

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Member Peluso:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-639-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS  
7 LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH; PROVIDING AN  
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting  
11 the free exchange of information and ideas for all; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville Public Library has a mission to enrich  
13 lives, build community, and foster success by bringing people,  
14 information, and ideas together; and

15 **WHEREAS**, libraries play a crucial role in the education and  
16 development of children, from early childhood reading programs to  
17 homework help and college planning for high schoolers; and

18 **WHEREAS**, since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held  
19 each September to mark the beginning of the school year, and during  
20 this month, libraries unite in a national effort to ensure every  
21 child signs up for their own library card; and

22 **WHEREAS**, public libraries and library staff will assist  
23 parents and caregivers throughout the school year by saving hundreds  
24 of dollars on educational resources and services for students; and

25 **WHEREAS**, a library card is one of the most cost-effective back-  
26 to-school supplies available, providing free access to technology,  
27 research, books, videos, digital content, library spaces, enriching  
28 and educational events, and helpful library staff members; and

29 **WHEREAS**, libraries help people of all ages navigate the  
30 complexities of life, providing access to research, information, and  
31 government services that allow everyone to lead more productive and

1 fulfilling lives; and

2 **WHEREAS,** libraries are welcoming and inclusive spaces for  
3 people of all backgrounds to learn together and engage with one  
4 another across cultural, ethnic, generational, and economic lines,  
5 strengthening the social fabric of the communities they serve; and

6 **WHEREAS,** libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and  
7 collections that are as diverse as the populations they service and  
8 ensure equity of access for all; and

9 **WHEREAS,** libraries contribute to a strong local economy by  
10 providing access to the technology and training that is critical to  
11 the success of job-seekers, entrepreneurs, and students; and

12 **WHEREAS,** in times of crisis, libraries and library  
13 professionals play an invaluable role in supporting their communities  
14 both in person and virtually; and

15 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Public Library cardholders borrowed more  
16 than 4.2 million books, DVDs, e-books, e-audiobooks, and streaming  
17 videos in the last year; now therefore

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

19 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby proclaims September 2024  
20 as "Library Card Sign-Up Month." During this month, all Duval  
21 residents who do not have a Jacksonville Public Library card are  
22 encouraged to obtain one for free, online or at any Jacksonville  
23 Public Library Location. All those who have an active Jacksonville  
24 Public Library card are urged to speak with their friends, colleagues,  
25 and neighbors about the benefits of a free Jacksonville Public Library  
26 Card.

27 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
28 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
29 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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