Introduced by Council Member Johnson:

RESOLUTION 2025-76

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING GIRL SCOUTS OF GATEWAY COUNCIL, INC. FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY; DECLARING JANUARY 2 - MARCH 16, 2025, AS "GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SEASON" IN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc. is the largest Girl Scout council in Florida, serving more than 6,000 girls across 35 counties, including Jacksonville, and inspiring them to lead with courage, confidence and character; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc., a valued partner in empowering young women, has a storied history of providing mentorship, education, and support to foster the development of strong, smart, and bold leaders; and

WHEREAS, the annual Girl Scout Cookie season is a beloved tradition that not only brings Jacksonville's community together but also teaches young entrepreneurs vital life skills such as goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scout Cookie season for 2025 begins with initial orders on January $2^{\rm nd}$, with cookie booths opening on February $7^{\rm th}$, and sales concluding on March $16^{\rm th}$, marking a significant opportunity for the community to support local Girl Scouts in their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from Girl Scout Cookie sales stay local and provide funding for educational programs, community service projects, outdoor adventures, and scholarships that directly benefit

the girls and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts USA celebrates March 12th to commemorate the day in 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low registered the first 18 Girl Scouts in Savannah, Georgia, and Girl Scout Week is a time to celebrate the organization's history and traditions; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc., established in 1927, has a rich history of serving the community and fostering leadership and in 2025 will celebrate 98 years of friendship and making the world a better place; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council embodies the values of leadership, service, and inclusion that align with the City of Jacksonville's commitment to fostering a thriving and engaged community; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby honors and commends Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc. for their tireless efforts to inspire and empower young women throughout Jacksonville and the State of Florida and applauds the dedication of the volunteers, parents and supporters who make those organizations successful in their mission to build future leaders and strong communities.

Section 2. The City Council hereby declares January 2 - March 16, 2025, as "Girl Scout Cookie Season" in Jacksonville and encourages citizens to participate in this cherished tradition.

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