Introduced by Council Member Pittman & Co-Sponsored by Council Members Bowman, Freeman, Morgan, Becton, Salem, Carrico, Gaffney, Boylan, Newby, Priestly Jackson, DeFoor, Cumber, Dennis, Diamond, Hazouri and White:

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## RESOLUTION 2021-613-A

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING HEALTH CARE WORKERS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, for more than a year and a half the world has been immersed in a global pandemic due to the COVID-19 virus, with 200 million infection cases globally as of early August, and over 4 million deaths worldwide. In the United States, there have been 36,925,000 positive cases reported and 621,000 COVID-caused deaths; and

whereas, since the pandemic began, there have been more than 2 million Floridians infected and 40,000 deaths in Florida. In Duval County, there have been more than 100,000 cases and tragically more than 1,400 residents have died after their affliction with the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, health care workers of all varieties have been on the front lines fighting the effects of this disease since the beginning of the pandemic. Doctors, nurses, medical assistants, therapists, hospital administrators and staff have toiled to treat and care for COVID patients to the best of their abilities, under extremely difficult conditions; and

WHEREAS, in the last month, cases of the extremely contagious delta variant of the COVID-19 virus have surged around the world, in the United States and in Florida, particularly in areas where

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vaccination rates are low. One glimmer of hope in this time of surging cases is that all three vaccines authorized in the United States offer strong protection against severe disease and death from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, health care workers have already endured months of trauma as they struggled to handle the caseload of patients and the emotions associated with treatment and loss. Health care workers are once again standing out as heroes during this surge of positive cases, doing everything they can to save, cure and rehabilitate patients with COVID-19; now therefore

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

The City of Jacksonville hereby commends all of the health care workers in Duval County for their tireless dedication to healing the sick, for their sacrifices, and for their seemingly unending efforts to counteract the effects of COVID-19. Jacksonville City Council extends heartfelt appreciation to each and every health care worker for their service to our city.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

## /s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research

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