

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 354

EFFECTIVE ~~APPROVED~~ June 27, 2011

WHEREAS, The City of Providence recognizes the importance of providing free, accessible and enriching public library services to all of its residents; and

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island, the City of Providence, and hundreds of private donors have supported the construction and operation of all of the City's libraries for decades through public appropriations and generous private donations; and

WHEREAS, The Providence Community Library nonprofit organization has successfully operated the neighborhood branch libraries on the City's behalf for the last two years, running a streamlined, cost-efficient system while also expanding services to the people of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The City's lease with the Providence Public Library for seven (7) of the branch library buildings expires on June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, The fate of the neighborhood libraries remains uncertain due to the continuing refusal by the Providence Public Library to transfer the branch library facilities to the City - despite that organization's pledge to do so and despite repeated efforts by the City and the City Council to resolve the issue; and

WHEREAS, The future of Providence neighborhood library services and the employment of the staff of the Providence Community Library may be in jeopardy without a resolution to this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council demands that the Providence Public Library immediately transfer all of the Providence branch libraries to the City, as promised, for a fee of one dollar (\$1.00); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That unless and until Providence Public Library transfers ownership of the Providence neighborhood libraries to the City of Providence

- 1) The Providence City Council urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to withhold the Statewide Reference Resource Center and all grant-in-aid funding from Providence Public Library.
- 2) The Providence City Council urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to approve the pending legislation enabling public libraries throughout the state to submit bids to serve as the Statewide Reference Resource Center.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUN 16 2011

READ AND PASSED



PRES.



CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature



Anna M. Stetson
City Clerk