

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan:  
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-293**

5 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF APRIL 11-17,  
6 2022 AS "BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK" IN  
7 JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON  
8 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
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10 **WHEREAS**, rates of maternal morbidity and mortality (MMM) are  
11 much higher in the United States than in its peer nations. National  
12 severe maternal morbidity (SMM) rates have nearly doubled over the  
13 past decade, and the incidence of SMM was 166% higher for Black women  
14 than White women from 2012 to 2015; and

15 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, Black women in Florida experienced pregnancy-  
16 related mortality at a rate nearly three times that of white women,  
17 with 32 deaths per 100,000 live births as compared to 12.9 deaths per  
18 100,000 deaths, respectively; and

19 **WHEREAS**, these deaths have devastating effects on Black children  
20 and families, and the vast majority of these deaths are preventable  
21 through efforts to ensure that there is access to information,  
22 services, and support for Black families to make their own health  
23 care decisions, particularly around pregnancy and childbearing; and

24 **WHEREAS**, to help mitigate SMM, the Black Mamas Matter Alliance  
25 will observe Black Maternal Health Week during the second week of  
26 April this year to raise awareness of the problem; enrich the dialogue  
27 surrounding Black maternal health; promote solutions, policies, and  
28 research; and increase community involvement in the fight to end  
29 maternal mortality both locally and globally; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville suffers the same Black maternal morbidity  
31 and mortality issues as Florida and the nation, and the City Council

