

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Resolution 2025-693

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Howland

Date of Introduction: September 9, 2025

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R

Date of Analysis: September 10, 2025

Type of Action: Expression of Council support and directive to the Duval Delegation coordinator

Bill Summary: This bill expresses Council's support for Local Bill J-2 to be considered by the Duval County Legislative Delegation for the 2026 State Legislative Session. The Duval Delegation Coordinator is directed to forward Civic Plus a Copy of Any Special Act of the State Legislature Which Effectuates this Request.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to express Council's support to amend Chapter 2004-464, Laws of Florida, as amended by Chapter 2005-328, Laws of Florida, to rename the Jacksonville Aviation Authority as the "Jacksonville Aviation and Aerospace Authority". The Local Bill J-2 further provides that the authority shall be responsible for economic development of Cecil Airport as a regional, state and national aerospace and related industry hub, and requires that one JAA board member who is appointed by the Mayor and one member appointed by the Governor be from the aerospace and related industry. The bill also provides a definition of "aerospace and related industry" and requires an annual submittal of an economic development plan for Cecil Airport to the City Council for its review concurrent with the authority's annual budget.

These changes reflect JAA's unique position and responsibility to look beyond just the aviation needs of the region. During its meeting on August 7, 2025, the JAA Board of Directors approved a specific effort to grow within the aerospace market when it voted unanimously to approve pursuit of a Federal Aviation Administration reentry license for Cecil Spaceport at Cecil Airport along with potential development of a "space vehicle facility". Expansion of the JAA mission to develop opportunities within the aerospace and related industries would have a significant impact on the JAA's standing as a premiere economic engine not only for the City and the region, but also within the United States and international markets.

Policy Impact Area: Local Bill J-2 – Jacksonville Aviation Authority

Fiscal Impact: No direct cost to the City

Analyst: Hampsey