

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Salem and Johnson:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-473-A**

6 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE TO BE
7 CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN
8 JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON
9 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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11 **WHEREAS**, in June 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives
12 unanimously adopted House Concurrent Resolution 71 recognizing the
13 significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history
14 and culture of the United States. On February 14, 2006, the resolution
15 similarly passed the U.S. Senate, culminating a two-year, bipartisan
16 and bicameral effort, and a Proclamation was issued by President
17 George W. Bush on June 6, 2006 declaring June to be Caribbean American
18 Heritage Month in the United States; and

19 **WHEREAS**, there is no single Caribbean American identity, as
20 the mix of cultures, languages, and religions alive across the United
21 States and the islands reflects the diversity of spirit that defines
22 the American story. Meanwhile, our countries are bound by common
23 values and a shared history – overcoming the yoke of colonialism and
24 charting new opportunities across borders and generations; and

25 **WHEREAS**, during Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we
26 celebrate the achievements and dreams of the millions of people of
27 Caribbean origin now living in the United States while honoring the
28 shared history of joy and perseverance that has united and enriched
29 life across our region for centuries; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville, a city in which 3.5% of the population
31 claims ancestry from one of the Caribbean countries and in which 2.2%

1 of foreign-born persons who have become American citizens in our
2 county came from Caribbean countries, is enlivened by the presence
3 of many citizens of Caribbean descent whose businesses, foods, dress,
4 music, dance, art, and zest for life make our city a more diverse,
5 exciting place in which to live; now therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the month of
8 June to be Caribbean American Heritage Month in Jacksonville in
9 conjunction with the observances nationwide and encourages all
10 citizens to become better acquainted with the histories, cultures and
11 achievements of our neighbors to the south and to enjoy all the
12 enrichment that they have to offer our city.

13 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
14 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
15 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the
16 emergency is that June is being designated as Caribbean American
17 Heritage Month nationally, and the City Council desires to show its
18 support for this recognition in a timely manner.

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

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23 Form Approved:

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25 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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