

1 Introduced by Council Member Johnson and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Members Amaro, Arias, Boylan, J. Carlucci, Carlucci, Carrico, Clark-  
3 Murray, Diamond, Freeman, Gaffney, Jr., Gay, Howland, Lahnen, Miller,  
4 Peluso, Pittman, Salem and White and amended by the Rules Committee  
5 and amended on the Floor of Council:  
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8 **RESOLUTION 2026-197-A**

9 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING MARCH 2026  
10 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF  
11 JACKSONVILLE, AND CELEBRATING THE HISTORIC  
12 CONTRIBUTIONS, LEADERSHIP, AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
13 WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE, AND OUR  
14 NATION, AND ENCOURAGING EVERYONE IN JACKSONVILLE  
15 TO REFLECT UPON AND ADVANCE THE LEGACY OF  
16 WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT;  
17 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the United States has long benefited from the courage,  
20 vision, and leadership of women who have strengthened our democracy,  
21 advanced social progress, and shaped the cultural, economic, and  
22 civic fabric of our nation; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the modern observance of Women's History Month grew  
24 from the national women's suffrage movement, which culminated in the  
25 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States  
26 Constitution in 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote and  
27 expanding participation in American democracy; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the first  
29 National Women's History Week, recognizing that the achievements of  
30 women were too often overlooked in the historical record; and

31 **WHEREAS**, in 1987, the United States Congress formally expanded

1 that recognition to the entire month of March, establishing Women's  
2 History Month as a time to celebrate and uplift the extraordinary  
3 contributions of women across every field of endeavor; and

4 **WHEREAS**, throughout Jacksonville's history, women have played a  
5 transformative role in shaping the city through leadership in  
6 government, education, business, healthcare, arts and culture, faith  
7 communities, neighborhood advocacy, and civic engagement; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville has witnessed extraordinary  
9 women rise to positions of municipal leadership, including Tillie  
10 Fowler, Alberta Hipps, Ginger Soud, Lori Boyer and Anna Brosche, each  
11 of whom served as President of the Jacksonville City Council and  
12 helped guide the legislative direction of the city during pivotal  
13 moments in its development; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the continued advancement of women in leadership  
15 achieved several historic milestones with Tommie Bell being the first  
16 woman to be elected as Supervisor of Elections, Joyce Morgan the  
17 first woman elected Property Appraiser, and Donna Deegan the first  
18 woman elected Mayor of the City of Jacksonville, reflecting the  
19 progress made possible by generations of women who opened doors in  
20 public life and public service; and

21 **WHEREAS**, countless women throughout Jacksonville, many whose  
22 names are known publicly and many whose contributions occur quietly  
23 within neighborhoods and families, continue to build a stronger and  
24 more vibrant city through service, innovation, mentorship, and  
25 leadership; and

26 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council recognizes that honoring  
27 women's history is not only about remembering the past, but also  
28 about inspiring future generations of women and girls to lead, serve,  
29 and shape the future of Jacksonville; now therefore

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

31 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes and

1 celebrates March 2026 as Women’s History Month in the City of  
 2 Jacksonville and encourages all residents to honor the achievements,  
 3 leadership, and enduring contributions of women who have shaped our  
 4 community and our nation. City Council commends the women of  
 5 Jacksonville whose leadership continues to strengthen our  
 6 neighborhoods, institutions, and civic life, and acknowledges the  
 7 countless women whose dedication, resilience, and vision contribute  
 8 to the continued growth and success of our city. The City Council  
 9 further encourages educational institutions, community organizations,  
 10 businesses, and residents throughout Jacksonville to reflect upon the  
 11 legacy of women’s leadership and to actively support opportunities  
 12 that empower women and girls to pursue leadership, innovation, and  
 13 public service.

14       **Section 2.       Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
 15 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
 16 without the Mayor's signature.

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 18 Form Approved:

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 20 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

21 Office of General Counsel  
 22 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research