

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-333**

5 A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING JACKSONVILLE'S
6 BICENTENNIAL AND URGING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN
7 THE MANY ACTIVITIES PLANNED TO CELEBRATE THE
8 CITY'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE; COMMENDING AND
9 THANKING THE ORGANIZERS OF JACKSONVILLE'S
10 BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION FESTIVITIES; PROVIDING
11 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the name "Jacksonville" first appeared on an official
14 document when Isaiah D. Hart and 60 citizens living along the St.
15 Johns River petitioned U.S. Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams,
16 on June 15, 1822 to designate "Jacksonville" in the Territory of
17 Florida as an official port of entry for the United States; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the name "Jacksonville" was likely chosen by the
19 citizens of the area then known as "the cow ford" or "Cowford" as an
20 homage to Florida's former territorial governor, and War of 1812 hero
21 General Andrew Jackson; and

22 **WHEREAS**, although the initial petition for port of entry status
23 was unsuccessful, in 1832 the Florida Legislature approved a town
24 charter for Jacksonville and the city we now know was officially
25 born; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville grew substantially in the 1840s and 1850s
27 due to its status as a seaport and riverport and a producer and
28 exporter of naval stores. The Civil War slowed the City's development,
29 but growth rebounded in the post-war years as Jacksonville became a
30 manufacturing and commercial center and, by the late 19th century, a
31 railroad destination and popular winter tourism destination for

1 Northerners enjoying the area's warm weather, beaches, and lush sub-
2 tropical scenery; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville's greatest calamity occurred with the
4 Great Fire in May 1901, but the industrious city quickly rebounded,
5 rebuilt, and participated with the rest of the state in the great
6 Florida land boom of the early decades of the twentieth century. The
7 City's seaport and railroad assets and its mild climate made it an
8 important center for military training and shipbuilding in World Wars
9 I and II, and Jacksonville continues to be the site of some of the
10 most important U.S. Navy facilities on the East Coast; and

11 **WHEREAS**, throughout the twentieth century and continuing to the
12 present, Jacksonville's economy diversified into the fields of
13 banking, financial services, and insurance; advanced technology and
14 manufacturing; aviation and aerospace; health care and life sciences;
15 logistics; and education. The City's reputation for entrepreneurship
16 and job creation has made it one of the most attractive places for
17 new development in the country, and its population and business growth
18 in recent decades have made Jacksonville one of America's premier
19 cities; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the bicentennial of the emergence of Jacksonville from
21 its Cowford beginnings offers the City and its one million citizens
22 the opportunity to reflect on our long and fascinating history and
23 to eagerly anticipate and plan for what the next century has to offer
24 for our city and our region; now therefore

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

26 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby commemorates the
27 bicentennial of the creation of Jacksonville and urges all citizens
28 to be active participants in the many and varied activities planned
29 to celebrate the City's past, present, and future.

30 **Section 2.** The Council commends and thanks the leadership
31 and staff of the Jacksonville Historical Society, the Jacksonville

1 Bicentennial Task Force, the City's Parks, Recreation and Community
2 Services Department and its Special Events Division, many generous
3 donors, and the army of participants who are working so hard to make
4 the various bicentennial events and celebrations such a tremendous
5 success.

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

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10 Form Approved:

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12 _____
13 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

14 Office of General Counsel

15 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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