

1 Introduced by Council Members Howland, J. Carlucci, Salem, Peluso,
2 Lahnen, Gay, Amaro, Arias, Johnson, Miller and Freeman and Co-
3 Sponsored by Council Member Pittman:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2026-349-A**

7 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF MAY 16-22,
8 2026, AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK IN
9 JACKSONVILLE AND ENCOURAGING ALL RESIDENTS AND
10 VISITORS TO PRACTICE SAFE BOATING HABITS;
11 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the State of Florida, dubbed the "Boating Capital of
14 the World" by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
15 is home to more than one million registered vessels, yet leads the
16 nation in boating fatalities each year, underscoring the critical
17 importance of boating safety education and awareness; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville is blessed with an extensive
19 network of waterways, including the St. Johns River, the Intracoastal
20 Waterway, and the Atlantic coastline, serving the recreational and
21 commercial needs of tens of thousands of boaters; and

22 **WHEREAS**, through basic boating safety procedures, carrying
23 lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment, wearing
24 life jackets, attending safe boating courses, participating in free
25 vessel safety checks, and staying sober when navigating, boaters on
26 Jacksonville's waterways and Florida's coastal, inland, and offshore
27 waters reduce the risk of accidents and save lives; and

28 **WHEREAS**, boating safety in Jacksonville is encouraged and
29 enforced by several agencies and organizations, including the U.S.
30 Coast Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Florida Fish and
31 Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

1 Marine Patrol, and the Jacksonville Sail and Power Squadron; now
2 therefore

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

4 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the week of May
5 16-22, 2026, as National Safe Boating Week in Jacksonville and
6 encourages all residents and visitors to practice safe boating habits
7 and to take advantage of boating safety education and resources
8 available through government agencies and nonprofit organizations.

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

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13 Form Approved:

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15 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

16 Office of General Counsel

17 Legislation Prepared By: Steven Libby, City Council Research

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