
12 establish that the JAA will be responsible for economic development
13 of Cecil Airport as a premier aerospace and related industries hub;
14 now therefore

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

16 **Section 1. Support of Local Bill J-2.** The Council hereby
17 expresses its support for Local Bill J-2 to be considered by the
18 Duval County Legislative Delegation for the 2026 State Legislative
19 Session. Said Local Bill J-2 would amend Chapter 2004-464, Laws of
20 Florida, as amended by Chapter 2005-328, Laws of Florida, to provide
21 that the authority shall be responsible for economic development of
22 Cecil Airport as a regional, state and national aerospace and related
23 industry hub, to provide a definition of "aerospace and related
24 industry", to require annual presentation of an economic development
25 plan for Cecil Airport to the City Council for its review concurrent
26 with the authority's annual budget, and to revise the threshold
27 amounts for certain purchases by the authority. A true and correct
28 copy of said Local Bill J-2 is attached hereto as **Revised Exhibit 1**,
29 labeled as "Revise Exhibit 1, Rev Local Bill J-2, October 6, 2025 -
30 NCSPHS".

31 **Section 2. State J-Bill Process and Responsibilities of**

1 **Local Proponent.** The House of Representatives sponsor will deliver
2 Local Bill J-2 to House Bill Drafting. The local proponent will be
3 responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Bill Filing
4 Manual including, but not limited to, advertising and public hearing
5 requirements. The Duval Delegation Local Bill hearing will occur on
6 October 22, 2025, in the City Council Chamber.

7 **Section 3. Directing the Duval Delegation Coordinator to**
8 **Forward to Civic Plus a Copy of Any Special Act of the State**
9 **Legislature Which Effectuates this Request.** The Duval Delegation
10 Coordinator is hereby directed to forward to Civic Plus, formerly
11 known as "Municode," a copy of any Special Act of the State
12 Legislature that effectuates the amendments to the City Charter of
13 the City of Jacksonville, or any part thereof, proposed herein so
14 that, if approved, the amendments can be catalogued in Article 4
15 (Jacksonville Aviation Authority), Part B - Related Laws, of the
16 Charter and Related Laws of the City of Jacksonville.

17 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
18 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
19 without the Mayor's signature.

20
21 Form Approved:

22
23 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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