

1 Introduced by Council Members Miller, Arias, Peluso, Salem, Gay and
2 White:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2024-809**

6 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS
7 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN DUVAL COUNTY;
8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, in 1990, President George H. W. Bush designated
11 November to be National Native American Heritage Month; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Native American Heritage Month is a celebration of
13 Indigenous Peoples past and present, in an effort to ensure their rich
14 histories continue to thrive with each passing generation; and

15 **WHEREAS**, before explorers set foot on the North American
16 continent, the land was cherished by generations of Native Americans;
17 at the time of the explorers' arrival, the Timucua chiefdoms
18 encompassed a population of roughly 200,000, spread across 19,000
19 square miles of North Florida and South Georgia, with a trading
20 network as far away as what would later be known as St. Louis; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans were the first to carve out cities,
22 domesticate crops, and establish great civilizations; they were the
23 early stewards of our environment and they continue to be accomplished
24 artists, craftspeople, scientists and inventors; and

25 **WHEREAS**, Native Americans have served in the U.S. Armed Forces
26 with great honor, dedication and distinction since the American
27 Revolution, with the highest record of military service per capita
28 when compared to other ethnic groups; and

29 **WHEREAS**, Native American Heritage Month is also a time to
30 acknowledge our nation's history of colonialism and the detrimental
31 impact upon the health and happiness of Indigenous People and their

1 ancestral homes; and

2 **WHEREAS**, Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to
3 recognize the diverse cultures, traditions, stories and significant
4 contributions of Indigenous Peoples, along with acknowledging that
5 population's hardship and struggles both throughout history and
6 continuing today; now therefore

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

8 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the month of
9 November as Native American Heritage Month in Duval County. The City
10 Council encourages residents to learn more about Native American
11 heritage and to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and
12 activities.

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

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17 Form Approved:

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19 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

20 Office of General Counsel

21 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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