

1 Introduced by Council Members Morgan and Boylan and Co-Sponsored by
2 Council Members Becton, Bowman, DeFoor, Gaffney, Priestly Jackson &
3 Pittman:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2022-295-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CONGRATULATING WJCT
8 PUBLIC MEDIA ON PROVIDING 50 YEARS OF "RADIO
9 THAT MATTERS"; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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11 **WHEREAS**, on April 10, 1972, WJCT 89.9 FM joined a nationwide
12 network of public radio stations and took to the air in Jacksonville
13 as "Stereo 90", broadcasting music, news, and public affairs
14 programming for approximately 18 hours a day to the Northeast Florida/
15 Southeast Georgia region; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the station has changed formats over the years as
17 broadcasting trends and listener preferences have changed, and after
18 changing to an all-news/talk format in 2020 the station has operated
19 as WJCT News 89.9 and garnered some of the largest audiences in its
20 history; and

21 **WHEREAS**, the station's programming includes WJCT productions
22 such as the local public affairs call-in program "First Coast Connect
23 with Melissa Ross," which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2020,
24 and the new health program "What's Health Got To Do With It," which
25 debuted in the last year. WJCT News 89.9 is also the co-producer of
26 the statewide public affairs program "The Florida Roundup," and
27 broadcasts other Florida-focused programs such as "Florida Frontiers"
28 and "Capital Report," in addition to live local newscasts throughout
29 the day; and

30 **WHEREAS**, WJCT News 89.9 is Northeast Florida's local source for
31 the two most popular national news magazine programs in the country,

1 "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" from NPR News. Alongside
2 these listener favorites, the station carries programs from a range
3 of program producers and distributors, including National Public
4 Radio (NPR), American Public Media, PRX and others; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the station has continually adapted over the years as
6 media technology has changed, now offering its content both over the
7 airwaves and through a variety of digital platforms, from HD radio
8 to computer streaming to cellphone apps. These new platforms allow
9 WJCT Public Media to provide a wide range of alternative programming
10 in addition to its primary news/talk format, including podcasts and
11 several channels of digital radio in formats ranging from classical
12 to eclectically curated music streams; and

13 **WHEREAS**, WJCT Public Media is one of the cornerstone
14 institutions in Jacksonville, facilitating public discussion on the
15 important issues of the day, providing timely and accurate news
16 reporting from around the city, the state, the nation, and the world,
17 and facilitating countless events to educate, inform, and entertain
18 the citizens of the Northeast Florida region while building a sense
19 of shared community; now therefore

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

21 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and congratulates
22 WJCT Public Media on providing 50 years of "Radio that Matters" to
23 the Northeast Florida region and extends its best wishes for another
24 half century and more of producing and airing quality programming
25 that enlightens, informs and entertains the region's listening
26 audience. The City commends WJCT Public Media's President and CEO
27 David McGowan, Board Chair Matt Rapp and the station's governing
28 board, and the station's employees for all they do for the
29 Jacksonville community.

30 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
31 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective

1 without the Mayor's signature.

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3 Form Approved:

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5 _____ /s/ Paige H. Johnston

6 Office of General Counsel

7 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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