Introduced by Council Members Johnson and Carlucci:

RESOLUTION 2024-964

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING WARREN ANTHONY JONES FOR HIS DECADES OF SERVICE TO JACKSONVILLE THROUGH SERVICE IN ELECTED OFFICE AND AS A COMMUNITY LEADER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Jacksonville native Warren A. Jones graduated from Eugene Butler Middle/High School and earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones began his career with the City of Jacksonville, worked in the City's Human Resources Department as a vocational counselor and later as a junior planner in the Manpower Division before beginning a career in the real estate business; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Warren Jones was the first person to qualify to run for a City Council seat by collecting petition signatures rather than by paying a filing fee and was successfully elected, beginning a remarkable career that saw him become the longest-serving council member in the history of the City Council with 7 terms and 28 years in office. During nearly three decades of service on the Council he served on nearly every standing committee and numerous special committees and was the only person ever elected to two consecutive full terms as the Council President; and

WHEREAS, following his decades of service on the City Council, Mr. Jones continued his public service in another form by being elected to two terms on the Duval County School Board, including a year as the board chair, which term concluded in November 2024, due to term limits; and

WHEREAS, Warren Jones is the embodiment of a dedicated servant leader, devoting himself to the representation of all the citizens of Jacksonville, advocating for the needs and desires of his district constituents, and serving in the role of elder statesman, wise counselor and voice of reason to the City government, the School Board, state and federal elected officials and countless community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones has been married to the former Vanessa Stallings for more than 38 years and has been a loving husband and an amazing father; and Mr. Jones, an avid baseball fan and local little league coach was able to see his son, Mychal Warren Jones, use that coaching to progress to a stellar career in professional baseball, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones is among the select few who have devoted so much of their lives, their passion and their talent to the betterment of our community that they are universally respected and beloved, and he deserves to be commended for his embodiment of true servant leadership; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby honors and commends Warren Anthony Jones for his decades of service to the City and citizens of Jacksonville and congratulates him on the conclusion of his second term on the Duval County School Board. The Council extends to its former colleague the best wishes of the City government and Jacksonville's citizens for his continued health, happiness and service to others.

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

Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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