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RESOLUTION NO. 210350

**City of Gainesville Resolution
In Support of Local Employers Mandating the COVID 19 Vaccine**

WHEREAS, COVID 19 has impacted the world at large and continues to be a pervasive public health crisis that has affected every area of our lives; and,

WHEREAS, COVID 19 has claimed the lives over 285 Alachua County residents, has infected thousands more and continues to be transmitted at very high rates locally; and,

WHEREAS, relaxed masking protocols, low vaccination rates and the lack of other preventative measures directly correlates to rising virus transmission; and,

WHEREAS, federal agencies such as the US Department of Defense, Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Veteran Affairs and national corporations such as The Walt Disney Company, Walmart and Google have mandated vaccines to protect their workforce, and;

WHEREAS, our local front line healthcare workers are faced with high volumes of COVID 19 cases in our local hospital network, forcing the cancelation of medically necessary procedures, and creating bed shortages in our hospitals; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission, in an effort to protect our workforce and the neighbors we serve, has mandated the masking of all individuals at all city facilities and the inoculation of all city employees with the COVID 19 vaccine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA that the city urges all local employers, both public and private, to mandate masking and vaccination of all employees that work in our community and that all employers make a concerted effort to educate our neighbors as we work to keep our local economy viable through this crisis.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 2nd day of September 2021.

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Lauren Poe
Mayor

ATTEST:



Omichele Gainey, City Clerk