

ORDINANCE 2021-28

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA, RE-ADOPTING COUNTY ORDINANCE 2020-17, AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO FUNDING FOR THE PROVISION OF INDIGENT CARE SERVICES BY HOSPITALS LOCATED WITHIN WALTON COUNTY AND ELIMINATING THE SUNSET CLAUSE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA:

WHEREAS, Walton County maintains an interest in providing access to health care for its indigent and uninsured citizens; and

WHEREAS, the County has an ongoing opportunity to enter into an agreement with the State of Florida to provide matching funds for federal dollars to be used to fund Medicaid supplemental payments, including the Low-Income Pool program; and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Walton County, and after due consideration and notice, on September 24, 2020, the Board adopted Ordinance 2020-17, establishing a non-ad valorem assessment against property of certain hospitals; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the provisions of Ordinance 2020-17 be reconsidered after sufficient time to evaluate its effectiveness had lapsed, the Board included in the Ordinance a sunset clause through which the Ordinance will automatically cease to be in effect after June 30, 2021, if not re-adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS, since September 24, 2020, Ordinance 2020-17 has proven effective in enabling providers of indigent care to gain access to available federal funds to compensate for indigent care services; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that it is in the public interest to both re-adopt Ordinance 2020-17 and repeal the sunset provision to ensure that the process created therein remains in force without interruption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT OF SUNSET PROVISION. The sunset provision set forth in Section 1.13 of Ordinance 2020-17 is hereby repealed and amended such that "June 30, 2021" is replaced with "June 30, 2022".

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance will take effect immediately.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the Walton County Board of County Commissioners, this 14 day of September, 2021.

Attest:

Dani Cordell
Alex Alford, Clerk of Court
and County Comptroller



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Trey Nick
Trey Nick, Chair

2021-28