

1 Introduced by Council Members Carlucci, Becton, White, Morgan,  
2 Carrico, Boylan, Gaffney, Jr., Clark-Murray, Diamond, Salem and  
3 Howland and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Freeman, Bowman, Pittman  
4 and Priestly Jackson:  
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7 **RESOLUTION 2023-319-A**

8 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE  
9 JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 2023 "SUMMER  
10 LEARNING AT THE LIBRARY" PROGRAM; PROVIDING AN  
11 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
12

13 **WHEREAS,** libraries contribute to the intellectual growth of  
14 children and teens during the summer through reading programs, and  
15 students who do not participate in educational activities or  
16 experiences during the school summer break period can lose up to two  
17 months of reading achievement; and

18 **WHEREAS,** two-thirds of the reading achievement gap between  
19 high- and low-socioeconomic status 9<sup>th</sup> graders can be explained by  
20 unequal access to summer learning opportunities, and one-third of the  
21 gap is present before students begin school; and

22 **WHEREAS,** more than 60% of America's low-income children are  
23 growing up in homes without age-appropriate books or reading  
24 materials, leaving them an average of three years behind children  
25 raised in homes with many books; and

26 **WHEREAS,** children and teens can benefit from summer programs  
27 that combine elements of youth development principles with academic  
28 enrichment, and visiting their local library provides children with  
29 access to unlimited amounts of reading materials. Public libraries  
30 supplement access to reading materials with fun and enriching events

1 and activities that are free and open to all citizens in their service  
2 area; and

3 **WHEREAS,** adults who read regularly and use their public library  
4 are role models for children, motivating them to become lifelong  
5 readers and learners; and

6 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Public Library encourages a love of  
7 reading through access to books both in libraries and by giving  
8 children books during the summer so those children can build their  
9 home libraries. These young library users will receive an opportunity  
10 to become lifelong readers and learners, by visiting the library  
11 frequently; now, therefore

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

13 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville recognizes and commends  
14 the Jacksonville Public Library for its 2023 Summer Learning at the  
15 Library program conducted during June and July of 2023. During this  
16 time, all parents and caregivers are encouraged to visit the library  
17 with their children to read and borrow books, participate in summer  
18 learning activities, and earn free books when they meet their summer  
19 reading goals.

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

23  
24 Form Approved:

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26 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

27 Office of General Counsel

28 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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