

Introduced by Council Member Miller:

RESOLUTION 2026-111

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

WHEREAS, persons of Irish descent have been in America since the earliest days of its founding, including 9 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence who had Irish origins; and

WHEREAS, the terrible potato famine of the 1840s decimated Ireland's population and drove more than one million people to immigrate to the United States in search of a better life; and

WHEREAS, nearly 4.5 million Irish immigrants arrived in the U.S. between 1820 and 1930, and there are now more than 31 million Americans who claim Irish ancestry, including over 118,000 who were born in Ireland but have made their home in America; and

WHEREAS, the original Irish immigrants had humble beginnings in our country, supporting the American economy and their families through jobs as farmers, servants, miners, factory workers, laborers, police officers and firefighters; and

WHEREAS, despite facing decades of anti-Irish discrimination, Irish American citizens have contributed greatly to the fabric of American culture, through invention, architecture, entrepreneurship, literature, poetry, music, and politics; and

WHEREAS, while many people associate the month of March with St. Patrick's Day, the entire month of March was recognized as Irish American Heritage Month by Congress in 1990 and through Presidential proclamation since 1991; now therefore

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

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

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

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10 Form Approved:

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12 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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