

1 Introduced by Council Member Clark-Murray and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Freeman, Miller and Johnson:

3
4
5 **RESOLUTION 2026-160-A**

6 A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING APRIL 2026 AS AUTISM
7 ACCEPTANCE MONTH; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the month of April is globally acknowledged as Autism
10 Acceptance Month, dedicated to increasing awareness, understanding,
11 and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder; and

12 **WHEREAS**, autism spectrum disorders are characterized by a range
13 of challenges and strengths, impacting social communication,
14 behavior, and sensory experiences; and

15 **WHEREAS**, individuals with autism are valued members of the
16 Jacksonville community, whose unique perspectives, talents, and
17 abilities enrich the cultural, educational, and economic fabric of
18 the City; and

19 **WHEREAS**, families, caregivers, educators, healthcare
20 professionals, advocates, and other service providers in the City
21 work tirelessly to provide inclusive and supportive environments for
22 individuals with autism; and

23 **WHEREAS**, raising awareness about autism is essential in
24 promoting early diagnosis, intervention, and access to appropriate
25 resources; and

26 **WHEREAS**, creating an inclusive and supportive environment for
27 individuals with autism involves promoting understanding, empathy,
28 and acceptance within schools, workplaces, homes, and communities;
29 and

30 **WHEREAS**, promoting awareness and acceptance of individuals with
31 autism helps reduce stigma and strengthens the City's commitment to

1 accessibility, inclusivity, and opportunity; now therefore

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

3 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby acknowledges April 2026
4 as Autism Acceptance Month in Jacksonville and encourages all
5 residents to recognize and support individuals with autism and their
6 families.

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.

10
11 Form Approved:

12
13 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

14 Office of General Counsel

15 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

16 GC-#1741345-v1-2026-160-A.docx