

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Becton, Dennis, Diamond, DeFoor, Carlucci, Newby, Ferraro,
3 and Salem:

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6 **RESOLUTION 2019-823-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING RUTH
8 LOUISE GRAHAM RAY ON THE OCCASION OF HER 107TH
9 BIRTHDAY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

10
11 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville native Ruth Louise Graham Ray was born
12 on October 31, 1912, the daughter of Darius and Ruth Dixon Graham,
13 and graduated from Stanton High School in 1930; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Ms. Ray was educated at Bethune-Cookman College
15 (Associate of Science degree), Tuskegee University (Bachelor's
16 degree) and Hampton University (Master's degree) and did additional
17 study at Florida A&M University, the University of Florida, the
18 University of Michigan and New York University; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Ruth Ray had an abiding love of learning and teaching
20 from a very young age, began her teaching career in the Duval
21 County School District in 1933, and retired from Florida State
22 College at Jacksonville (formerly FCCJ) in 1983 after providing 50
23 years of excellence in teaching and counseling, following in the
24 footsteps of her mother who also taught for 50 years; and

25 **WHEREAS**, in addition to teaching, one of Ms. Ray's other
26 abiding passions was the Girl Scouts, where she served for over 40
27 years as a troop leader and as a certified national trainer for
28 troop leaders. She was one of the first African-American troop
29 leaders in Jacksonville to attend the Edith Macy National Training
30 Schools for the Girls Scouts of America in 1953; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Ruth Ray has a wide range of other interests,

1 including national and international travel, sports, music and
2 prose and poetry writing; and

3 **WHEREAS**, at the age of 107, Ms. Ray, who for over 40 years
4 served as Secretary of the Trustee Ministry at Bethel Baptist
5 Church where she is now the oldest member, has positively impacted
6 the lives of thousands of people through her work, her writing, her
7 music and her friendship; now therefore

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

9 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
10 congratulates Ruth Louise Graham Ray on the occasion of her 107th
11 birthday and thanks her for her countless contributions over her
12 long life to her students, her church and her community. The City
13 extends its heartiest congratulations on a long life well lived and
14 its best wishes for continued health and happiness.

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

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19 Form Approved:

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21 */s/ Margaret M. Sidman*

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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