## CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2024-776

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Johnson

**Date of Introduction:** September 24, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, R

Date of Analysis: September 25, 2024

**Type of Action:** Expression of council support and directive to Legislative Services

**Bill Summary:** The bill expresses council's support for Medicaid expansion. The Legislative Services Division is directed to provide a copy of this Resolution, once adopted, to the Duval County Legislative Delegation, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House, and the Governor of the State of Florida.

**Background Information:** The purpose of this legislation is to convey support for the Florida Legislature to expand healthcare coverage for Floridians, including but not limited to, expansion of Medicaid coverage. Approximately 112,000 Duval County Residents are uninsured, with an even larger portion underinsured. Duval County ranks in the bottom third in Florida at 46<sup>th</sup> out of 67 Counties for overall health outcomes in the state. Medicaid expansion has been shown to improve health outcomes by providing timely access to preventive care, reducing the rates of mortality, and lowering the prevalence of chronic conditions. Medicaid expansion would provide critical health insurance coverage for more residents, and potentially reduce overall healthcare costs by increasing access to preventive and early treatment services.

Florida opted to not expand Medicaid after the Affordable Care Act was approved, creating a large group of people who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid with the current requirements, but earn too little to qualify for subsidies from the ACA health insurance marketplace.

**Policy Impact Area:** Healthcare – Medicaid expansion

Fiscal Impact: Undetermined savings for the City, which currently funds emergency care for uninsured residents

Analyst: Hampsey