

Introduced by Council Member Miller:

RESOLUTION 2026-112

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2026
AS GREEK AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN
JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the land and islands that would become the Country of Greece was one of the great cradles of world civilization more than 2,500 years ago, producing some of the greatest philosophers, mathematicians, political theorists, and artists the world has known; and

WHEREAS, Greek explorers serving with Spanish expeditions began coming to the United States in colonial times as sailors and merchants, but did not arrive in numbers sufficient to establish permanent communities until the 1890s; and

WHEREAS, approximately 450,000 Greeks immigrated to the United States between 1890 and 1921, seeking work during the industrialization movement and to escape wars and oppression in their homeland; and

WHEREAS, after 1945, there was a new wave of Greek immigrants who came to America seeking a new life free from the economic devastation caused by World War II and the Greek Civil War, and many of these immigrants became entrepreneurs, opening small businesses and restaurants throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, today more than 2.5 million Americans claim Greek ancestry, and Greek Americans continue to contribute greatly to the economy, art, food, and culture of our country; and

WHEREAS, Greek American Heritage Month was first officially recognized by President Ronald Reagan in 1987, and has since been

1 celebrated in March each year to coincide with the commemoration of
2 Greek National Independence Day on March 25th; now therefore

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

4 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes the month of
5 March 2026 to be Greek American Heritage Month in Jacksonville and
6 encourages all citizens to take the opportunity to learn more about
7 the history and contributions of Greek immigrants to American life
8 and culture and to celebrate their positive impact on our country.

9 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
10 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
11 without the Mayor's signature.

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13 Form Approved:

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15 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

16 Office of General Counsel

17 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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