

1 Introduced by Council Members Howland, Johnson, Pittman, Salem,
2 Lahnen, J. Carlucci, Miller, White, Amaro, Gay, Boylan, Peluso and
3 Carrico:

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6 **RESOLUTION 2026-522**

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

13
14 **WHEREAS**, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America
15 commemorates its Semiquincentennial, marking two hundred and fifty
16 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the
17 birth of a nation endeavoring to be free from any allegiance to a
18 king; and

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

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

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

28 **WHEREAS**, at two hundred and fifty years old, America remains one
29 of the greatest democratic experiments in human history, not without
30 flaws, but founded upon the courage of ordinary people doing
31 extraordinary things, together, in pursuit of opportunity and hope;

1 and

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

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

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

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

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

25 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
26 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
27 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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