

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

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5 **RESOLUTION 2026-111-A**

6 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2026
7 AS IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN
8 JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, persons of Irish descent have been in America since the
11 earliest days of its founding, including 9 of the 56 signers of the
12 Declaration of Independence who had Irish origins; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the terrible potato famine of the 1840s decimated
14 Ireland's population and drove more than one million people to
15 immigrate to the United States in search of a better life; and

16 **WHEREAS**, nearly 4.5 million Irish immigrants arrived in the U.S.
17 between 1820 and 1930, and there are now more than 31 million
18 Americans who claim Irish ancestry, including over 118,000 who were
19 born in Ireland but have made their home in America; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the original Irish immigrants had humble beginnings in
21 our country, supporting the American economy and their families
22 through jobs as farmers, servants, miners, factory workers, laborers,
23 police officers and firefighters; and

24 **WHEREAS**, despite facing decades of anti-Irish discrimination,
25 Irish American citizens have contributed greatly to the fabric of
26 American culture, through invention, architecture, entrepreneurship,
27 literature, poetry, music, and politics; and

28 **WHEREAS**, while many people associate the month of March with St.
29 Patrick's Day, the entire month of March was recognized as Irish
30 American Heritage Month by Congress in 1990 and through Presidential
31 proclamation since 1991; now therefore

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

2 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes the month of
3 March 2026 to be Irish American Heritage Month in Jacksonville and
4 encourages all citizens to take the opportunity to learn more about
5 the history and contributions of Irish immigrants to American life
6 and culture and to celebrate their positive impact on our country.

7 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
8 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
9 without the Mayor's signature.

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11 Form Approved:

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13 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

14 Office of General Counsel

15 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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