

1 Introduced by Council Members Freeman, Carlucci and Clark-Murray:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2023-524**

5 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS
6 LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE;
7 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
8

9 **WHEREAS**, libraries are cornerstones of democracy, promoting
10 the free exchange of information and ideas for all, and play a crucial
11 role in the education and development of children, from early
12 childhood reading programs to homework help and college planning for
13 high schoolers; and

14 **WHEREAS**, libraries are welcoming and inclusive spaces for
15 people of all backgrounds to learn together and engage with one
16 another across cultural, ethnic, generational, and economic lines,
17 strengthening the social fabric of the communities they serve.
18 Libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections
19 that are as diverse as the populations they serve and ensure equity
20 of access for all; and

21 **WHEREAS**, libraries help people of all ages navigate the
22 complexities of life, providing access to research, information, and
23 government services that allow everyone to lead more productive and
24 fulfilling lives. They also contribute to a strong local economy by
25 providing access to the technology and training that are critical to
26 the success of jobseekers, entrepreneurs, and students; and

27 **WHEREAS**, in times of crisis, libraries and library
28 professionals play an invaluable role in supporting their communities
29 both in person and virtually. Additionally, the shared resources
30 libraries offer reduce the number of items households buy and dispose
31 of, providing a simple way to save money, conserve resources, and

1 reduce waste; and

2 **WHEREAS,** a library card sparks creativity and empowers all
3 people to explore new passions and interests and pursue a path of
4 lifelong learning. More than one-third of all households in Duval
5 County have actively used their Jacksonville Public Library Card in
6 the past year and 90 percent of Jacksonville Public Library
7 cardholders agree that they learned more by attending a library
8 program; and

9 **WHEREAS,** Jacksonville Public Library cardholders have checked
10 out more than 4.5 million books, DVDs, e-books, e-audiobooks, and
11 streaming videos in the last year; now therefore

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

13 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby proclaims September 2023
14 as Library Card Sign-Up Month in Jacksonville and encourages all
15 county residents who do not have a Jacksonville Public Library Card
16 to obtain one for free online or at any Jacksonville Public Library
17 location. The Council also challenges all current cardholders to urge
18 their friends, colleagues and neighbors who do not have a Jacksonville
19 Public Library Card, to obtain a free one and begin enjoying all the
20 benefits it confers.

21 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
22 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
23 without the Mayor's signature.

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25 Form Approved:

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27 /s/ Carla A. Lopera

28 Office of General Counsel

29 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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