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2                   **JACKSONVILLE WATERWAYS COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

3           A    RESOLUTION    EXPRESSING    THE    CITY    OF  
4           JACKSONVILLE    WATERWAYS    COMMISSION'S    SUPPORT  
5           FOR    THE    CREATION    OF    AN    ANNUAL    BOATER'S    SKIP  
6           DAY;    URGING    AND    REQUESTING    THE    MAYOR    TO    ISSUE  
7           A    PROCLAMATION    DECLARING    THE    FIRST    FRIDAY    IN  
8           JUNE    TO    BE    BOATER'S    SKIP    DAY.

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10           **WHEREAS,** the City of Jacksonville Waterways Commission has  
11           discussed efforts to cultivate the great attributes of our rivers and  
12           ocean. There is no better way for our citizens to appreciate the  
13           vitality of our waterways than to be active upon them; and

14           **WHEREAS,** the City of Jacksonville wishes to honor a boating  
15           tradition created by Bill Pyburn, Sr. This event started with  
16           approximately 25 boats, as a part of the Jacksonville River Rally  
17           Poker Run ("JRRPR"). It was known as The Friday Fun Run; and

18           **WHEREAS,** the Jacksonville Marine Association President, Buddy  
19           Haskell, joined forces with JRRPR offering the local boating  
20           community an invitation to join the Friday Fun Run, thus, creating  
21           the first Jacksonville Boater's Skip Day; and

22           **WHEREAS,** after only five years of word-of-mouth invitation,  
23           the number of boats attending has grown to over 800. The estimated  
24           number of participants has topped 2,000. By all reports, nearly  
25           every boat ramp in Jacksonville was heavily utilized. Many local  
26           provisioning and fueling purchases were made as a result; and

27           **WHEREAS,** due to the rising popularity of the event, Boaters  
28           Skip Day should be celebrated. It should be widely publicized in order  
29           to promote a fun, family friendly on-water event in North East  
30           Florida; and



# Sample Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** Jacksonville is defined in part by its extensive network of water-based natural resources, which include 22 miles of beaches, 40 miles of the Intracoastal Waterway, dozens of public boat ramps and the longest stretch of the St. Johns River in the State of Florida; and
- WHEREAS:** Activating Jacksonville's waterways will improve residents' quality of life, enhance regional tourism and generally support a vibrant community that is connected to its unique natural resources; and
- WHEREAS:** Through their contributions of time, effort, resources and ideas, Jacksonville's residents play a major role in such waterways activation efforts; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Jacksonville wishes to honor a boating tradition created by Bill Pyburn, Sr. This event started with approximately 25 boats, as a part of the Jacksonville River Rally Poker Run ("JRRPR"). It was known as The Friday Fun Run; and
- WHEREAS:** The Jacksonville Marine Association President, Buddy Haskell, joined forces with JRRPR offering the local boating community an invitation to join the Friday Fun Run, thus, creating the first Jacksonville Boater Skip Day; and
- WHEREAS:** After only five years of word-of-mouth invitation, the number of boats attending has grown to over 800. The estimated number of participants has topped 2,000. By all reports, nearly every boat ramp in Jacksonville was heavily utilized. Many local provisioning and fueling purchases were made as a result; and
- WHEREAS:** Due to the rising popularity of the event and its positive impact on the region's maritime culture, Boater Skip Day should be celebrated and widely publicized in order to promote a fun, family friendly on-water event in Northeast Florida.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim the first Friday in June each year as

## **BOATER SKIP DAY**

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to recognize the significance of our waterways and participate in maritime traditions in the community.