Introduced by Council Members Salem, Freeman, Pittman, Carrico, White, Miller, Amaro and Gaffney, Jr.:

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## RESOLUTION 2024-299

A RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 19-25, 2024, AS NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK (NTTW) IN JACKSONVILLE WITH THE  $41^{\rm ST}$  ANNIVERSARY OF NTTW DEMONSTRATING HOW INTEGRAL TRAVEL IS TO EVERY INDUSTRY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, travel is at the heart of America's economic and
national security; and

WHEREAS, tourism is not merely a source of recreation; it is a powerful economic driver that significantly contributes to the prosperity of our community. As we highlight the beauty, diversity, and attractions that Jacksonville has to offer, let us also recognize the positive impact of tourism on local businesses, job creation, and overall economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the travel industry also supports the interests of Jacksonville, contributing to our employment, economic prosperity, international trade and relations, peace, understanding and goodwill; and

WHEREAS, travel ranks as one of Jacksonville's largest
industries in terms of revenues generated; and

WHEREAS, more than 50,000 Duval County residents are employed in the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, Jacksonville welcomes over 22 million overnight and day trippers annually in Jacksonville. These visitors contributed approximately \$4 billion to the local economy annually; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, tourism produced an economic

footprint of \$2.6 trillion - a return to 2019 levels, and directly employed over 8 million people; and

WHEREAS, as people throughout the world become increasingly aware of the beautiful natural surroundings, outstanding cultural and recreational opportunities, and warm Southern hospitality of our residents available in Jacksonville, travel will become an increasingly vital resource in improving America's image around the world and an extension of our public diplomacy; and

WHEREAS, given these laudable contributions to the economic, social and cultural well-being of the citizens of Jacksonville, it is fitting that the City recognize the importance of the American travel industry; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City of Jacksonville hereby designates May 19-25, 2024, as National Travel and Tourism Week (NTTW) in Jacksonville with the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of NTTW demonstrating how integral travel is to every industry and urges the citizens of Jacksonville to join in this special observance with appropriate events, commemorations, and festivals.

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

Form Approved:

## /s/ Shannon MacGillis

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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