

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 230

Effective ~~XXXXXX~~ *Approved* April 27, 1999

WHEREAS, Alcohol involvement is the single greatest factor in motor vehicle deaths and injuries, and though only four percent of all crashes involve the use of alcohol, alcohol contributes to 41 percent of fatal crashes; and

WHEREAS, Of those killed on our highways in 1996, 17,126 died in alcohol-related crashes (41%); and

WHEREAS, Approximately one million people are injured annually in alcohol-related traffic accidents; and

WHEREAS, At .08 everyone is impaired to the point that critical driving skills such as reaction time, attention, tracking and comprehension are degraded; and

WHEREAS, Many States are now lowering the Blood Alcohol Count defining impaired driving from .10 to .08; a Blood Alcohol Count as low as .02 has been shown to affect driving ability and crash likelihood; and

WHEREAS, If every State adopted a .08 per se law, between 500 and 600 lives could be saved every year according to a recent study conducted by researchers at Boston University; and

WHEREAS, A .08 law serves as a general deterrent to drinking and driving, sends a message that the State is getting tougher on impaired driving and makes people think twice about getting behind the wheel after they've had too much to drink.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby proclaim that April 1999 is "*Alcohol Awareness Month*" in the City of Providence and requests that the House of Representatives vote in favor of the .08 legislation in their capacities in the General Assembly and that this Resolution be forwarded to the other 38 Rhode Island cities and towns for adoption and support by their Representatives and Senators.

IN CITY COUNCIL
APR 15 1999
READ AND PASSED

Michael R. Clement
PRES.
Michael R. Clement
CLERK

Effective without the Mayor's
Signature:

Michael R. Clement
Michael R. Clement, City Clerk

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Cornel President Lombardi (By request)