

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 331

Approved October 12, 2022

WHEREAS, U.S. Presidential Proclamation 6045 of October 1989 established October as Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month to be celebrated every year to honor and recognize the centuries of achievements, successes, and valuable contributions of Italian immigrants and Italian Americans; and

WHEREAS, Italian-Americans have a long and rich history in Providence, with more than 5 million Italian immigrants arriving in the city between 1820 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, In the early 1900s, the Federal Hill neighborhood became one of the most densely populated and largest Italian settlements in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Providence is currently home to thousands of proud Italian-Americans, with 14 percent of the population claiming Italian ancestry; and

WHEREAS, The history of Rhode Island cannot fully be told without identifying the significant contributions of prominent Italian-American figures such as Giovanni da Verrazzano, who gave our state its name, was an Italian explorer and navigator who crossed the Atlantic in 1524 and explored Narragansett Bay; Guido Nincheri the Michelangelo of North America who was an incredible artist, and known to be the most prolific American stain glass artist in modern times; and John O. Pastore, Rhode Island's first Italian American Governor and U.S. Senator; and

WHEREAS, In addition to their significant contributions to the State of Rhode Island, Italian-Americans have also played an essential role in shaping the history of Providence with local figures such as Henry Taylor, the first Italian-American City Councilor, and Dr. Americo A. Savastano, a leader in sports medicine and an early inductee into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame in 1970, and

WHEREAS, Italian-Americans have been integral in shaping the history of both the State of Rhode Island and the City of Providence and will continue to make significant contributions to the State and City communities for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council recognizes the month of October as "Italian-American Heritage Month" in perpetuity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of Providence.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
OCT - 6 2022  
READ AND PASSED

  
JOHN J. IGLIZZI, PRESIDENT  
  
Tina L. Mastrosimone  
ACTING CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
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Mayor

Date: 10/12/22