

1 Introduced by Council Members Hazouri and Carlucci and Co-Sponsored
2 by Council Members Freeman, Morgan, Newby, Diamond, DeFoor,
3 Priestly Jackson, Boylan, Becton, Ferraro and Salem:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2019-709**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE
7 CITY'S DISABLED SERVICES DIVISION ON 30 YEARS
8 OF DILIGENT SERVICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
9 DATE.

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11 **WHEREAS**, former Mayor Tommy Hazouri and Council Member Matt
12 Carlucci partnered to introduce legislation to create a division to
13 address the needs of individuals living with disabilities. On
14 September 26, 1989, City Council passed Ordinance 89-878-448 and
15 established the Disabled Services Division. The division's purpose
16 was to increase community awareness about the accomplishments and
17 needs of disabled individuals and monitor all Federal and State
18 legislation that relates to disability rights and issues. Also, the
19 division would also advise the Mayor and his staff about necessary
20 City compliance, and suggest and implement ordinances that
21 favorably impacted one's equal access and opportunity while
22 changing any City policies that may adversely affect the same; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the overall goal of the Disabled Services Division
24 for the past thirty years has been to improve the quality of life
25 for people with disabilities by addressing, researching and
26 attempting to overcome barriers. These barriers include
27 transportation, housing, accessibility, discrimination, and
28 employment; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the Disabled Services Division provides various
30 quality programs and services to the disabled population of
31 Jacksonville which include Adaptive Recreation that allows

1 individuals with disabilities the opportunity to participate in
2 sports in our City Parks, compete against local and national
3 athletes with similar disabilities, and improve their quality of
4 life and athletic ability across a wide range of sports and
5 recreational activities; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the City's Jim Brady Scholarship provides funding for
7 students with disabilities to assist with tuition, books and
8 necessary auxiliary aids while the student is attending a community
9 college, university or vocational school located in and accredited
10 by the State of Florida or its designated agent; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Wheelchair Ramp Program offers service to low-
12 income families with a need for access to their residence and
13 provides a wheelchair ramp at no cost to the client. Also, Disabled
14 Services manages the Disabled Parking Enforcement Program of
15 trained volunteers who monitor and enforce the law by issuing
16 citations to persons illegally parked in designated accessible
17 parking spaces. Seventy percent of the fines collected are
18 distributed to the Handicap Parking Trust Fund to better serve
19 persons with disabilities in our community; now therefore

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

21 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
22 commends the Disabled Services Division for its impact over the
23 past 30 years on the lives of our residents and for its commitment
24 to expanding opportunities for people living with disabilities,
25 veterans, seniors, and others to ensure equal access and quality of
26 life in our community.

27 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
28 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
29 without the Mayor's signature.
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Form Approved:

/s/ Margaret M. Sidman

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Yvonne P. Mitchell, City Council Research

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