

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the Mayor:

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4 **ORDINANCE 2025-610-E**

5 AN ORDINANCE, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 170, *FLORIDA*  
6 *STATUTES*, AND CHAPTERS 491, 492 AND 715,  
7 *ORDINANCE CODE*, ESTABLISHING THE 2025 SPECIAL  
8 ASSESSMENTS FOR FLORIDA AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE  
9 ADMINISTRATION ("AHCA") LICENSED HOSPITALS  
10 PURSUANT TO ORDINANCES 2021-456-E AND 2024-212-  
11 E; ESTABLISHING THE 2025 ASSESSMENT RATE;  
12 PROVIDING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS; APPROVING  
13 THE 2025 FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING  
14 EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT AND RECORDING; PROVIDING  
15 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, by and through Ordinance 2021-456-E, the City Council  
18 authorized assessments on AHCA licensed hospitals for the purpose of  
19 funding the non-federal share of the Direct Payment Program (DPP)  
20 through the Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF); and

21 **WHEREAS**, by and through Ordinance 2024-212-E, the City Council  
22 authorized assessments on AHCA licensed hospitals for the purpose of  
23 funding the non-federal share of the Low Income Pool (LIP) program  
24 through the LPPF; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the programs require an annual calculation of the  
26 rate based on each year's projected DPP figure as provided by AHCA  
27 and charity care costs as reported by the hospitals and the Council  
28 must reauthorize the rate and assessment each year; and

29 **WHEREAS**, the initial year of the DPP program successfully  
30 provided local facilities with needed federal funding to serve  
31 Medicaid recipients such that renewal of the assessment is in the

best interest of the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the twelve impacted facilities have all agreed to and requested that the DPP program be continued and the LIP program be added; and

**WHEREAS,** the twelve impacted facilities have been involved in the conversations about the anticipated rate and recognize that the rate in the ordinance may change between filing of the Preliminary Rate Ordinance legislation and the final public hearing for the authorization of the Annual Rate Ordinance and still desire to proceed; now therefore

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

**Section 1. Description of Programs.** The funds collected pursuant to this annual assessment shall serve to provide the nonfederal share of funding needed for DPP and to reimburse charity costs under the LIP program, an action which will allow the facilities to access additional federal funding for their treatment of Medicaid patients and low income and indigent patients.

**Section 2. Service Cost.** The estimated total cost to cover the DPP and LIP programs through the special assessments is \$104,200,806. This figure is calculated by AHCA and is typically provided around late October or November each year. The impacted parties and the City are aware that in the event that the AHCA calculation is higher, the final assessment amount may change.

**Section 3. Assessment Rate.** Based on the estimated amount needed to cover the DPP funding and reimbursement for charity care costs, each facility shall be assessed a uniform rate calculated at a rate of \$29,082.00 per available bed. Each hospital's assessment is calculated based on the rate per available bed multiplied by the total number of available hospital beds.

**Section 4. Maximum Rate.** In light of the estimated figure utilized for this determination and the impacted facilities'

1 agreement with the calculation and possible modifications, the  
2 assessments shall not include a maximum rate.

3       **Section 5.       Public Hearing Dates.** Pursuant to Sections  
4 170.07 and 170.08, *Florida Statutes*, as well as Chapters 491, 492 and  
5 Section 715.206, *Ordinance Code*, the Council held public hearings on  
6 August 26, 2025, and September 9, 2025, to hear testimony from  
7 affected property owners as to the propriety and advisability of  
8 funding the proposed improvements with special assessments on  
9 property, including the preliminary roll.

10       **Section 6.       Notice to Affected Owners.** The City reviewed  
11 the 2025 Assessment Roll, updated the listings, and provided notice  
12 of the two scheduled public hearings to each affected  
13 facility/property owner individually via U.S. Mail and published the  
14 same information in the Daily Record. A sample of the notices  
15 required by Section 170.07, *Florida Statutes*, and Section 715.205,  
16 *Ordinance Code*, is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

17       **Section 7.       Assessment Roll and Method of Collection.** The  
18 Council hereby approves the 2025 Assessment Roll attached hereto as  
19 **Exhibit 2**. The method of collection for 2025 shall be the alternative  
20 method pursuant to Chapter 170, *Florida Statutes*.

21       **Section 8.       Retaining All Rights Granted by Chapter 170,**  
22 ***Florida Statutes*.** The City of Jacksonville hereby retains all rights  
23 granted to municipalities by Chapter 170, *Florida Statutes*, for the  
24 special assessments authorized herein, including priority of lien,  
25 interest and foreclosure; provided, however, that any legal  
26 proceeding to enforce payment of such special assessments shall  
27 require City Council approval.

28       **Section 9.       Authorization to Execute and Implement;**  
29 **Record.** The Council hereby approves, and the Mayor, or her designee,  
30 and the Corporation Secretary, are hereby authorized to execute, for  
31 and on behalf of the City of Jacksonville, the AHCA Letters of

1 Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**,  
2 (2023 letter), and to take, or cause to be taken, for and on behalf  
3 of the City, such further action as is necessary to effectuate the  
4 purpose of this Ordinance. In compliance with Section 170.08, *Florida*  
5 *Statutes*, the Council authorizes the Department of Finance and  
6 Administration to provide the Duval County Tax Collector with notice  
7 of the liens for recording in the "Improvement Lien Book". The  
8 Department of Finance and Administration shall promptly provide  
9 notice of payment once received and cleared to the Duval County Tax  
10 Collector to record the same or clear the lien pursuant to their  
11 process.

12 **Section 10. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
13 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
14 without the Mayor's signature.

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16 Form Approved:

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18 /s/ Dylan Reingold

19 Office of General Counsel

20 Legislation Prepared By: Dylan Reingold

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