

1 Introduced by Council Member Freeman:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2024-967**

5 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING NOVEMBER 23, 2024, AS
6 NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY IN JACKSONVILLE AND
7 RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL
8 ADOPTION MONTH; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE
9 UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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11 **WHEREAS**, in more than 400 communities across the country,
12 courts have opened their doors on or around the Saturday before
13 Thanksgiving for "National Adoption Day" to finalize and celebrate
14 adoptions while simultaneously recognizing this day as an opportunity
15 to raise awareness of the children in foster care waiting to be
16 adopted; and

17 **WHEREAS**, since 1995, November has been known as National
18 Adoption Month, with a focus upon the adoption of children currently
19 in foster care, and an opportunity to honor adoptive families who
20 chose to provide children with a permanent place to call home; and

21 **WHEREAS**, nationwide more than 100,000 children are waiting to
22 be adopted, and in Florida in 2022, more than 8,000 children in foster
23 care awaited adoption and 3,800 children were adopted; and

24 **WHEREAS**, one in every thirty-five children in the United States
25 is adopted, and the act of adoption is life-changing, for children,
26 parents, and extended families and friends; now therefore

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

28 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby celebrates November 23,
29 2024 as National Adoption Day in the City of Jacksonville, providing
30 a special opportunity to acknowledge the creation of new and growing
31 families on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The City Council also

1 celebrates November as National Adoption Month, creating an
2 opportunity to spread awareness about adoption, advocate for the
3 wellbeing of children in foster care, and to honor families that have
4 given children a permanent place to call home.

5 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
6 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
7 introduction of this legislation is requested to allow the City
8 Council to recognize and celebrate National Adoption Day and National
9 Adoption Month in November in a timely manner.

10 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
11 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
12 without the Mayor's signature.

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14 Form Approved:

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16 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

17 Office of General Counsel

18 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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