

Introduced by Council Members Amaro and Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Arias, Boylan, J. Carlucci, Carlucci, Carrico, Clark-Murray, Diamond, Freeman, Gaffney, Jr., Gay, Howland, Johnson, Lahnen, Peluso, Pittman, Salem and White and amended on the Floor of Council:

RESOLUTION 2025-444-A

A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING JUNE 12, 2025, AS
PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY; REQUESTING
EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING
AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on June 12, 1898, General Emilio Aguinaldo publicly read the Act of Declaration of Independence proclaiming the sovereignty and independence of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2025, the Filipino American community will celebrate the 127th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, in recognition of the establishment of the Philippine Republic by the Revolutionary Government; and

WHEREAS, Philippine Independence Day is a special public holiday throughout the Philippines in celebration of freedom, liberty and independence, and inherent rights of all people; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have served with distinction as members of the Armed Forces for over a century and sacrificed their lives in many wars, the first wave of Filipino immigrants to Jacksonville began in the 1940s as a result of enlistment of Filipinos in the U.S. Navy during World War II and has continued through the decades, developing ever closer ties between Jacksonville and the Philippines; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville is now home to the largest Filipino
2 population in Florida, with more than 25,000 residents of Filipino
3 descent, the largest Asian immigrant population in the City
4 contributing tremendously to the City's cultural, economic, medical
5 and dining heritage; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Philippine Independence Day is an opportunity to
7 recognize Jacksonville's Filipino Americans and appreciate their
8 important and vibrant contributions to making Jacksonville the City
9 it is today; now therefore

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

11 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby celebrates June 12,
12 2025, as Philippine Independence Day. The City Council celebrates the
13 multitude of contributions that Filipino Americans have made to enrich
14 the culture of our City, State and Nation.

15 **Section 2. Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**
16 **pursuant to Council Rule 4.901.** Emergency passage upon introduction
17 of this Resolution is requested in order to celebrate Philippine
18 Independence Day in a timely manner.

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

22
23 Form Approved:

24
25 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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