ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX

ORDINANCE NO. O-2026-00013 AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION: N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38
PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY FOR ACTION: N.J.S.A. 40:41A-36

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO ESSEX COUNTY'S INSURANCE FUND ORDINANCE NUMBER O-93-0001 FOR THE INCLUSION OF COUNTY SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:10-6 authorizes the establishment of a County of Essex ("County") self-insurance fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:10-6, adopted January 28, 1993, ("Ordinance"), amended by Ordinance 08-0021, the County established an insurance fund responsible for insuring and covering any and all risks permissible pursuant to said statute; and

WHEREAS, the County of Essex currently participates in the State of New Jersey Health Insurance Benefits Program "State Plan" for health benefits for both active employees and retired County employees. The County desires to self-fund a health insurance benefits program effective January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance requires amendment to include in the County's self-insurance fund health benefits coverage in amounts deemed necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive through the Office of the County Administrator has submitted for Commissioners' approval an amendment to include the County's self-insurance program for the provision of health benefits; now, therefore, be it

ORDAINED, by the Essex County Board of Commissioners that:

1. Ordinance No. O-93-0001, which was amended by Ordinance No. O-08-0021, is hereby amended by including in the County's self-insurance fund ("Fund") health benefits coverage. The insurance fund Ordinance shall be amended as follows:

   §55-10 "Health Insurance Benefits."

§55-10.1 Purpose. The purpose of this section shall be to provide self-funded (or partially self-funded) health benefits to County employees, their dependents, or both under N.J.S.A. 40A:10-6, et seq., in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

§55-10.2 Fund. The governing body shall appropriate such funds as are necessary and appropriate and as established by statute to accomplish the purpose of this section.

2. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to publish and distribute this Ordinance in accordance with law.

3. A public hearing on this Ordinance shall be held on: Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 5:00 pm at the Hall of Records, Room 506, 465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Newark, New Jersey

4. Upon adoption, the Clerk of the Board shall forward one (1) certified copy to the County Administrator, Robert D. Jackson, two (2) copies to County Counsel, Jerome M. St. John.

Approved as to form and legality Jerome St. John
County Counsel

Record of Vote (X = Vote N.V. = Abstention ABS = Absent)

FIRST READING

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER MURRAY-THOMAS

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MERCADO

COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	N.V	ABS
COOPER				X
GILL	X			
LUCIANO	X			
MERCADO	X			
MURRAY-THOMAS, V.P.	X			
RICHARDSON				X
SEBOLD	X			
SERMONS				X
POMARES, PRES.	X			

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was (x) adopted ( )defeated ( ) tabled by a roll call vote at a Regular meeting of the Commissioner of the County of Essex, New Jersey, held on October 7, 2026

Carlos M. Pomares, President

SECOND READING

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER Richardson

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER Murray-Thomas

COMMISSIONER	YES	NO	N.V	ABS
COOPER				x
GILL	x			
LUCIANO	X			
MERCADO				X
MURRAY-THOMAS, V.P.	X			
RICHARDSON	X			
SEBOLD	X			
SERMONS				x
POMARES, PRES.	X			

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was (x) adopted ( )defeated ( ) tabled by a roll call vote at a Regular meeting of the Commissioner of the County of Essex, New Jersey, held on October 21 2026

Carlos M. Pomares, President

The foregoing Ordinance has been duly presented to me on October 22, 2026 I hereby (X) approve ( ) disapprove the same on November 6, 2026. Returned and filed November 6, 2026.

Kathy R. Brown, Deputy Clerk Joseph N. DiVincenzo, County Executive

Initial Publication on Website: November 23, 2026