

1 Introduced by the Council President at the request of the School  
2 Board of Duval County, Florida:

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5 **ORDINANCE 2022-213**

6 AN ORDINANCE CALLING AN ELECTION ON AUGUST 23,  
7 2022 TO HOLD A REFERENDUM OF THE QUALIFIED  
8 ELECTORS RESIDING IN DUVAL COUNTY ON THE  
9 QUESTION OF WHETHER TO APPROVE ONE ADDITIONAL AD  
10 VALOREM TAX MILL TO BE USED FOR SCHOOL  
11 OPERATIONAL PURPOSES FOR FOUR YEARS; PROVIDING  
12 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2022, the School Board of Duval County,  
15 Florida ("School Board") enacted a resolution calling for a referendum  
16 of the qualified electors residing in Duval County, directed by the  
17 City Council to be held at the primary election on August 23, 2022,  
18 on the question of whether to approve one additional mill of ad  
19 valorem tax to be used for school operational purposes for a period  
20 of four years; and

21 **WHEREAS**, Section 9, Article VII of the Florida Constitution  
22 authorizes Florida district school boards to levy ad valorem taxes  
23 of up to ten mills for all school purposes within the district; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes, authorizes the  
25 school boards to levy additional millage for school operational  
26 purposes, including charter schools, upon approval of a majority of  
27 the electors of the county voting in a referendum; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the School Board has complied with all requirements set  
29 forth in Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes, including adopting the  
30 resolution attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** (the "Resolution"); and

31 **WHEREAS**, because the School Board has adopted the Resolution,

1 Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes, "direct[s] the [City Council]  
2 to call an election at which the electors within the school district  
3 may approve an ad valorem tax millage"; now therefore,

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

5 **Section 1. Findings.** The Council finds as follows:

6 The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein  
7 by reference. In particular, the Council finds that the School Board,  
8 pursuant to its authority under Section 9, Article VII, Florida  
9 Constitution and Sections 1011.71(9) and 1011.73(2), Florida  
10 Statutes, has adopted a resolution requesting that the City Council  
11 call an election on August 23, 2022, to hold a referendum of the  
12 qualified electors residing in Duval County on the question of whether  
13 to approve one additional ad valorem tax mill to be used for school  
14 operational purposes for four years. The Resolution is attached  
15 hereto as **Exhibit 1** and is incorporated herein by this reference.

16 **Section 2. Referendum.**

17 (a) At the request of the School Board, the ad valorem tax  
18 millage referendum shall be placed on the ballot for the primary  
19 election to be held on August 23, 2022.

20 (b) The referendum election shall be held and conducted in the  
21 manner prescribed by law for holding referenda elections.

22 (c) All qualified electors in Duval County shall be entitled  
23 and permitted to vote in the referendum election.

24 (d) The Supervisor of Elections is authorized and directed,  
25 when printing the mail-in ballots and ballot strips for use in the  
26 voting machines for the referendum called for in this Section 2, to  
27 print the referendum question set forth in Section 4 hereof on said  
28 mail-in ballots and ballot strips at the appropriate place therefor.

29 **Section 3. Notice of Referendum.** The Supervisor of  
30 Elections shall provide notice of the referendum according to law and  
31 in the manner provided in Section 100.342, Florida Statutes.

1           **Section 4.           Referendum Question.** The form of the title and  
2 question for the referendum shall be substantially as follows:

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4                           DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
5                           AD VALOREM MILLAGE REFERENDUM  
6

7           Shall the Duval County School District increase the levy  
8 of ad valorem operating millage by one additional mill  
9 annually for the next four years (for a new total of 4.560  
10 mills) to attract and retain high-quality teachers and  
11 staff through additional compensation, to enhance art,  
12 music and athletic programs, and to provide proportionate  
13 funding for charter schools, in order to continue and  
14 sustain improvements in the quality of Duval County's  
15 school system?

16  
17                           \_\_\_\_\_ YES, for one additional mill

18  
19                           \_\_\_\_\_ NO, against one additional mill  
20

21           **Section 5.           Referendum Results.** If a majority of the votes  
22 cast in the referendum shall be for the one additional ad valorem tax  
23 mill to be used for school operational purposes, the one additional  
24 mill shall be adopted and shall take effect as provided in the  
25 Resolution. If less than a majority of the votes cast at the  
26 referendum shall be for the one additional mill, the one additional  
27 millage shall be defeated and shall not take effect, leaving the  
28 Duval County School District's total ad valorem operating millage at  
29 3.560 mills.

30           **Section 6.           Separate Board Action.** If a majority of the  
31 votes cast in the referendum shall be for the additional millage, the

1 School Board, by separate action, shall, consistent with law,  
2 implement and specify how the proceeds of the additional millage  
3 shall be used.

4 **Section 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
5 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
6 without his signature.

7 Form Approved:

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10 /s/ J. Ray Poole

11 Office of General Counsel

12 Legislation Prepared By: J. Ray Poole

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