

1 Introduced by Council Member Clark-Murray:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2026-160**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 **WHEREAS**, promoting awareness and acceptance of individuals with  
30 autism helps reduce stigma and strengthens the City's commitment to  
31 accessibility, inclusivity, and opportunity; now therefore

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

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

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

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10 Form Approved:

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12 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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