

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Peluso, Pittman and Johnson:

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4
5 **RESOLUTION 2026-407-A**

6 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING JUNE 12, 2026, AS
7 PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY; PROVIDING AN
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the movement for Philippine independence was shaped by
11 the leadership and sacrifice of national heroes including Dr. José
12 Rizal, whose writings awakened a collective consciousness and
13 inspired the pursuit of freedom, and General Emilio Aguinaldo, under
14 whose authority the Act of Declaration of Independence was proclaimed
15 on June 12, 1898, with the public reading delivered by Ambrosio
16 Rianzares Bautista, the document's author and Aguinaldo's designated
17 representative; and

18 **WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2026, the Filipino American community will
19 celebrate the 128th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, in
20 recognition of the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the
21 Revolutionary Government; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Philippine Independence Day is a special public holiday
23 throughout the Philippines in celebration of freedom, liberty and
24 independence, and inherent rights of all people; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Filipino Americans have served with distinction as
26 members of the Armed Forces for over a century and sacrificed their
27 lives in many wars, the first wave of Filipino immigrants to
28 Jacksonville began in the 1940s as a result of enlistment of Filipinos
29 in the U.S. Navy during World War II and has continued through the
30 decades, developing ever closer ties between Jacksonville and the
31 Philippines; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville is now home to the largest Filipino
2 population in Florida, with more than 25,000 residents of Filipino
3 descent, the largest Asian immigrant population in the city,
4 contributing tremendously to the City's cultural, economic, medical
5 and dining heritage; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Philippine Independence Day is an opportunity to
7 recognize Jacksonville's Filipino Americans and appreciate their
8 important and vibrant contributions to the City's identity and growth;
9 now therefore

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

11 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby celebrates June 12,
12 2026, as Philippine Independence Day and honors the multitude of
13 contributions that Filipino Americans have made to enrich the culture
14 of our City, State and Nation.

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

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19 Form Approved:

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21 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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