

Introduced by Council Member Miller:

RESOLUTION 2025-699

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2025 AS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month is observed each year from September 15 to October 15 to honor the histories, cultures, and contributions of individuals whose ancestry traces to Spain, Mexico, and Central and South America; and

WHEREAS, the starting date of September 15 marks the independence anniversaries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, with Mexico and Chile celebrating soon after, making the month a symbolic recognition of Latin American independence and heritage; and

WHEREAS, in September 1968, President Lyndon Johnson issued the first Hispanic Heritage Week proclamation, and the celebration was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a month from mid-September to mid-October, which encompasses the time period when numerous Hispanic countries declared their independence from Spain; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino communities are a significant demographic group in the United States, now representing nearly one in four children, highlighting the growing influence and role in shaping the nation's future; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Hispanic and Latino heritage have had a profound impact on our city's business, cultural, political, and

1 social scenes since its founding. They operate successful businesses,
2 serve in the armed forces, hold public offices, participate in
3 numerous community benefit organizations and activities, tantalize
4 our tastebuds with delicious and varied cuisines exemplifying their
5 cultural heritage, and enliven our cultural scene with all manners
6 of visual and performing arts; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the City Council celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month
8 2025 to affirm the diversity of its residents, encourage cultural
9 understanding, and honor the achievements of Hispanic and Latino
10 communities in enriching our shared civic life; now therefore

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

12 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the period from
13 September 15 through October 15, 2025 as Hispanic Heritage Month 2025
14 in Jacksonville, and urges all citizens to seek out, recognize, and
15 enjoy the influence that Hispanic and Latino cultures continue to
16 have on our city's quality of life.

17 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
18 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
19 introduction of this Resolution is requested. The nature of this
20 emergency is to ensure timely recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month
21 within the designated period.

22 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
23 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
24 without the Mayor's signature.

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26 Form Approved:

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28 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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