

1 Introduced by Council Members Miller, Arias, Peluso, Salem, Gay and
2 White and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Johnson, Freeman, Howland,
3 Carlucci and Amaro:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2024-809-A**

7 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS
8 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN DUVAL COUNTY;
9 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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11 **WHEREAS**, in 1990, President George H. W. Bush designated
12 November to be National Native American Heritage Month; and

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

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

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

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

30 **WHEREAS**, Native American Heritage Month is also a time to
31 acknowledge our nation's history of colonialism and the detrimental

1 impact upon the health and happiness of Indigenous People and their
2 ancestral homes; and

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

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

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

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

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18 Form Approved:

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20 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

21 Office of General Counsel

22 Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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