

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Amaro, Arias, Boylan, J. Carlucci, Carlucci, Carrico, Clark-
3 Murray, Diamond, Gaffney, Jr., Gay, Howland, Johnson, Lahnen, Miller,
4 Peluso, Pittman, Salem and White and amended on the Floor of Council:
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7 **RESOLUTION 2024-967-A**

8 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING NOVEMBER 23, 2024, AS
9 NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY IN JACKSONVILLE AND
10 RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL
11 ADOPTION MONTH; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE
12 UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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14 **WHEREAS**, in more than 400 communities across the country,
15 courts have opened their doors on or around the Saturday before
16 Thanksgiving for "National Adoption Day" to finalize and celebrate
17 adoptions while simultaneously recognizing this day as an opportunity
18 to raise awareness of the children in foster care waiting to be
19 adopted; and

20 **WHEREAS**, since 1995, November has been known as National
21 Adoption Month, with a focus upon the adoption of children currently
22 in foster care, and an opportunity to honor adoptive families who
23 chose to provide children with a permanent place to call home; and

24 **WHEREAS**, nationwide more than 100,000 children are waiting to
25 be adopted, and in Florida in 2022, more than 8,000 children in foster
26 care awaited adoption and 3,800 children were adopted; and

27 **WHEREAS**, one in every thirty-five children in the United States
28 is adopted, and the act of adoption is life-changing, for children,
29 parents, and extended families and friends; now therefore

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

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby celebrates November 23,

1 2024 as National Adoption Day in the City of Jacksonville, providing
2 a special opportunity to acknowledge the creation of new and growing
3 families on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The City Council also
4 celebrates November as National Adoption Month, creating an
5 opportunity to spread awareness about adoption, advocate for the
6 wellbeing of children in foster care, and to honor families that have
7 given children a permanent place to call home.

8 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
9 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
10 introduction of this legislation is requested to allow the City
11 Council to recognize and celebrate National Adoption Day and National
12 Adoption Month in November in a timely manner.

13 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
14 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
15 without the Mayor's signature.

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17 Form Approved:

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19 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

20 Office of General Counsel

21 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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