

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2021-667**

5 AN ORDINANCE HONORING AND COMMENDING THE LIFE
6 AND LEGACY OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AND FORMER
7 MAYOR THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR.; NAMING THE
8 CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER IN JACKSONVILLE CITY HALL
9 THE THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR. CITY COUNCIL
10 CHAMBER; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON
11 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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13 **WHEREAS**, Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr., a Jacksonville native,
14 graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and earned his bachelor's
15 degree in history and government from Jacksonville University where
16 he was elected Student Government President; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri began his long career of public service in
18 1974 with his election to the Florida House of Representatives, where
19 he served six terms during which he was appointed Chairman of the
20 House Committee on Education, K-12, and the House Committee on
21 Retirement, Personnel, and Collective Bargaining, and was elected
22 Chair of the Duval Legislative Delegation; and

23 **WHEREAS**, following his service in the Legislature, Tommy Hazouri
24 was elected Mayor of Jacksonville in 1987 and made a tremendous impact
25 on the city during his term. He is best known for successfully
26 fighting to enact and enforce regulations that drastically reduced
27 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
28 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
29 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
30 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
31 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for

1 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
2 in Jacksonville. During his tenure he also led the effort to replace
3 the outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing
4 complex with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and
5 worked in tandem with the City Council to enact a Minority Business
6 Enterprise program to enhance minority business participation in City
7 procurement opportunities; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri's career of public service continued in the
9 new century when he was elected to the School Board in 2004, serving
10 two terms through 2012 and being elected as Vice Chair in 2007-08 and
11 Chair of the board in 2008-09; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, Tommy Hazouri once again stepped up to serve
13 his community by seeking and winning a seat on the City Council as
14 an At-Large Council Member and was re-elected to a second term in
15 2019. His council colleagues elected him Vice President for 2019-20
16 and Council President for 2020-21. During his tenure his experience
17 and leadership helped guide the Council through several tumultuous
18 issues, including the proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax
19 for pension amortization plan, the expansion of the local option gas
20 tax for meeting infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville
21 Jaguars stadium-area development proposals; and

22 **WHEREAS**, his life-long concern for the interests and well-being
23 of Jacksonville's citizen, is evidenced by his work in continuing to
24 fulfill the intent of Consolidation, the adoption of a broadened
25 Human Rights Ordinance, the appointment of a Special Committee on
26 Social Justice and Community Investment, and laying the early
27 foundation for the creation of the Jacksonville Small and Emerging
28 Business (JSEB); and who, as a trusted and beloved civic leader,
29 measured every decision against his hallmark sentiment that sets the
30 standard for what should and must take place in the Council Chamber:
31 "It has to be all about Jacksonville"; now therefore

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

2 **Section 1. City Hall Council Chambers Renamed the "Thomas**
3 **L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. City Council Chamber."** The City Council
4 Chamber at City Hall, located at 117 West Duval Street, Jacksonville,
5 Florida 32202 is hereby named the "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr.
6 City Council Chamber" in recognition of Council Member Hazouri's long
7 career of service to the City of Jacksonville and its people. As Mr.
8 Hazouri has so frequently stated, "so let it be written, so let it
9 be done."

10 **Section 2. Requesting Emergency Passage Upon Introduction**
11 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Council.** Emergency passage upon
12 introduction of this legislation is requested pursuant to Rule 4.901,
13 Council Rules. The nature of the emergency is that Mr. Hazouri's
14 health is in decline and the Council wishes to honor the legacy of
15 Mr. Hazouri with this fitting tribute while he is able to enjoy this
16 recognition.

17 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become
18 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
19 without the Mayor's signature.

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21 Form Approved:

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23 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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