

1 Introduced by Council Member Diamond & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Becton, Morgan, Salem, Gaffney, DeFoor, Carrico, White,
3 Boylan, Priestly Jackson, Newby, Freeman, Bowman, Cumber, Carlucci,
4 Dennis, Ferraro, Hazouri, and Pittman & amended on the Floor of
5 Council:

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8 **RESOLUTION 2021-568-A**

9 A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY
10 OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE
11 BEACH; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON
12 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

13
14 **WHEREAS**, Neptune was originally named by land speculator
15 Eugene Gilbert in 1885, who advertised it as "The City By The Sea".
16 Present-day Neptune Beach was originally incorporated as part of
17 the City of Pablo Beach, which later became Jacksonville Beach; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the name "Neptune Beach" derived from a railroad
19 station constructed in 1922 by Dan G. Wheeler at the end of
20 Atlantic Boulevard to serve as a stop on the Jacksonville to
21 Mayport rail line, located where the Seahorse Inn is now; and

22 **WHEREAS**, in 1931, there were approximately 70 cottages in
23 Neptune Beach, mostly summer residences owned by Jacksonville
24 residents. In 1931, the homeowners led a movement to secede from
25 Jacksonville Beach, largely as a revolt over a special tax levy. On
26 August 11, 1931, Neptune Beach property owners went to the Gulf
27 filling station on Atlantic Boulevard and voted 113-31 to separate
28 from Jacksonville Beach and form its own town, which was
29 incorporated as the City of Neptune Beach. The government met in
30 Wheeler's old train station until a new town hall was completed in

1 1935; and

2 **WHEREAS**, for its first 45 years, Neptune Beach grew slowly.
3 When the consolidation referendum for the City of Jacksonville and
4 Duval County was held in 1967, residents of Neptune Beach approved
5 the consolidation of the city and county as residents of Duval
6 County, but also voted to retain their status as an independent
7 city with their own mayor, council, and city services; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the city of 2.5 square miles has grown from 70
9 cottages to the home to 7,500 residents, with 31 acres of parks and
10 1.2 miles of beaches. Neptune Beach residents appreciate the
11 residential character of the community and the beach lifestyle; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the City of Neptune Beach is planning for the future,
13 and strives to conserve, utilize, and protect its natural resources
14 for generations to come. The City was honored recently by the
15 American Planning Association, Florida Chapter, for an APA Florida
16 Award of Excellence in the Best Practices category for their
17 submission "The City of Neptune Beach: A Model City for Inclusive
18 Planning and Coastal Resiliency Through Vision Planning and
19 Responsive, Innovative Policies", selected for its innovative and
20 approach to engaging the public; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville wishes to recognize this
22 important anniversary in the history of its fellow city; now
23 therefore

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

25 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby commemorates
26 the 90th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Neptune
27 Beach and congratulates the Mayor, City Council, employees and
28 citizens of Neptune Beach on this important milestone. The City of
29 Jacksonville extends its best wishes for continued prosperity and
30 success as a partner in serving our mutual constituents.

31 **Section 2. Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**

1 **pursuant to Council Rule 4.901.** Emergency passage upon introduction
2 of this Resolution is requested so that this Resolution may be
3 presented to the City of Neptune Beach in a timely manner for the
4 90th Anniversary on August 11, 2021.

5 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
6 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
7 without the Mayor's signature.

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9 Form Approved:

10
11 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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