

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI IN SUPPORT OF DECLARING A CIVIL EMERGENCY AS IT RELATES TO EFFORTS TO REDUCE LEAD AND COPPER LEVELS IN ALL RESIDENTIAL WATER.

WHEREAS, the governing authorities of the City of Jackson, Mississippi are authorized to declare civil emergencies for public safety and good order of its citizenry, pursuant to the authority vested under Section 45-17-1, *et seq.*, and Section 33-15-1, *et seq.*, of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Department of Health recently confirmed that water tests conducted in July of 2015 in Jackson, Mississippi from 13 of its 58-residence sample detected lead levels between 0.017 and 0.02 — above the federal action level of 0.015. Nearly 90% of all samples contained lead and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi finds that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect public health and safety of the community, especially to address the physical and mental health needs of children, pregnant women and families potentially impacted by lead-contaminated water; and

WHEREAS, in certain circumstances where lead contamination is an issue, the State and/or Federal regulatory agencies collect drinking water samples, conducts an analysis of the samples, share results with individual homeowners and posts results on a publicly accessible website; and

WHEREAS, in certain instances where lead contamination is an issue, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) may allow participants to use WIC vouchers for ready-to-feed infant formula, which does not need to be mixed with water. Participants may also be allowed to swap powdered formula for ready-to-feed formulas. Participants may be referred to the health department for lead screenings and provided nutrition education on mitigating lead absorption through dietary changes; and

WHEREAS, in certain instances where lead contamination is an issue, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services assists families in obtaining screening for their children; and

WHEREAS, in certain instances where lead contamination is an issue, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) works with the city on economic development and interagency coordination and assists the city with the purchase and installation of water filters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi fully supports declaring a civil emergency and supports efforts to secure the assistance of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and other agencies to ensure that all the residents of City of Jackson have access to safe drinking water.

Emergency Item
Date: February 23, 2016
By: De'Keither Stamps