

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

## LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



**COLLEEN HAMPSEY,**  
**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**  
(904) 255-5151

117 West Duval Street  
City Hall, Suite 425  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
FAX (904) 630-3403

**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2022-872

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President at the request of the Mayor

**Date of Introduction:** November 22, 2022

**Committee(s) of Reference:** NCSPHS, R

**Date of Analysis:** November 21, 2022

**Type of Action:** Straw ballot referendum

**Bill Summary:** This bill calls for a straw ballot referendum of the qualified electors residing in Duval County, Florida to be placed on the ballot of the First Consolidated City of Jacksonville Election on March 21, 2023 regarding a “resign to run” Charter amendment.

**Background Information:** The purpose of this legislation is to assess the position of the electorate regarding vacancies created by officials resigning to qualify and run for other elected offices. The straw ballot will ask voters if they think elected or appointed officers of the Consolidated government should be required to resign immediately from their current positions in order to focus on their campaigns when they have made the decision to seek another local office, while currently employed by the City. Section 99.012, *Florida Statutes* states that officials who qualify to run for a different office when the term of such office runs concurrent with the existing office must tender a resignation prior to qualifying as a candidate for another office, but the resignation does not have to immediately take effect. Dependent on the results of the straw ballot, council may choose to amend the City Charter to reflect that a seat will be vacated immediately if an elected or appointed official qualifies as a candidate for City Council, Mayor, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Clerk of the Court, or Duval County School Board.

**Policy Impact Area:** Straw ballot referendum - resign to run vacancies

**Fiscal Impact:** Undetermined cost to the Supervisor of Elections Office to add a ballot question

**Analyst:** Hampsey