

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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Bill Type and Number: Resolution 2020-646

Sponsor: Council President at the request of the Jacksonville Ethics Commission

Date of Introduction: October 13, 2020

Committee(s) of Reference: R

Date of Analysis: October 13, 2020

Type of Action: Reappointment Confirmation

Bill Summary: This bill confirms the Jacksonville Ethics Commission's reappointment of Ellen M. Schmitt as a member of the Jacksonville Ethics Commission, for a second term ending December 31, 2023.

Background Information: The Jacksonville Ethics Commission is established pursuant to Chapter 602, Part 9, *Ordinance Code*, and empowered to review, interpret, render advisory opinions and enforce Chapter 602, *Ordinance Code*; and, in accordance with Section 1.202, *Jacksonville Charter*, to exercise the following powers and duties: authorized to receive, and to investigate and issue findings with regard to complaints alleging an ethics violation; provide assistance and input into the management and coordination of the training and education of local officers and employees in state and local ethics, including the City's Ethics Education Program, as well as all public records and sunshine law training throughout the government; may, upon employee or citizen complaint, or upon its own initiative, seek information and gather facts for the purpose of reviewing any circumstance or situation of which the Commission may become aware that appears to violate or may potentially violate an acceptable standard of ethics conduct for City officers and employees; jurisdiction to levy those civil fines or penalties authorized in Chapter 602 for violations of the City's ethics code; and act as the hiring committee, subject to Council confirmation, for the executive director of the Ethics Oversight and Compliance office.

Section 602.912, *Ordinance Code*, provides that three of the nine members of the commission shall be Duval County registered voters appointed by the commission and confirmed by Council.

Ms. Schmitt received a master's degree in social work from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and is a Certified Case Manager and Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She is the System Director of Social Services and Case Management with the *Baptist Health System*. Ms. Schmitt resides in the Cobblestone area within Council District #2.

Attendance:

Policy Impact Area: Jacksonville Ethics Commission operations

Fiscal Impact: Anticipated to be minimal

Analyst: Distel