

1 Co-Introduced by Council President Freeman at the request of the  
2 Mayor and Kids Hope Alliance:  
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5 **ORDINANCE 2023-151**

6 AN ORDINANCE HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE  
7 ACHIEVEMENTS OF HOWARD I. KORMAN IN SERVING THE  
8 CHILDREN AND YOUTH OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE  
9 BY NAMING THE BOARD ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF  
10 KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BUILDING, LOCATED AT 1095 A.  
11 PHILIP RANDOLPH BOULEVARD, JACKSONVILLE,  
12 FLORIDA 32206, THE "HOWARD I. KORMAN BOARD  
13 ROOM"; WAIVING SECTION 122.102 (A) (NAMING OF  
14 AND SIGNAGE ON PUBLIC FACILITIES REGULATED),  
15 *ORDINANCE CODE*, REGARDING THE NAMING PUBLIC  
16 FACILITIES AFTER LIVING PEOPLE; PROVIDING AN  
17 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, Howard I. Korman is the true definition of a community  
20 steward, and his commitment to the children and youth of the City of  
21 Jacksonville spans decades of generations of families who may not  
22 know his name, may not have ever met him, but should know that their  
23 lives are better today because Mr. Korman cares so deeply about those  
24 in need; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Korman has always felt strongly about improving the  
26 quality of early literacy and the learning services for Jacksonville's  
27 youngest citizens paying special attention to children and youth  
28 living in low-income neighborhoods; and

29 **WHEREAS**, one leading example of Mr. Korman's unwavering  
30 commitment to children and youth was his time, talent, and dedication  
31 he gave while he served on the board of The Early Learning Coalition

1 ("ELC") for two terms being very involved in developing the Central  
2 Agency for the ELC and being very instrumental on creating a "Quality  
3 Rating System"; and

4 **WHEREAS**, while serving on the ELC board, Mr. Korman became  
5 involved on the Mayor's Jacksonville Early Literacy Partnership also  
6 known as "JELP"; and

7 **WHEREAS**, during Mr. Korman's tenure with JELP, he exhibited the  
8 courage to do what was right for our children and youth, unyielding  
9 energy, unparalleled intelligence and talent beyond belief, and a  
10 drive to realize the JELP shared vision that "every child enter  
11 kindergarten ready to read, ready to learn, and ready to succeed!";  
12 and

13 **WHEREAS**, as a long-time leading advocate for children and youth,  
14 Mr. Korman also was one of the first leaders in Jacksonville to stand  
15 up and say Jacksonville needed a focused commission that served the  
16 children and youth of Jacksonville - no matter what neighborhood they  
17 came from, what their family's status in the community was, or what  
18 their need was - great or small; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Korman stood next to such great leaders as former  
20 Mayor Ed Austin to lead Jacksonville forward by creating the  
21 Jacksonville Children's Commission in 1994, where he eventually  
22 served on the board and chaired it, taking it to a level of excellence  
23 that was modeled around the state of Florida and the nation; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Korman was also instrumental in working with Mayor  
25 Lenny Curry, other City leaders, and non-profits to revamp the  
26 Jacksonville Children's Commission by forming a new City agency known  
27 as Kids Hope Alliance, the lead City agency responsible for  
28 implementing a comprehensive and integrated system of essential  
29 programs and services to address the critical needs of children and  
30 youth; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Korman was also recognized through his work with

1 children and families across Jacksonville, and he was one of the  
2 first to shed light on a crisis looming in our city that was not  
3 receiving the attention that it deserved: that of the infant mortality  
4 rate; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Korman chaired an important task force organized  
6 by Jacksonville Community Council, Inc. (JCCI) to not only study the  
7 high infant mortality rate issue, but implement policies and programs  
8 to address this tragic situation, and because of Mr. Korman's ability  
9 to turn from thought to action to results many lives of children have  
10 been spared; and

11 **WHEREAS**, today, many people across our community rally and  
12 support issues related to those in need - especially our most  
13 vulnerable - but Mr. Korman did more than talk about the sorrows and  
14 the woes of those in need, he stood tall and rallied those in powerful  
15 positions to make things happen; and

16 **WHEREAS**, it can truly be said that but for Howard I. Korman,  
17 Jacksonville's children and youth would not be receiving the  
18 attention, commitment, and resources this community places on them  
19 today; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in honor of Mr. Korman's long career of service to the  
21 children and youth of the City of Jacksonville, the Mayor, the City  
22 Council, and Kids Hope Alliance desire to name the Kids Hope Alliance  
23 board room on the second floor of the Kids Hope Alliance building  
24 located at 1095 A. Philip Randolph Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida  
25 32206, the "Howard I. Korman Board Room"; and

26 **WHEREAS**, a copy of the Kids Hope Alliance board resolution from  
27 its meeting held on February 22, 2023, is attached hereto as **Exhibit**  
28 **1**; now therefore

29 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

30 **Section 1. Recitals.** The recitals above are true and  
31 correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

