

1 Introduced by Council Member Morgan and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Gaffney, Ferraro, Becton, Newby, Diamond, DeFoor, Carlucci,
3 Boylan, Carrico, Howland, Pittman, White, Dennis, Freeman, Priestly
4 Jackson, Salem, Bowman, and Cumber & amended on the Floor of Council:
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7 **RESOLUTION 2022-293-A**

8 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE WEEK OF APRIL 11-17,
9 2022 AS "BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK" IN
10 JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON
11 INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
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13 **WHEREAS**, rates of maternal morbidity and mortality (MMM) are
14 much higher in the United States than in its peer nations. National
15 severe maternal morbidity (SMM) rates have nearly doubled over the
16 past decade, and the incidence of SMM was 166% higher for Black women
17 than White women from 2012 to 2015; and

18 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, Black women in Florida experienced pregnancy-
19 related mortality at a rate nearly three times that of white women,
20 with 32 deaths per 100,000 live births as compared to 12.9 deaths per
21 100,000 deaths, respectively; and

22 **WHEREAS**, these deaths have devastating effects on Black children
23 and families, and the vast majority of these deaths are preventable
24 through efforts to ensure that there is access to information,
25 services, and support for Black families to make their own health
26 care decisions, particularly around pregnancy and childbearing; and

27 **WHEREAS**, to help mitigate SMM, the Black Mamas Matter Alliance
28 will observe Black Maternal Health Week during the second week of
29 April this year to raise awareness of the problem; enrich the dialogue
30 surrounding Black maternal health; promote solutions, policies, and

1 research; and increase community involvement in the fight to end
2 maternal mortality both locally and globally; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville suffers the same Black maternal morbidity
4 and mortality issues as Florida and the nation, and the City Council
5 wishes to encourage more education and action on the part of the
6 community to help reduce this distressing situation; now therefore

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

8 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby declares the week of
9 April 11-17, 2022 as "Black Maternal Health Week" in Jacksonville and
10 encourages all citizens to become more informed on the issues
11 surrounding Black maternal health and to advocate for solutions to
12 this pressing problem.

13 **Section 2. Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**
14 **Pursuant to Council Rule 4.901.** Emergency passage upon introduction
15 of this Resolution is requested in order to designate the week in a
16 timely manner.

17 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
18 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
19 without the Mayor's signature.

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22 Form Approved:

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25 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

26 Office of General Counsel

27 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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