

1 Introduced by Council Members Pittman, Clark-Murray, Johnson,  
2 Gaffney, Jr. and Carrico and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Howland,  
3 Salem, Miller, White, Amaro, Boylan and Freeman:  
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6 **RESOLUTION 2026-55-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE 2025  
8 WILLIAM M. RAINES HIGH SCHOOL VIKINGS FOOTBALL  
9 TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2025 FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL  
10 ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP  
11 AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE LEADERSHIP OF HEAD COACH  
12 DONOVAN MASLINE AND INVALUABLE SUPPORT FROM THE  
13 BAND, CHEERLEADERS, COACHES, FACULTY, PARENTS,  
14 ALUMNI, AND COMMUNITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
15 DATE.  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the athletic tradition at William M. Raines High School  
18 has become legendary across the State of Florida, forged by  
19 generations of student athletes and coaches who transformed Viking  
20 football into a symbol of resilience, discipline, and championship  
21 caliber performance; and

22 **WHEREAS**, on December 12, 2025, the Raines Vikings completed one  
23 of the most remarkable championship runs in Florida high school  
24 football history by defeating Miami Northwestern Senior High School  
25 by a score of 23 to 22 in the Florida High School Athletic Association  
26 Class 3A Championship Game at Pitbull Stadium in Miami, securing the  
27 program's fourth state title and finishing the season undefeated at  
28 14 and 0; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the championship was sealed dramatically when senior  
30 quarterback TJ Cole, in the final moments of his high school career,  
31 with 10 seconds remaining in the game, delivered a 17-yard touchdown

1 pass to running back Tadarius Washington, culminating a 78-yard two-  
2 minute drive now etched into Jacksonville sports lore; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Vikings' championship run was defined by  
4 extraordinary defensive effort, leadership, and teamwork, including  
5 pivotal plays by Geterius Brown, Cameron Washington, Shareef Jackson,  
6 Johdeem Jones, Makhel Smith-York, Tony Williams, and Jucoby Marion,  
7 whose final defensive stand preserved the victory as chants of  
8 "Duuuval" echoed across South Florida; and

9 **WHEREAS**, this victory marked a decisive moment of redemption,  
10 nearly one year after a loss at the same venue, ending a 23-game  
11 winning streak by nationally ranked Miami Northwestern and  
12 solidifying the Vikings as the most successful public high school  
13 football program in Jacksonville; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Head Coach Donovan Masline, a Viking alumnus and  
15 steward of the program's legacy, exemplified leadership, vision, and  
16 faith in his players, guiding them through a season defined by  
17 discipline, resilience, and unity; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville proudly celebrates this  
19 historic accomplishment as a reflection of the Vikings' enduring  
20 spirit and strength, and the commitment of coaches, mentors, and  
21 educators to uplift young people through opportunity, hard work, and  
22 belief; now, therefore

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

24 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends the  
25 William M. Raines High School Vikings Football Team for winning the  
26 2025 FHSAA Class 3A State Championship, recognizing this achievement  
27 as one of the most significant moments in Jacksonville high school  
28 athletic history. The City Council commends the band and cheerleaders,  
29 Head Coach Donovan Masline, the coaching staff, faculty, parents,  
30 alumni, and community partners, whose leadership and commitment made  
31 this championship possible.

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

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5 Form Approved:

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7 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

8 Office of General Counsel

9 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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