Introduced by Council Members Johnson, Peluso, Pittman, Gaffney, Jr.

and Boylan and Co-Sponsored by Council Member Clark-Murray:

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RESOLUTION 2025-202-A

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF APRIL 6-12, 2025, AS NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK IN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Jacksonville Public Library has been an enduring cornerstone of our community since its inception in 1878, steadfastly providing free access to knowledge, culture, history and essential community resources for well over a century; and

Jacksonville Public Library has exhibited remarkable growth and transformation, progressing from its humble beginnings to its current stature as a dynamic and thriving institution, comprising a Main Library and 20 branches, each dedicated to serving the diverse and evolving needs of our city; and

WHEREAS, the library system public has consistently demonstrated its adaptability to best serve Jacksonville's residents by offering a wide spectrum of services, including live events, public computer access, a Memory Lab that enables individuals to digitize precious photographs and videos, and free online courses; and

in 2024, library locations were visited over 2.2 million times, more than 7.4 million items were borrowed, and an impressive total of 11,629 live events were hosted, including Jax Book Fest, an event that drew thousands of attendees and gave visitors the opportunity to hear from and meet renowned New York Times bestselling authors for free; and

WHEREAS, National Library Week, an annual celebration, presents a unique opportunity to acknowledge the valuable role that

libraries, librarians, and library workers play in the transformation of lives, the fortification of communities, and the cultivation of a genuine love for literacy and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, in observance of National Library Week, the Jacksonville Public Library remains steadfast in its mission to enrich lives, build community, and foster lifelong learning, affirming the city's deep-seated appreciation for the dedicated staff and invaluable services of the library; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby recognizes April 6-12, 2025, as National Library Week in Jacksonville and encourages all citizens to visit one of Jacksonville Public Library's 21 locations or borrow items online, and to express their appreciation for Jacksonville Public Library publicly with friends, colleagues, and family members in person and/or on social media channels.

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

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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Form Approved: