

City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 394

Approved November 25, 2020

WHEREAS, Transgender is a term used to describe people whose gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth; and

WHEREAS, Members of the queer, gender non-conforming, non-binary, and transgender community may describe themselves with various preferred pronouns; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, transgender advocate Gwendolyn Anne Smith arranged the first vigil and created the Transgender Day of Remembrance in honor of Rita Hester, a transgender woman of color who was murdered; and

WHEREAS, The 20th of November is marked to commemorate and memorialize individuals who have been murdered as a result of transphobia and is an internationally recognized annual event, with events held in 185 cities across 20 countries; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 2 million people who identify as transgender across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Transgender people face staggering levels of discrimination, stigma, and systemic inequality; and

WHEREAS, Transgender people, according to the "2015 U.S. Trans Survey: A Report by the National Center for Transgender Equality", 29% of transgender people live in poverty, 39% of Black trans adults, 48% of Latinx trans adults, and 35% of Alaska Native, Asian, Native Americans, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander trans adults, compared to 14% of the general population; and

WHEREAS, Transgender people, particularly transgender women of color, face a lack of legal protection in housing, employment, and health care; and

WHEREAS, Transgender people and transgender Black Indigenous People of Color, face shockingly high rates of murder, poverty, homelessness, and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, Over 27 trans and gender non-conforming people have been violently killed in 2020 thus far; and

WHEREAS, Around the globe, there are countries who deplorably outlaw transgender people from living as their true authentic selves; and

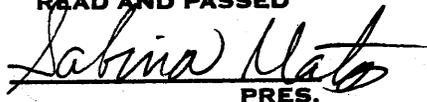
WHEREAS, The City Council must act to protect, advocate for and preserve the lives of all constituents through inclusive legislation; and

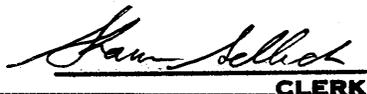
WHEREAS, More progress needs to be made for the Providence and greater Rhode Island transgender community to address systemic inequities and enact nondiscrimination laws that demonstrate greater support for transgender equality and transgender elected official colleagues, in order to acknowledge, respect, and celebrate their wonderful contributions to society.

IN CITY COUNCIL

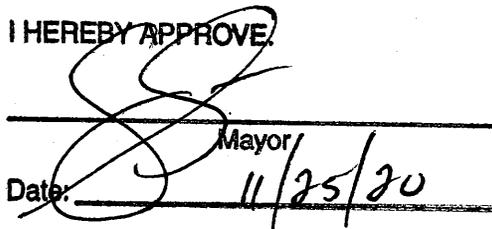
NOV 19 2020

READ AND PASSED


PRES.


CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE


Mayor
Date: 11/25/20

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council

(1) recognizes, supports, and affirms the importance of Transgender Day of Remembrance;

(2) fly the trans flag at City Hall to honor members of the transgender community lost from transphobic violence

(3) commit to continuing to support and advocate for the trans community

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Mayor of Providence and the Rhode Island Pride organization Youth Pride, Inc.