

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Gaffney, Jr., Freeman and Johnson:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-747-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE
7 MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025 AS FILIPINO AMERICAN
8 HISTORY MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING
9 EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING
10 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

11
12 **WHEREAS**, Filipino American History Month is observed annually
13 during the month of October to honor the history, resilience, and
14 contributions of Filipino Americans; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the celebration of Filipino American History Month in
16 October commemorates the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the
17 continental United States which occurred on October 18, 1587, when
18 the Luzones Indios landed from the Spanish galleon Nuestra Señora de
19 Esperanza at what is now Morro Bay, California; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2009, the United States Congress officially
21 recognized October as Filipino American History Month, paying tribute
22 to the rich history and significant contributions of Filipino
23 Americans to the growth and diversity of our nation; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Filipino Americans constitute the second-largest Asian
25 American Group in the United States, and in 2024 Jacksonville had the
26 largest Filipino American population in the Southeast, demonstrating
27 their significant presence throughout the region; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the Filipino American community has played an integral
29 role in shaping the history, culture, and identity of Jacksonville,
30 enriching our City's diversity through their leadership, talent, and
31 dedication; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Alliance of Filipino American Organizations of
2 Northeast Florida, Inc. ("The Alliance"), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
3 organization composed of nine of the most prominent and
4 active Filipino American Organizations in NE Florida; and

5 **WHEREAS**, The Alliance is a collaborative network united in their
6 mission to celebrate Filipino heritage, strengthen community bonds,
7 and promote the well-being of Filipino Americans throughout the
8 region; and

9 **WHEREAS**, The Alliance honors this mission through annual
10 celebrations of Philippine Independence Day and active participation
11 in Jacksonville's city-wide cultural showcase, the World of Nations,
12 thereby preserving Filipino traditions and fostering cross-cultural
13 understanding within the broader community; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Filipino Americans have enriched the nation through a
15 wide array of professions including education, healthcare, business,
16 public service, and military service; notably, between 250,000 and
17 400,000 Filipinos served under U.S. command during World War II, and
18 the community continues to include distinguished veterans and active-
19 duty personnel, a legacy especially meaningful to Jacksonville's
20 sizeable veteran population; and

21 **WHEREAS**, as the largest Asian American constituency in Northeast
22 Florida, the Filipino American community, through The Alliance, has
23 demonstrated a deep commitment to civic engagement, cultural
24 education, and public service, helping to build a vibrant city for
25 all; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Filipino American History Month serves as an
27 opportunity for communities nationwide, including the City of
28 Jacksonville, to recognize the deep heritage, cultural richness, and
29 civic and military contributions of Filipino Americans; now therefore

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

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes and

celebrates the month of October 2025 as Filipino American History Month in Jacksonville, Florida, and encourages all citizens to celebrate the invaluable contributions of Filipino Americans to our City and nation. Let us continue to embrace the diversity and richness that Filipino culture brings to Jacksonville, fostering a community of inclusion, mutual respect, and shared prosperity.

Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency. Emergency passage upon introduction of this Resolution is requested. The nature of this emergency is to ensure timely recognition of Filipino American History Month within the designated period.

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

Form Approved:

/s/Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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