

## **Resolution Supporting Healthcare Freedom and Choice Regarding Vaccine Mandates**

**Sponsor: Alderman Bobby Long**

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro believe and affirm healthcare freedom and choice as it concerns vaccine mandates, of the rights of individuals to bodily autonomy, of the right to individual healthcare decision making, individual liberty, freedom of association, the right to privacy, and the right to work without being forced by one's employer to receive a vaccine, and the human rights inherent to making healthcare decisions they deem best for themselves, individually, and for their families.

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro believe competent adult individuals have the right to control their own healthcare decisions and should not be mandated to make healthcare choices required by their employer, government, or any other authority other than themselves.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the City of Jonesboro hereby advise and request that our elected state Senate and House Members elected to represent the people of this state, pass legislation directing employers in Arkansas, healthcare authorities and officials, and all other persons holding authority over Arkansas residents and citizens, to:

1. Allow competent adult individuals to make their own decisions as to whether they take the COVID19 vaccine(s);
2. To make it against the laws of any state or local government in Arkansas for an employer (private or government), to require, as a condition of employment, proof of receiving the COVID19 vaccine;
3. To make it against the laws of any state or local government in Arkansas to require as a condition to receiving public services, generally available to all persons, proof of receiving the COVID19 vaccine;
4. To make it against the laws of any state or local government in Arkansas for that government to discriminate against people in any way based on their COVID19 vaccine status;
5. To require employers to protect the privacy of their employees and not to inquire regarding or disclose or cause to be known the COVID19 vaccination status of employees;
6. To prevent an employer from discriminating in favor of or against and treating employees differently because of their COVID19 vaccinated status;
7. Prohibit private and government employers from fining, increasing healthcare premiums, or otherwise causing a negative financial effect or create an undue personal burden including but not limited to excessive mandatory testing or other screenings on employees or those receiving government services based on their COVID19 vaccinated status.

Therefore, be it further RESOLVED, that the City of Jonesboro urges the General Assembly to pass legislation enacting the proposals outlined in this Resolution.

That the Mayor of the City of Jonesboro expeditiously and in writing, advise the elected officials who are potentially to vote on this matter in the state of Arkansas of this Resolution.

Approved and Passed by the City of Jonesboro this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2021.