

Introduced by Council Members Miller and Lahnen:

RESOLUTION 2026-642

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING NEHEMIAH
TURNER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO
THE JACKSONVILLE HUMANE SOCIETY AS THE FIRST
CHILD TO COMPLETE MORE THAN 100 HOURS OF READING
TO SHELTER ANIMALS THROUGH THE PAWSITIVE READING
PROGRAM; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Jacksonville Humane Society's Pawsitive Reading Program
allows children to read to shelter animals, which has the dual benefit
of reducing the animals' stress while providing a positive educational
experience that supports literacy among young people; and

WHEREAS, Nehemiah Turner, an 11-year-old Jacksonville resident,
has proven to be a model of compassionate and dedicated service as a
volunteer with the Pawsitive Reading Program; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner has participated in the program for more
than two years, often accompanied by his grandmother, and the
Jacksonville Humane Society has recognized him as the first child in
the program to log 100 hours, displaying his commitment to volunteer
service and compassion for animals; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner's stated goal of soothing animals to
increase their odds of finding a loving home reflects a spirit of
empathy, care, and civic duty that has touched people both locally
and nationally; and

WHEREAS, national and local media, including ABC News, People
magazine, and Action News Jax, among many others, have recognized Mr.
Turner's volunteer service, showcasing the impact young people can
have on their communities; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to join the Jacksonville Humane
2 Society and citizens across the City and the nation in praising Mr.
3 Turner for his generosity and tenacity, which has served as an
4 inspiration for adults and youth to serve their communities; now
5 therefore

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

7 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
8 Nehemiah Turner for his volunteer service with the Jacksonville Humane
9 Society and his compassion for animals, showcasing the positive impact
10 young people can have in their community.

11 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
12 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
13 without the Mayor's signature.

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15 Form Approved:

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17 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

18 Office of General Counsel

19 Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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