

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Becton, White, Freeman and
2 Diamond & Co-Sponsored by Council Members Salem, DeFoor, Carlucci,
3 Dennis, Cumber, Morgan, Priestly Jackson, and Hazouri:
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6 **ORDINANCE 2021-212-E**

7 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING A NEW
8 PILOT PROGRAM ENTITLED "MILITARY AND VETERANS'
9 APPRECIATION PROGRAM" FOR REDUCED ADMISSION AT
10 CERTAIN PARKS; PROVIDING FOR CITY OVERSIGHT BY
11 THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
12 DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR A SUNSETTING OF THE
13 PROGRAM UNLESS EXTENDED BY LEGISLATION;
14 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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16 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville ("City") recognizes the
17 strong presence of active military service members and veterans
18 living in Jacksonville and the surrounding communities; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the City acknowledges the many sacrifices made by
20 active military service members and veterans and seeks to ensure
21 the continued economic wellness, employment, quality of life and
22 availability of benefits to active military service members and
23 veterans in Jacksonville; and

24 **WHEREAS**, as an added benefit to active military service
25 members and veterans, the City desires to begin a pilot program for
26 one year, which would reduce the park admission fees for active
27 service members and veterans by ½ for admission to Kathryn Abbey
28 Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park; and

29 **WHEREAS**, if the pilot program is successful, the City will
30 consider making such fee reductions applicable permanently; now
31 therefore

1 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

2 **Section 1. Approval and Adoption of the "Military and**
3 **Veterans' Appreciation Program."** There is hereby approved and
4 adopted within the City a "Military and Veterans' Appreciation
5 Program" which will allow for active military service members and
6 veterans, regardless of residency in Jacksonville, to receive a
7 reduction of ½ of the daily admission fees charged at Kathryn Abbey
8 Hanna Park and Huguenot Memorial Park (which may be applied to car,
9 pedestrian and biker admission but not on annual passes). In order
10 to qualify for the reduced admission fees, the active military
11 service member or veteran must produce at the park entrance at the
12 time of admission a state issued military ID or a DD214 ID. The
13 "Military and Veterans' Appreciation Program" will initially run as
14 a pilot program for a period of one year beginning on June 1, 2021
15 and ending on May 31, 2022. The Parks, Recreation and Community
16 Services Department is tasked with tracking the number of active
17 military service members and veterans which participate in the
18 "Military and Veterans' Appreciation Program" and receive the
19 reduced admission fees, tabulating the totals broken down further
20 by park and by participant type (active service vs. veterans and
21 car, pedestrian or biker), and the cost of the Program, and shall
22 submit a preliminary report to the Council on or before December
23 31, 2021 and a final report to Council by June 15, 2022. The Parks,
24 Recreation and Community Services Department shall also include in
25 its final report any recommendations regarding the pilot program,
26 including whether it is recommended that the program should be made
27 permanent and whether any modifications to the program are
28 suggested.

29 **Section 2. Oversight Department.** The Parks, Recreation,
30 and Community Services Department shall oversee the Program as
31 described herein.

1 **Section 3. Sunset.** The provisions of this Ordinance
2 providing for a pilot program for the "Military and Veterans'
3 Appreciation Program" as described in Section 1, shall sunset, be
4 repealed, and be of no further effect on May 31, 2022, unless
5 extended in subsequent legislation.

6 **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
7 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
8 without the Mayor's signature.

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10 Form Approved:

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12 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

13 Office of General Counsel

14 Legislation prepared by: Paige H. Johnston

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