

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2026-197**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING MARCH 2026  
6 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF  
7 JACKSONVILLE, AND CELEBRATING THE HISTORIC  
8 CONTRIBUTIONS, LEADERSHIP, AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
9 WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, AND OUR  
10 NATION, AND ENCOURAGING EVERYONE IN JACKSONVILLE  
11 TO REFLECT UPON AND ADVANCE THE LEGACY OF  
12 WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT;  
13 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
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15 **WHEREAS**, the United States has long benefited from the courage,  
16 vision, and leadership of women who have strengthened our democracy,  
17 advanced social progress, and shaped the cultural, economic, and  
18 civic fabric of our nation; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the modern observance of Women's History Month grew  
20 from the national women's suffrage movement, which culminated in the  
21 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States  
22 Constitution in 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote and  
23 expanding participation in American democracy; and

24 **WHEREAS**, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the first  
25 National Women's History Week, recognizing that the achievements of  
26 women were too often overlooked in the historical record; and

27 **WHEREAS**, in 1987, the United States Congress formally expanded  
28 that recognition to the entire month of March, establishing Women's  
29 History Month as a time to celebrate and uplift the extraordinary  
30 contributions of women across every field of endeavor; and

31 **WHEREAS**, throughout Jacksonville's history, women have played a

1 transformative role in shaping the city through leadership in  
2 government, education, business, healthcare, arts and culture, faith  
3 communities, neighborhood advocacy, and civic engagement; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville has witnessed extraordinary  
5 women rise to positions of municipal leadership, including Tillie  
6 Fowler, Alberta Hipps, Ginger Soud, Lori Boyer and Anna Brosche, each  
7 of whom served as President of the Jacksonville City Council and  
8 helped guide the legislative direction of the city during pivotal  
9 moments in its development; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the continued advancement of women in leadership  
11 reached another historic milestone with the election of Mayor Donna  
12 Deegan, the first woman elected to serve as Mayor of the City of  
13 Jacksonville, reflecting the progress made possible by generations  
14 of women who opened doors in public life and public service; and

15 **WHEREAS**, countless women throughout Jacksonville, many whose  
16 names are known publicly and many whose contributions occur quietly  
17 within neighborhoods and families, continue to build a stronger and  
18 more vibrant city through service, innovation, mentorship, and  
19 leadership; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council recognizes that honoring  
21 women's history is not only about remembering the past, but also  
22 about inspiring future generations of women and girls to lead, serve,  
23 and shape the future of Jacksonville; now therefore

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

25 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes and  
26 celebrates March 2026 as Women's History Month in the City of  
27 Jacksonville and encourages all residents to honor the achievements,  
28 leadership, and enduring contributions of women who have shaped our  
29 community and our nation. City Council commends the women of  
30 Jacksonville whose leadership continues to strengthen our  
31 neighborhoods, institutions, and civic life, and acknowledges the

1 countless women whose dedication, resilience, and vision contribute  
2 to the continued growth and success of our city. The City Council  
3 further encourages educational institutions, community organizations,  
4 businesses, and residents throughout Jacksonville to reflect upon the  
5 legacy of women's leadership and to actively support opportunities  
6 that empower women and girls to pursue leadership, innovation, and  
7 public service.

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

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12 Form Approved:

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14 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

15 Office of General Counsel

16 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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