

1 Introduced by Council Members Amaro, Lahnen, Pittman, Freeman, White,
2 Howland, Salem, Peluso, Arias, and Diamond and Co-Sponsored by Council
3 Members Miller, Johnson, Boylan and Gay:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2025-698-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE UNITED STATES NAVY,
8 ESTABLISHED ON OCTOBER 13, 1775, UPON ITS 250TH
9 ANNIVERSARY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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11 **WHEREAS**, on October 13, 1775, the Continental Congress
12 authorized the purchase of two vessels, thereby establishing the
13 Continental Navy to defend the colonies from British raids and
14 blockades throughout the American Revolutionary War, and henceforth
15 would become the United States Navy; and

16 **WHEREAS**, when the American Civil War began in 1861, the U.S.
17 Navy had grown from the initial two vessels to 90 ships with 10,000
18 officers and enlisted men, while the Naval War College was established
19 in 1884, and Naval aviation was inaugurated in 1910; and

20 **WHEREAS**, from deterring piracy in the Barbary Wars, to the
21 Spanish-American War, through both World Wars, and various other past
22 and modern-day conflicts as well as during peacetime, the U.S. Navy
23 has played a pivotal and instrumental role in projecting the United
24 States' foreign policy interests, diplomatic efforts, and military
25 power around the world, influencing and reassuring allies, deterring
26 adversaries, and being the vanguard for the freedom of maritime
27 navigation for all; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Navy fleet now consists of 290 ships with more
29 than 334,000 sailors and officers, and maintains Naval bases within
30 17 states and the District of Columbia, and in more than ten countries
31 across four continents, creating a strategic presence of tactical

deterrence, exercising control of the seas, and providing maritime security and humanitarian aid in times of disasters; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Navy has strong and deep roots within Jacksonville, beginning in 1940 with the establishment and commissioning of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and duty stations such as Naval Air Station Cecil Field (decommissioned in 1999), and Naval Station Mayport, which is headquarters to the U.S. Fourth Fleet that directs regional security operations and promotes peace, cooperation, stability and prosperity in the Caribbean, Central and South American region; and

WHEREAS, the presence of and partnership with these Naval installations contributed to Jacksonville becoming a thriving city of growth, where many of its personnel choose to stay after their time in service, further contributing to Jacksonville's success in many sectors, from public to private; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby honors the United States Navy upon its 250th Anniversary, with gratitude and appreciation for the service made throughout its 250 years of existence, to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and to all the men and women who have donned the uniform in defense of freedom and our great nation. Happy Birthday to the United States Navy!

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: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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