Introduced by Council Members Salem and Pittman and Co-Sponsored by
Council Members Becton, Morgan, Carrico, Bowman, Priestly Jackson,
Newby, Ferraro & Freeman:

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RESOLUTION 2022-126-A

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING JACKSONVILLE NATIVE LEROY BUTLER ON HIS ELECTION TO THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, LeRoy Butler, a native of Jacksonville, grew up in public housing and suffered from leg deformities that required surgery, leg braces, and confinement to a wheelchair during the healing process. Through perseverance and with the encouragement of his mother Eunice he overcame those physical challenges and a learning disability to become a star athlete at Lee High School where he played for the legendary Coach Corky Rogers; and

WHEREAS, his high school success led to a scholarship offer from Florida State University where he became a Seminole great as a cornerback under another legendary coach, Bobby Bowden. Collegiate success led to his being a second-round draft pick of the Green Bay Packers in 1990 where he spent his entire distinguished 12-year career, moving from cornerback to safety and becoming one of the dominant players at that position in his era; and

WHEREAS, LeRoy Butler had a career full of superlatives. He was the first NFL player to record 20 interceptions and 20 quarterback sacks in a career, is still the only player in NFL history with at least three sacks and three interceptions in three straight seasons, and is one of only four defensive backs in league annals with at least 35 interceptions and 20 sacks in a career. His performance was rewarded with 4 selections as an All-Pro and a place on the NFL's
1990s All-Decade Team; and

WHEREAS, a legendary and beloved figure in Green Bay, Mr. Butler is credited with creating the Lambeau Leap after scoring a touchdown on a fumble recovery in 1993, sharing his excitement with the Lambeau faithful and starting a tradition that continues to be followed by Packers players to this day; and

8 WHEREAS, after a long and testing wait, LeRoy Butler has joined 9 the likes of Jacksonville-born legends Bob Hayes, Brian Dawkins and 10 Harold Carmichael with his recent election to the Pro Football Hall 11 of Fame, a fitting recognition of his outstanding career; now 12 therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby honors and commends LeRoy Butler for his election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame and congratulates him on his outstanding football career. Mr. Butler's success as a result of his tenacity and perseverance in overcoming severe childhood obstacles stands as a shining example to everyone facing challenges that success is possible with hard work and faith in pursuit of a worthy goal.

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.

25 Form Approved:

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27 <u>/s/ Paige H. Johnston</u> 28 Office of General Counsel 29 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research 30 _{GC-#1487759-v1-2022-126-A.docx}