

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2020-0355

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Introduced by Council Members Salem, Dennis and Boylan & Co-Sponsored by Council Members Gaffney, Morgan, Newby, Ferraro, Priestly Jackson, Bowman, Carlucci and White

Date of Introduction: June 23, 2020

Committee(s) of Reference: F, R, NCSPHS, TEU

Date of Analysis: June 23, 2020

Type of Action: Appropriation of Funds; authorizing agreement with Fidelity National Information Services (FIS); invoking exception to Section 126.107(g), Ordinance Code; amending the Mortgage, Rent and Utilities Relief Program (MRU); authorizing agreement with JEA; requesting emergency passage upon introduction

Bill Summary: The bill appropriates funds in the sum of \$5,000,000.00 to provide \$3,000,000.00 in additional funding to the COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant Program approved in Ord. 2020-247-E and \$2,000,000.00 to the Mortgage, Rent, and Utility Relief Program (MRU). The transfer of these funds will be as follows:

From:

Subfund Title: Emergency Incidents
Activity/Grant Title: COVID-19 Mortgage, Rent, and Utility Relief
Line Item: US Department of Treasury
Amount: \$5,000,000.00

To:

Subfund Title: Emergency Incidents
Activity/Grant Title: COVID-19 Mortgage, Rent, and Utility Relief - JEA
Line Item: Welfare - Utilities and Other
Amount: \$2,000,000.00

Subfund Title: Emergency Incidents
Activity/Grant Title: Small Business Relief Grant Program
Line Item: Miscellaneous Grants and Aids
Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Background Information: The bill amends the Agreement with Fidelity National Information Services (FIS) for the purposes of providing an additional \$3,000,000 in funding, which will be distributed in the form of cards for the same purpose and in the same process described in 2020-247-E. The Amendment will also provide an additional \$2,000,000 in funding and authorize FIS to distribute up to 10,000 prepaid cards for the MRU program. The bill authorizes an Agreement with JEA for the purposes of assisting in identifying eligible recipients and assisting in determining eligibility for up to 10,000 payment cards. The bill invokes two exceptions to the Ordinance Code in Section 126.107(g) for the agreements with FIS and JEA because they are exempted from competitive solicitation because the supplies or services being provided are specifically prescribed within the authorizing legislation that appropriates the same. The bill amends the MRU Program to earmark \$2,000,000 from the MRU Program to be utilized to provide COVID-19 assistance in the form of up to 10,000 payment cards in the amount of \$200 to assist Duval County residents who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19, resulting in delinquent utility bills and who may be in danger of their utilities being shutoff. The bill is requesting emergency passage upon introduction because the negative health and economic impacts of COVID-19 are ongoing and immediate economic assistance is needed to maintain the viability of businesses and ease the financial needs of the citizens of Duval County impacted by COVID-19.

Policy Impact Area: Public health and safety; JEA; FIS

Fiscal Impact: No additional financial impacts anticipated

Analyst: Baltiero