

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the  
2 Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2020-139-E**

6 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CHAPTER 307 (HISTORIC  
7 PRESERVATION), *ORDINANCE CODE*; DESIGNATING THE  
8 INDEPENDENT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY BUILDING,  
9 LOCATED AT 233 W. DUVAL STREET, IN COUNCIL  
10 DISTRICT 7, AS A LOCAL LANDMARK, PURSUANT TO  
11 APPLICATION LM-20-01; DIRECTING THE CHIEF OF  
12 LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO NOTIFY THE APPLICANT,  
13 THE PROPERTY OWNER, AND THE PROPERTY APPRAISER  
14 OF THE LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION, AND TO RECORD  
15 THE LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION IN THE OFFICIAL  
16 RECORDS OF DUVAL COUNTY; DIRECTING THE ZONING  
17 ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER THE LOCAL LANDMARK  
18 DESIGNATION ON THE ZONING ATLAS; PROVIDING AN  
19 EFFECTIVE DATE.

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21 **WHEREAS**, the Council enacted Chapter 307 (Historic  
22 Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, and determined therein that the  
23 preservation, protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of  
24 landmarks, landmark sites and historic districts is a public  
25 necessity because they have special historic, archaeological,  
26 aesthetic or cultural interest and value; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the proposed local landmark, pursuant to Application  
28 LM-20-01, **On File** with the Legislative Services Division, is the  
29 Independent Life Insurance Company Building, located at 233 W.  
30 Duval Street, in Council District 7; and

1           **WHEREAS**, Application LM-20-01 was filed by the owner of the  
2 Independent Life Insurance Company Building, and the owner supports  
3 the proposed local landmark designation; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was  
5 one of the largest in Florida at the time and the most important  
6 commercial building constructed in the City of Jacksonville during  
7 the 1950s; and

8           **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was  
9 completed in 1955 and was Jacksonville's second modern skyscraper  
10 and a forerunner to other skyscrapers that followed in the 1950s  
11 and 1960s; and

12           **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building was  
13 designed by KBJ Architects, Inc., a leading Florida architecture  
14 firm since the end of World War II, which designed 17 of  
15 Jacksonville's tallest buildings and responsible for creating the  
16 City's modern skyline; and

17           **WHEREAS**, the 2016 National Register District Nomination for  
18 Downtown Jacksonville recognized the Independent Life Insurance  
19 Company Building as one of Jacksonville's landmarks, noting the  
20 original design as remarkably intact and timeless; and

21           **WHEREAS**, the Independent Life Insurance Company Building is  
22 suitable for preservation as an important historic landmark; and

23           **WHEREAS**, the Council finds that the Independent Life Insurance  
24 Company Building meets five (5) of the seven (7) criteria required  
25 for local landmark designation, as more particularly described in  
26 the Staff Report of the Planning and Development Department (Staff  
27 Report), **On File** with the Legislative Services Division; and

28           **WHEREAS**, on January 22, 2020, the Jacksonville Historic  
29 Preservation Commission reviewed and recommended approval of the  
30 proposed local landmark designation; and

31           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 307 (Historic

1 Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, the Council has reviewed the  
2 proposed local landmark designation, taking into consideration its  
3 importance and historical value, as more fully set forth in  
4 Application LM-20-01 and the Staff Report; and

5 **WHEREAS**, all public notice and public hearing requirements  
6 have been met for designating the Independent Life Insurance  
7 Company Building as a local landmark; and

8 **WHEREAS**, having met the requisite criteria, the Council finds  
9 that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of  
10 Jacksonville to designate the Independent Life Insurance Company  
11 Building as a local landmark, in furtherance of historic  
12 preservation and protection; now, therefore

13 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

14 **Section 1. Designation of Local Landmark.** Pursuant to  
15 Chapter 307 (Historic Preservation), *Ordinance Code*, the Council  
16 hereby designates the Independent Life Insurance Company Building,  
17 located at 233 W. Duval Street, in Council District 7, as a local  
18 landmark.

19 **Section 2. Satisfaction of Requisite Criteria.** The  
20 Council hereby finds that the Independent Life Insurance Company  
21 Building meets five (5) of the seven (7) criteria for designation  
22 as a local landmark, pursuant to Section 307.104(j), *Ordinance*  
23 *Code*, and adopts Application LM-20-01 and the Staff Report in  
24 support of this finding, both **On File** with the Legislative Services  
25 Division.

26 **Section 3. Notice and Recording.** Pursuant to Section  
27 307.104(m), *Ordinance Code*, the Council hereby directs the Chief of  
28 Legislative Services, as designee of the Council Secretary, to  
29 notify the applicant, the property owner, and the Property  
30 Appraiser of the local landmark designation, and to record the  
31 local landmark designation in the official records of Duval County,

1 Florida.

2           **Section 4.           Zoning Atlas.** Pursuant to Section 307.104(n),  
3 *Ordinance Code*, the Council hereby directs the Zoning  
4 Administrator, as designee of the Director of the Planning and  
5 Development Department, to enter the local landmark designation on  
6 the Zoning Atlas, in accordance with Section 656.203, *Ordinance*  
7 *Code*.

8           **Section 5.           Effective Date.** The enactment of this  
9 ordinance shall be deemed to constitute a quasi-judicial action of  
10 the City Council and shall become effective upon signature by the  
11 Council President and Council Secretary.

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13 Form Approved:

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15           /s/ Kealey A. West          

16 Office of General Counsel

17 Legislation Prepared By: Kealey West

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