

1 Introduced by Council Member Miller:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2024-702**

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

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

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

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

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

31 **WHEREAS**, in September 1968 President Lyndon Johnson issued the

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

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

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

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

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

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19 Form Approved:

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21           /s/ Shannon MacGillis          

22 Office of General Counsel

23 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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