

1 Introduced by Council Members Priestly Jackson, Clark-Murray,
2 Carlucci and Morgan:

3
4
5 **RESOLUTION 2023-219**

6 A RESOLUTION STRONGLY OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF
7 HOUSE BILL 1331 AND SENATE BILL 1380 WHICH WOULD
8 PROVIDE FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED CAP ON THE TRANSFERS
9 OF MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS, WATER, AND
10 WASTEWATER UTILITY REVENUES TO A MUNICIPAL
11 GENERAL FUND TO FINANCE GENERAL GOVERNMENT
12 FUNCTIONS; DIRECTING LEGISLATIVE SERVICES TO
13 CIRCULATE THIS RESOLUTION TO THE FLORIDA
14 LEGISLATURE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

15
16 **WHEREAS,** JEA is an independent authority within the
17 consolidated City of Jacksonville that is authorized to own, manage,
18 and operate a utilities system that currently includes electric,
19 water, wastewater, and district energy services; and

20 **WHEREAS,** a number of municipal utilities throughout the state
21 contribute to their respective municipal general funds as a means to
22 support the operations of government, recognizing that such
23 contributions allow the ratepayers to realize a secondary but
24 meaningful benefit from funds paid for utility services; and

25 **WHEREAS,** in recognition of the unique, symbiotic relationship
26 between the City and JEA, JEA makes an annual contribution to the
27 City's general fund in support of general governmental functions and
28 operations of the consolidated City of Jacksonville, including public
29 safety and emergency services, parks and recreation programming and
30 services, library services, local services and programs designed to
31 mitigate costs and utility disruptions to customers who are neighbors

1 in Jacksonville, and other operational services and expenses that may
2 be paid using general fund dollars; and

3 **WHEREAS,** the JEA contribution to the City's general fund for
4 fiscal year 2022-2023 totaled \$122,424,496 and supported a multitude
5 of programs and services enjoyed by the City's residents and visitors
6 alike; and

7 **WHEREAS,** House Bill 1331 and Senate Bill 1380 were introduced
8 at the state level this legislative session and would allow the state
9 to set a not-to-exceed cap on transfers of municipal electric, natural
10 gas, water, and wastewater utility revenues to a municipal general
11 fund by dictating a limitation on the amount of such general fund
12 contributions; and

13 **WHEREAS,** the Council finds that the potential harm to the City
14 of Jacksonville and JEA is sufficient that the Council should inform
15 the Florida Legislature that it is opposed to House Bill 1331 and
16 Senate Bill 1380 and urges the Florida Legislature to defeat both
17 bills; now therefore

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

19 **Section 1. Declaring the City Council's Strong Opposition**
20 **to House Bill 1331 and Senate Bill 1380.** The City Council strongly
21 opposes and urges the Florida Legislature to defeat passage of House
22 Bill 1331 and Senate Bill 1380 which would, together or individually,
23 provide for a not-to-exceed cap on the transfers of municipal
24 electric, natural gas, water, or wastewater revenues to a municipal
25 general fund to finance general government functions. This action
26 would only serve to further hamstring a local government's ability
27 to effectively utilize its financial resources to provide the programs
28 and services it deems most appropriate to meet the needs of its
29 community.

30 **Section 2. Direction to the Chief of Legislative Services**
31 **Division.** The Chief of Legislative Services Division is hereby

1 directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Florida
2 Legislature, the Duval County Legislative Delegation, the Senate
3 President, and the Speaker of the House.

4 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
5 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
6 without the Mayor's signature.

7
8 Form Approved:

9
10 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

11 Office of General Counsel

12 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

13 GC-#1554890-v4-Opposing_SB_1380-HB_1331_(CM_Priestly_Jackson).docx