Introduced by Council Member Dennis and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Morgan and Becton:

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RESOLUTION 2019-591-A

A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND WORKS OF LONG-TIME CHURCH MUSICIAN AND PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY SYNTHIA HARTLEY MCFATTEN FOR 48 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Synthia Hartley McFatten was born on July 27th, 1941 in Ocala, Florida to her parents Alexander Hartley and Lillie Mae Fields. Ms. Hartley had a strong Christian upbringing with her three younger brothers: Alexander Jr., James Alex, and Henry Michael. Following her graduation from Howard High School in Ocala, Ms. Hartley married Levi McFatten and relocated to Jacksonville. Mrs. McFatten continued her education attending Florida Junior College and received an Associate of Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, following in the footsteps of her father, Alexander, who was a talented musician, Mrs. McFatten has excelled as a singer, pianist, and musician sharing her talents with many churches and choirs in Ocala and Jacksonville, including St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church, Triumph The Church and Kingdom of God In Christ, Mount Herman Missionary Baptist Church, St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church, Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Mount Nebo Baptist Church, and most notably at her beloved home church Friendship Missionary Baptist where she served as a church musician for over 48 years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McFatten has served in many roles and capacities

within the church, including church musician, assistant youth director, vacation bible school teacher, Sunday school teacher, a member of the Willing Workers Club, and the founder of the Senior Ministry where she currently serves as President. Additionally, Mrs. McFatten dedicated herself to engaging the youth of her community by starting the first 4-H club on the Northside of Jacksonville, the Sherwood Harborview 4-H Club. Mrs. McFatten also gave piano lessons in her home to over 200 students and held annual recitals to exhibit and encourage their talents; and

WHEREAS, professionally, Mrs. McFatten worked as an underwriter for the Prudential Insurance Company. After her retirement, Mrs. McFatten went to work at Independent Living Services and later at Northeast Florida ElderSource helping senior citizens of Jacksonville in multiple capacities. Additionally, Mrs. McFatten was a supervisor for the SHINE Program (Serving Health Insurance Needs of the Elderly). Mrs. McFatten is the mother of three daughters Sytoya, Shajuana, and Ana'Latore and the proud grandmother of five; now therefore

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

Section 1. The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and commemorates the life and works of Synthia Hartley McFatten for her 48 years of community service, her commitment to the youth of the Northside Jacksonville community and her work with the elderly, and wishes her many more years of happiness and service to her church and community.

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