

1 Introduced by Council Members Howland, Johnson, Pittman, Salem,
2 Lahnen, J. Carlucci, Miller, White, Amaro, Gay, Boylan, Peluso and
3 Carrico and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Arias, Carlucci, Clark-
4 Murray, Diamond, Freeman, and Gaffney, Jr. and amended on the Floor
5 of Council:

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8 **RESOLUTION 2026-522-A**

9 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND CELEBRATING AMERICA'S
10 SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL, THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
11 FOUNDING OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND
12 AFFIRMING THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE'S COMMITMENT
13 TO DEMOCRACY, LIBERTY, UNITY, AND OPPORTUNITY;
14 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

15
16 **WHEREAS**, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America
17 commemorates its Semiquincentennial, marking two hundred and fifty
18 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the
19 birth of a nation endeavoring to be free from any allegiance to a
20 king; and

21 **WHEREAS**, America was founded upon the enduring ideals of
22 liberty, self-determination, representative government, and the
23 belief that all people are created equal; and

24 **WHEREAS**, America's history has been shaped by patriots and
25 pioneers, and dreamers and dissenters, who dared to imagine a more
26 just society for future generations; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the Semiquincentennial offers an opportunity for
28 celebration, and for reflection, and a recommitment to the work of
29 maintaining a nation worthy of its highest ideals; and

30 **WHEREAS**, at two hundred and fifty years old, America remains one
31 of the greatest democratic experiments in human history, not without

1 flaws, but founded upon the courage of ordinary people doing
2 extraordinary things, together, in pursuit of opportunity and hope;
3 and

4 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville's history reflects the very essence of
5 the nation itself, a city forged through struggle and perseverance,
6 rebuilt from fire and hardship, strengthened through diversity; and

7 **WHEREAS**, generations of Jacksonville residents have answered the
8 call of military service, supporting national security at
9 installations like Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station
10 Mayport; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville recognizes that patriotism can
12 be displayed through service to our country, but also by the
13 willingness to serve one another, to practice democracy, and ensure
14 that freedom is experienced in every community; now therefore

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

16 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and celebrates
17 the Semiquincentennial of the United States of America and joins
18 communities across the nation in honoring the 250th anniversary of
19 the founding of the United States. The City Council affirms its
20 commitment to ideals upon which this nation was founded by striving
21 to build a Jacksonville where opportunity is expanded, democracy is
22 protected, neighborhoods are strengthened, and every resident is
23 empowered to participate fully in the American dream. The City
24 Council encourages everyone throughout the city to commemorate
25 America's 250th anniversary through acts of service and the continued
26 pursuit of liberty and justice for all.

27 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
28 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
29 without the Mayor's signature.
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Form Approved:

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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