

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2024-775**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING CHARLES
6 SPENCER FOR HIS LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT AND
7 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Charles Spencer was born and raised in the East 21st
11 Street Community four blocks from the Talleyrand waterfront and,
12 after graduating from Matthew W. Gilbert High School, he went to work
13 at the port at the age of 19; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Spencer found his calling working for the port,
15 quickly rising through the ranks and earning the respect of his peers,
16 being elected President of the International Longshoreman's
17 Association("ILA") Local 1408 at the age of 19; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Charles Spencer currently serves as the Executive
19 Vice President Emeritus of the International Longshoreman's
20 Association's South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District; and

21 **WHEREAS**, in addition to serving with the ILA, Mr. Spencer has
22 been a leading community advocate for labor throughout his career,
23 having held top leadership posts with the A. Philip Randolph
24 Institute, including Florida State Chapter President and National
25 Board of Directors member; and

26 **WHEREAS**, through the ILA, Mr. Spencer established the ILA
27 Scholarship Fund, which focuses on providing scholarships in the form
28 of financial assistance to academic high achievers and/or financially
29 disadvantaged graduating high school seniors and returning college
30 students from the Jacksonville area; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the National Association for the Advancement of

1 Colored People ("NAACP") has recently recognized Charles Spencer for
2 his "significant contributions to racial equity and commitment to
3 fairness in the workplace" by awarding him the 2024 Benjamin L. Hooks
4 "Keeper of the Flame" Award on July 16th, 2024, at the NAACP's 115th
5 National Convention; now therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
8 Charles Spencer for his consistent presence and leadership in the
9 Jacksonville community, which has and will continue to lift people
10 up to pursue fulfilling and dignified work. The Council particularly
11 congratulates him on his receipt of the NAACP's 2024 Benjamin L.
12 Hooks "Keeper of the Flame" Award, recognizing that Mr. Spencer has
13 been a champion of civil rights and social justice, and it extends
14 its best wishes for continued success.

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

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19 Form Approved:

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21 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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