Introduced by Council Member Johnson:

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## RESOLUTION 2024-259

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS ASSOCIATION TO LOBBY FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO INCREASE PROTECTIONS FOR THE SAFETY OF U.S. POSTAL SERVICE EMPLOYEES; DIRECTING THE DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO FORWARD COPIES OF THE ADOPTED RESOLUTION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service provides an invaluable service to every community and home in our nation, linking individuals, families, businesses, and organizations with reliable and affordable mail and package delivery service; and

WHEREAS, the front-line workers who have the greatest impact on our mail service are the letter carriers who make deliveries to every address; and

WHEREAS, there has been an alarming trend in recent years of threats, attacks upon, and thefts from letter carriers in Jacksonville, the State of Florida and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Letter Carriers reported that in Jacksonville last year, there were a dozen smash-and-grab thefts and six postal workers attacked on the job, including two letter carriers held at gunpoint; and

WHEREAS, in Florida between 2019 and 2022, the National Association of Letter Carriers reported that over 100 letter carriers were assaulted and 50 were the victims of robberies; and

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives has introduced the bi-partisan Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) providing 7 billion dollars in funding for the Postal Service to secure its infrastructure, including the installation of high-security collection boxes and the replacement of items carried by letter carriers with more secure electronic versions and to increase prosecutions and penalties for threats to or assaults on postal workers by designating prosecutors in each of the 93 U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country to prosecute such activities; and

WHEREAS, the Jacksonville City Council supports the safety and protection of these vital public servants who serve the public every day; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City Council hereby expresses its support of the efforts of the National Letter Carriers Association to lobby for federal legislation to increase the safety and protection of employees of the U.S. Postal Service, particularly letter carriers, in order to protect these dedicated public servants and the vital service they provide to every American household and business.

Section 2. Direction to Legislative Services. The Council's Legislative Services Division is directed to forward copies of this adopted Resolution to the members of Jacksonville's Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.