

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller:
2
3

4 **RESOLUTION 2024-473**

5 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF JUNE TO BE
6 CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN
7 JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON
8 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, in June 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives
11 unanimously adopted House Concurrent Resolution 71 recognizing the
12 significance of Caribbean people and their descendants in the history
13 and culture of the United States. On February 14, 2006, the resolution
14 similarly passed the U.S. Senate, culminating a two-year, bipartisan
15 and bicameral effort, and a Proclamation was issued by President
16 George W. Bush on June 6, 2006 declaring June to be Caribbean American
17 Heritage Month in the United States; and

18 **WHEREAS**, there is no single Caribbean American identity, as
19 the mix of cultures, languages, and religions alive across the United
20 States and the islands reflects the diversity of spirit that defines
21 the American story. Meanwhile, our countries are bound by common
22 values and a shared history – overcoming the yoke of colonialism and
23 charting new opportunities across borders and generations; and

24 **WHEREAS**, during Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we
25 celebrate the achievements and dreams of the millions of people of
26 Caribbean origin now living in the United States while honoring the
27 shared history of joy and perseverance that has united and enriched
28 life across our region for centuries; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville, a city in which 3.5% of the population
30 claims ancestry from one of the Caribbean countries and in which 2.2%
31 of foreign-born persons who have become American citizens in our

1 county came from Caribbean countries, is enlivened by the presence
2 of many citizens of Caribbean descent whose businesses, foods, dress,
3 music, dance, art, and zest for life make our city a more diverse,
4 exciting place in which to live; now therefore

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

6 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the month of
7 June to be Caribbean American Heritage Month in Jacksonville in
8 conjunction with the observances nationwide and encourages all
9 citizens to become better acquainted with the histories, cultures and
10 achievements of our neighbors to the south and to enjoy all the
11 enrichment that they have to offer our city.

12 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
13 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
14 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the
15 emergency is that June is being designated as Caribbean American
16 Heritage Month nationally, and the City Council desires to show its
17 support for this recognition in a timely manner.

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

21
22 Form Approved:

23
24 /s/ Shannon MacGillis

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

27 GC-#1632157-v1-Caribbean_American_Heritage_Month_Reso_(Miller).docx