

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Salem, Freeman, Hazouri,
2 Becton, Carlucci, Newby and Morgan and Co-Sponsored by Council
3 Members Pittman, DeFoor, Boylan, Diamond and Ferraro:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2020-322**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE
8 LIFE AND REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR.
9 FRANCES BARTLETT KINNE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
10 DATE.
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Frances Bartlett was born in Story City, Iowa in May
13 1917, the daughter of a newspaper publisher and a librarian; she
14 earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education at
15 Drake University and worked as music teacher and choral and
16 instrumental conductor before the outbreak of World War II; and

17 **WHEREAS**, unable to enlist in the regular Women's Army Corps
18 because of her eyesight, Frances Bartlett prevailed upon her U.S.
19 Representative to help secure a waiver of the mandatory minimum age
20 requirement to allow her to volunteer with the newly launched Army
21 Hostess and Librarian Service program, in which she spent the war
22 arranging entertainment for tens of thousands of American forces
23 training and preparing for deployment overseas. During that time
24 she met and married Army Lieutenant Colonel Harry Kinne, with whom
25 she traveled to China and Japan in the immediate post-war years in
26 conjunction with Lt. Col. Kinne's duties on General Douglas
27 MacArthur's headquarters staff, and where she taught English and
28 music at a girls' school and college in Tokyo; and

29 **WHEREAS**, in 1955 Col. Kinne was reassigned to Frankfurt,
30 Germany as commanding officer of the Army's 4th Armor Group during
31 the Allied occupation, where Fran Kinne earned her doctoral degree

1 with honors in music, English literature and philosophy at the
2 University of Frankfurt, becoming the first woman ever to earn a
3 doctoral degree from that university, the first in a long string of
4 "firsts" in her life; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1958 Dr. Kinne came to Jacksonville for what she
6 thought would be a one-month stint as an adjunct humanities
7 professor at Jacksonville University. That plan for a short stay
8 evolved into her appointment as the founding Dean of JU's College
9 of Fine Arts in 1961, by which she became the first female dean of
10 a college of fine arts in the United States. In 1979 Dr. Kinne was
11 appointed President of Jacksonville University, the first female
12 president of a college or university in Florida, a position she
13 held until 1989; and

14 **WHEREAS**, during her remarkable tenure at Jacksonville
15 University, Fran Kinne oversaw tremendous growth and development of
16 academic programs and the university's campus, raised the
17 university's profile in the state and nationally, and brought to
18 the campus and the City of Jacksonville an astounding array of the
19 greatest figures in the arts, politics, business and world affairs,
20 ranging from actor Charlton Heston and Nobel Prize-winning
21 scientist Linus Pauling to President Gerald Ford, Saudi Arabia's
22 King Fahd, Boston Pops conductor Arthur Fiedler, and entertainers
23 Bob Hope and Jack Benny; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Fran Kinne also made an indelible mark on the City of
25 Jacksonville through her boundless energy, enthusiasm, and desire
26 to make a difference, including such "firsts" as being the first
27 female member and President of the Downtown Rotary Club, the first
28 female member of the River Club, and the winner of the first EVE of
29 the Decade Award for Education. Dr. Kinne was instrumental in
30 helping to recruit the Mayo Clinic to open its Jacksonville
31 location and has contributed leadership and financial resources to

1 countless worthy causes and organizations; and

2 **WHEREAS**, for all of the remarkable things she saw and did
3 throughout her life for the benefit of others, Fran Kinne's most
4 distinguishing characteristics were her boundless optimism, her
5 unfailing grace and humor, and her determination to do the greatest
6 amount of good for the greatest number of people while treating
7 everyone she met with respect and dignity. Since her recent passing
8 just two weeks shy of her 103rd birthday, generations of
9 Jacksonville University students and faculty, community leaders and
10 others have shared a flood of remarkable stories about the impact
11 this amazing woman had on their lives through her kindness and
12 caring about their personal lives and success. At the age of 100
13 Dr. Kinne delivered the spring commencement address at JU in which
14 she shared her philosophy of unconquerable optimism and commitment
15 to the service of others as the keys to personal happiness, and her
16 life embodied that philosophy to the very end; now therefore

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

18 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
19 commemorates the life and remarkable accomplishments of Dr. Frances
20 Bartlett Kinne on the occasion of her passing and extends to her
21 family and legions of friends and admirers its most sincere
22 condolences. The City of Jacksonville was indelibly marked by this
23 amazing woman and gratefully acknowledges all she did to make the
24 city a more vibrant, caring, optimistic place for all its citizens.

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

28 Form Approved:

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30 /s/ Margaret M. Sidman

31 Office of General Counsel

1 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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