

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 419

Approved November 17, 2008

WHEREAS, The United States is currently in the midst of a foreclosure crisis; and

WHEREAS, The City has a vested interest in keeping its citizens in their homes; and

WHEREAS, The number of foreclosures in Providence is steadily on the rise, increasing 122% from 2006 to 2007; and

WHEREAS, With the decline in the housing market, banks and other mortgage lenders are unable to sell foreclosed homes resulting in huge corporate losses and an increasing number of vacant properties; and

WHEREAS, Vacant, foreclosed homes that lay vacant are frequently the targets of vandalism and theft; and

WHEREAS, Residents, typically, will better care for and keep up properties than mortgage lenders who take over the properties after foreclosure; and


WHEREAS, The presence of vacant, vandalized, and unkempt properties further drives down the home values of the homes in the surrounding neighborhood, continuing the cycle of economic decline; and

WHEREAS, Many of the homeowners who have fallen into foreclosure have done so because of temporary financial difficulties, such as job loss, health issues, or other short term issue, and who, given the opportunity, will be able to resume mortgage payments after that hardship has been resolved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby urge the United State Congress and the Rhode Island General Assembly to adopt legislation allowing homeowners whose properties have gone into foreclosure to stay in those homes as rent paying tenants of their mortgage lender with the opportunity to repurchase the property from the mortgage lender after an agreed upon amount of time.

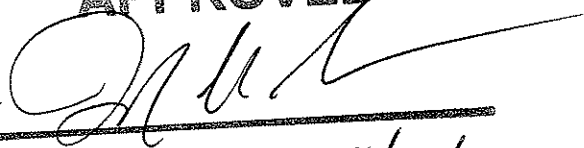
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon adoption, copies of this resolution be forwarded to Congressmen Patrick J. Kennedy and James R. Langevin, and Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse, as well as the members of the United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the United States House of Representatives Committee on Financial Services; the Rhode Island Senate Committee on Housing and Municipal Government; and the Rhode Island House of Representatives Committee on Finance.

IN CITY COUNCIL
NOV 6 2008
READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK

APPROVED



MAYOR

11/17/08