

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Amaro, Johnson, Peluso and Clark-Murray:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-702-A**

6 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER
7 15 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2024, AS HISPANIC
8 HERITAGE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN
9 EFFECTIVE DATE.

10
11 **WHEREAS,** the Hispanic heritage of what would become the United
12 States of America began long before any permanent European settlements
13 were established, when Spanish explorers and conquistadors began
14 exploration of the New World in the Caribbean and Mexico and reached
15 what is now the southern United States; and

16 **WHEREAS,** the oldest continuously inhabited European settlement
17 in North America was established in St. Augustine in 1565 by Pedro
18 Menéndez de Avilés, a Spanish military officer; and

19 **WHEREAS,** from 1565 to the present, the influence of Hispanic
20 citizens has been profound both in the United States and in
21 Jacksonville where, as of the latest Census Bureau estimates, persons
22 identifying as Hispanic make up 12.6% of the city's population, and
23 is the third largest identifiable ethnic group in the city; and

24 **WHEREAS,** citizens of Hispanic heritage have had a profound
25 impact on our city's business, cultural, political and social scenes
26 since its founding. They operate successful businesses, serve in the
27 armed forces, hold public office, participate in numerous community
28 benefit organizations and activities, tantalize our tastebuds with
29 delicious and varied cuisines exemplifying their cultural heritage,
30 and enliven our cultural scene with all manner of visual and
31 performing arts; and

1 **WHEREAS,** in September 1968 President Lyndon Johnson issued the
2 first Hispanic Heritage Week proclamation, and the celebration was
3 expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a month from
4 mid-September to mid-October, which encompasses the time period when
5 numerous Hispanic countries declared their independence from Spain;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS,** the City Council wishes to recognize and celebrate
8 the profound impact that Jacksonville's Hispanic population has had
9 on our city's culture and history; now therefore

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

11 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the period from
12 September 15 through October 15, 2024, as Hispanic Heritage Month in
13 Jacksonville and urges all citizens to seek out, recognize and enjoy
14 the influence that Hispanic culture continues to have on our city's
15 quality of life.

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

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20 Form Approved:

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22 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

23 Office of General Counsel

24 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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