

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2026-407**

5 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING JUNE 12, 2026, AS  
6 PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY; PROVIDING AN  
7 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the movement for Philippine independence was shaped by  
10 the leadership and sacrifice of national heroes including Dr. José  
11 Rizal, whose writings awakened a collective consciousness and  
12 inspired the pursuit of freedom, and General Emilio Aguinaldo, under  
13 whose authority the Act of Declaration of Independence was proclaimed  
14 on June 12, 1898, with the public reading delivered by Ambrosio  
15 Rianzares Bautista, the document's author and Aguinaldo's designated  
16 representative; and

17 **WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2026, the Filipino American community will  
18 celebrate the 128th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, in  
19 recognition of the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the  
20 Revolutionary Government; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Philippine Independence Day is a special public holiday  
22 throughout the Philippines in celebration of freedom, liberty and  
23 independence, and inherent rights of all people; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Filipino Americans have served with distinction as  
25 members of the Armed Forces for over a century and sacrificed their  
26 lives in many wars, the first wave of Filipino immigrants to  
27 Jacksonville began in the 1940s as a result of enlistment of Filipinos  
28 in the U.S. Navy during World War II and has continued through the  
29 decades, developing ever closer ties between Jacksonville and the  
30 Philippines; and

31 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville is now home to the largest Filipino

1 population in Florida, with more than 25,000 residents of Filipino  
2 descent, the largest Asian immigrant population in the city,  
3 contributing tremendously to the City's cultural, economic, medical  
4 and dining heritage; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Philippine Independence Day is an opportunity to  
6 recognize Jacksonville's Filipino Americans and appreciate their  
7 important and vibrant contributions to the City's identity and growth;  
8 now therefore

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

10 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby celebrates June 12,  
11 2026, as Philippine Independence Day and honors the multitude of  
12 contributions that Filipino Americans have made to enrich the culture  
13 of our City, State and Nation.

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

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18 Form Approved:

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20 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

21 Office of General Counsel

22 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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