

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2021-659-E**

5 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF  
6 JACKSONVILLE TO JOIN WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
7 AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS AS A  
8 PARTICIPANT IN THE FLORIDA MEMORANDUM OF  
9 UNDERSTANDING AND FORMAL AGREEMENTS  
10 IMPLEMENTING A UNIFIED PLAN; REQUESTING ONE  
11 CYCLE EMERGENCY PASSAGE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
12 DATE.  
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14 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville has suffered harm from the  
15 opioid epidemic; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville recognizes that the entire  
17 State of Florida has suffered harm as a result from the opioid  
18 epidemic; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the State of Florida has filed an action pending in  
20 Pasco County, Florida, and a number of Florida Cities and Counties  
21 have also filed an action In re: National Opiate Litigation, MDL No.  
22 2804 (N.D. Ohio) (the "Opioid Litigation") and the City of  
23 Jacksonville is a litigating participant in that action; and

24 **WHEREAS**, the State of Florida and lawyers representing certain  
25 various local governments involved in the Opioid Litigation have  
26 proposed a unified plan for the allocation and use of prospective  
27 settlement dollars from opioid related litigation; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the Florida Memorandum of Understanding (the "Florida  
29 Plan") sets forth a framework of a unified plan for the proposed  
30 allocation and use of opioid settlement proceeds and it is anticipated  
31 that formal agreements implementing the Florida Plan will be entered

1 into at a future date; and

2       **WHEREAS**, participation in the Florida Plan by a large majority  
3 of Florida cities and counties will materially increase the amount  
4 of funds to Florida and should improve Florida's relative bargaining  
5 position during additional settlement negotiations; and

6       **WHEREAS**, failure to participate in the Florida Plan will reduce  
7 funds available to the State, the City of Jacksonville, and every  
8 other Florida city and county; now therefore

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

10       **Section 1. Purpose.** The purpose of this Ordinance is to  
11 support a unified plan for the allocation and use of opioid settlement  
12 proceeds as generally described in the Florida Plan, attached hereto  
13 as **Exhibit 1**.

14       **Section 2. Approval of the Florida Plan; Authorization to**  
15 **Execute and Implement.** The Council hereby approves, and the Mayor,  
16 or his designee, and the Corporation Secretary, are hereby authorized  
17 to execute, for and on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, the Florida  
18 Plan in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, and to  
19 take, or cause to be taken, for and on behalf of the City, such  
20 further action as is necessary to effectuate the purpose of this  
21 Ordinance.

22       **Section 3. Requesting One Cycle Emergency Passage Pursuant**  
23 **to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** One cycle emergency passage of this  
24 legislation is requested. The nature of the emergency is that on  
25 August 13, 2021, the State of Florida set a deadline of September 30,  
26 2021, for passage of this legislation.

27       **Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
28 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
29 without the Mayor's signature.  
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Form Approved:

/s/ Tiffiny Douglas Pinkstaff

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Tiffiny Douglas Pinkstaff

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