

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2023-836

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President Salem

**Date of Introduction:** November 28, 2023

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

**Date of Analysis:** November 30, 2023

**Type of Action:** Appropriation of funds; amendment of Ordinance Code; providing for a grant application deadline for FY 23-24; requesting one-cycle emergency passage

**Bill Summary:** This bill appropriates \$3,100,442 from the Opioid Settlement Fund – Miscellaneous Settlements account to the Opioid Settlement Fund – Subsidies and Contributions to Private Organizations account to provide additional funding for Opioid Settlement Proceed Grants to be awarded to qualified agencies in FY 23-24. This funding comprises 70% of the total opioid settlement proceeds deposited in the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund, and this bill amends Section 84.301 of the Ordinance Code to state that the minimum annual funding amount for the Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant shall be 70% of the total Opioid Settlement Proceeds deposited into the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund, changed from 40%. It also amends the maximum amount that a requesting agency can receive from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

This bill establishes a grant application deadline for FY 23-24 of December 18, 2023, and it requests one-cycle emergency passage so that the Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Grants Committee can notify requesting agencies of the additional grant funding and increased maximum award amount.

**Background Information:** The opioid crisis has acutely affected urban areas across the country, with Jacksonville being no exception. Duval County saw an increase in the rate of opioid overdose deaths of 75% between 2018 and 2021, and the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department responded to an average of 250 opioid-related overdose calls each month in 2022. The City of Jacksonville subsequently participated in lawsuits against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opioids for their roles in the opioid crisis, and the Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grants Program was established in Ordinance 2023-350-E to distribute settlement funds to eligible agencies and organizations in the City that provide opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

The Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Grants Committee distributes opioid settlement funds throughout the City of Jacksonville by reviewing, evaluating, and scoring each Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant application after participating in on-site evaluations of recipient programs.

**Policy Impact Area:** Opioid abuse treatment and response

**Fiscal Impact:** \$3,100,442 in grant awards to recipient agencies

**Analyst:** Webb