

1 Introduced by Council Member Diamond & Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Member Morgan, Hazouri, Becton, Bowman, Boylan, Carlucci, Cumber,
3 DeFoor, Dennis, Ferraro, Freeman, Gaffney, Newby, Pittman, Priestly
4 Jackson, Salem, White, and Wilson and amended on the Floor of
5 Council:

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8 **RESOLUTION 2020-271-A**

9 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS
10 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED
11 CARE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING
12 EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING
13 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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15 **WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to everyone's overall
16 health and well-being; and

17 **WHEREAS**, everyone experiences times of stress and struggles in
18 their lives; and

19 **WHEREAS**, one in four adults and one in five youth ages 13-18
20 experience serious mental illness; and

21 **WHEREAS**, 60 percent of adults and 50 percent of youth do not
22 receive the treatment necessary for their mental health needs due
23 to limited or no knowledge of the need, barriers to care, or fear
24 and shame; and

25 **WHEREAS**, research recognizes that adverse childhood
26 experiences (ACEs), which include, but are not limited to physical,
27 emotional and sexual abuse, physical and emotional neglect,
28 household dysfunction, untreated mental illness, or incarceration
29 of a household member, domestic violence, and separation or divorce
30 involving household members, are traumatic experiences that can

1 have a profound effect on a child's developing brain and body and
2 can result in poor physical and mental health during childhood and
3 adulthood; and

4 **WHEREAS**, community understanding and available supports and
5 services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their
6 stress and struggle and move forward; and

7 **WHEREAS**, promoting mental health and wellness leads to higher
8 overall productivity, better educational outcomes, lower crime
9 rates, stronger economies, lower health care costs, improved family
10 life, improved quality of life and increased lifespan; and

11 **WHEREAS**, studies show that the effects of ACEs are felt by
12 people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual
13 orientation, or socio-economic status; and

14 **WHEREAS**, each business, school, government agency, healthcare
15 provider, faith-based organization, non-profit agency and citizen
16 shares accountability for the community's mental health needs and
17 has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support
18 prevention efforts; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council recognizes the impact
20 of awareness and education, access to services and acceptance of
21 the importance of mental health and well-being to a person's
22 overall success and supports the implementation of trauma informed
23 approaches throughout the systems of care; now therefore

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

25 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby declares the
26 month of May as Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care
27 month in Jacksonville and urges all citizens to join the national
28 movement to raise awareness about mental health. Citizens are
29 urged to join the fight against stigma associated with mental
30 health illness and to take advantage of resources and opportunities
31 available to them to become more aware of the importance of mental

1 health and well-being to a person's overall success. To that end,
2 the City supports the implementation of trauma informed approaches
3 throughout the systems of care, including support and education for
4 the public, along with advocating for policies that support people
5 with mental illness and their families.

6 **Section 2. Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**
7 **pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon
8 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the
9 emergency is that May is designated nationally as Mental Health
10 month and the City Council desires to show its support for the
11 national dialogue on mental health awareness and wishes to make
12 strides locally for acceptance and support for individuals within
13 the local community.

14 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
15 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
16 without the Mayor's signature.

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18 Form Approved:

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20 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

21 Office of General Counsel

22 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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