

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Salem and Amaro:

3
4
5 **RESOLUTION 2025-668-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE UNITY
7 FOOTBALL CLASSIC AND RECOGNIZING THE
8 CONTRIBUTIONS OF EDWARD WATERS UNIVERSITY AND
9 VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY IN CELEBRATING
10 COMMUNITY, UNITY, AND EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE;
11 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the Unity Football Classic will hold its Inaugural
14 Celebration in Jacksonville during the weekend of September 12-13,
15 2025, featuring a spirited matchup between Edward Waters University
16 and Virginia Union University; and

17 **WHEREAS**, this historic event includes the Unity Kick-Off
18 Luncheon at Edward Waters University and the Unity Football Game
19 Halftime Recognition at the Nathaniel Glover Community Field &
20 Stadium, celebrating outstanding community leaders and fostering
21 unity across Jacksonville; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the Unity Football Classic seeks to highlight the
23 cultural heritage and community spirit of Jacksonville, providing a
24 platform to honor exemplary service by local leaders while promoting
25 awareness and appreciation for African American history, education,
26 and achievement; and

27 **WHEREAS**, Edward Waters University, Florida's first Historically
28 Black College and University (HBCU), has a proud legacy of academic
29 excellence and community leadership, while Virginia Union University
30 shares a rich tradition of higher education and athletic distinction;
31 and

1 **WHEREAS,** the Unity Football Classic will bring together
2 students, alumni, faculty, and community members in a weekend of
3 celebration that honors the contributions of both institutions and
4 strengthens the bonds of unity within the City of Jacksonville; now
5 therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends the
8 Unity Football Classic, Edward Waters University, and Virginia Union
9 University for their role in advancing educational opportunities,
10 athletic excellence, and community unity and recognizes the
11 importance of cultural and historical celebrations such as the Unity
12 Football Classic in strengthening Jacksonville's identity as a
13 diverse and vibrant city.

14 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
15 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
16 without the Mayor's signature.

17
18 Form Approved:

19
20 /s/Mary E. Staffopoulos

21 Office of General Counsel

22 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

23 GC-#1709592-v1-2025-668-A.docx