

1 Introduced by Council Members Diamond, Peluso, Salem, Arias, Miller,
2 Carrico, Amaro, Pittman, Lahnen and Howland and Co-Sponsored by
3 Council Member Boylan:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2025-44-A**

7 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DENISE DEISLER FOR HER
8 EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS CEO OF THE JACKSONVILLE
9 HUMANE SOCIETY, RECOGNIZING HER LEADERSHIP IN
10 ANIMAL WELFARE, AND HONORING HER UPON HER
11 RETIREMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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13 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler has served as the Chief Executive
14 Officer of the Jacksonville Humane Society (JHS) since September
15 2011, bringing extensive experience in animal welfare and a passion
16 for rescue initiatives; and

17 **WHEREAS,** prior to her tenure at JHS, Denise Deisler served as
18 Chief Operating Officer of Richmond SPCA in Virginia from 1998 to
19 2007 and as the Executive Director of the Humane Society of Manatee
20 County in Florida from 2008 to 2011, each role contributing to her
21 extensive impact on animal welfare; and

22 **WHEREAS,** under her leadership, JHS implemented transformative
23 programs such as a kitten nursery and a community resource center,
24 which have significantly contributed to Jacksonville achieving and
25 maintaining a city-wide live release rate of over 90%; and

26 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler spearheaded a \$15 million campaign to
27 rebuild the JHS shelter following a devastating fire in 2007, leading
28 to the successful design and construction of a new state-of-the-art
29 44,000 square-foot facility that opened in November 2017; and

30 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler launched the Lifesaving University at
31 JHS, a pioneering program that offers training to shelter staff across

1 the country on best practices in animal welfare, significantly
2 advancing lifesaving initiatives towards a no-kill goal; and

3 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler has been nationally recognized for her
4 contributions to animal welfare, including being named a Maddie's
5 Fund Hero in 2018 and receiving the Best Friends Animal Society
6 National Advancement Award in 2019; and

7 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler's leadership and vision have left a
8 lasting impact on the Jacksonville community improving the lives of
9 countless animals and enhancing community partnerships; and

10 **WHEREAS,** Denise Deisler has announced her retirement as CEO of
11 the Jacksonville Humane Society, marking the conclusion of a
12 remarkable tenure defined by dedication, compassion and
13 transformative leadership; now therefore

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

15 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors Denise Deisler
16 for her outstanding service as CEO of the Jacksonville Humane Society,
17 her instrumental role in advancing animal welfare, and her unwavering
18 dedication to improve the lives of animals and further community
19 engagement. The Council also extends its heartfelt congratulations
20 on her retirement and wishes her the best in all future endeavors.

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/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

28 Office of General Counsel

29 Legislation Prepared By: Nayeli Jimenez, City Council Research

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