

1 Introduced by Council Member Becton:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-175**

5 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 25, 2022 AS GREEK
6 INDEPENDENCE DAY AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE
7 GREEK REVOLUTION OF 1821; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
8 DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the Ottoman Empire colonized and occupied Greece for
11 over 400 years. In 1814, a secret organization called Filiki Eteria
12 (Society of Friends) was founded with the aim of liberating Greece.
13 201 years ago, inspired by the same ideals of liberty, self-
14 governance, and passionate belief in democracy that sparked the
15 American Revolution, the people of Greece declared their
16 independence. After a nine-year war, Greece gained its independence
17 in 1830; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Greek Independence Day falls on March 25th and has been
19 celebrated annually since the end of the Greek Revolution. It is also
20 known as the Celebration of the Greek Revolution and honors the
21 Greeks' fight for freedom. This day is also when the Feast of the
22 Annunciation is commemorated; and

23 **WHEREAS**, within Greece and Cyprus a common feature of Greek
24 Independence Day are local school parades in many villages, towns,
25 and cities. Schoolchildren march in traditional Greek folk costumes
26 and carry Greek flags. The largest celebration takes place in Athens
27 where an annual military parade commemorates the event, attended by
28 the president and other high ranking state officials, along with
29 hundreds of civilian spectators; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Greece is a crucial NATO ally and friend of the United
31 States, and a leader for peace and prosperity in the Eastern

1 Mediterranean, Black Sea, and Western Balkans regions; and

2 **WHEREAS**, on Greek Independence Day, we celebrate the history and
3 values of the Hellenic Republic, and the courage, decency and honor
4 that defines the Greek community, and their unwillingness to bend in
5 the face of injustice; now therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby joins the Greek
8 community in commemorating independence and the creation of the modern
9 Greek state. Jacksonville City Council recognizes March 25, 2022 as
10 Greek Independence Day and the Celebration of the Greek Revolution.

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

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15 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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