

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 5

Approved January 13, 2022

WHEREAS, The people of Haiti celebrate the 218th anniversary of Haiti's independence from France, the significance of which transcends the territorial boundaries of the Latin American nation; and

WHEREAS, On January 1, 1804, Haiti became the first country in the Western Hemisphere to declare sovereignty from a European power, but also was the first among its neighbors to abolish slavery; and

WHEREAS, Haiti holds the unique distinction of being the only country where a revolt led by enslaved people successfully culminated in independence and in the establishment of the first Black republic in history; and



WHEREAS, The Haitian Revolution radically challenged the foundations of societies in the Western Hemisphere and abroad as it represented some of the most important democratic ideals such as sovereignty, freedom and the legal equality of all persons, when all of Latin America and the Caribbean remained under European colonial rule which was designed to build the European economies and societies off of the labor of enslaved Africans; and

WHEREAS, The Haitian Revolution's defeat of the colonial armies of France, Britain and Spain inspired revolutionaries and slave communities all over the Americas and the precedent set by the Haitian people signaled that freedom and equality were not impossible; and

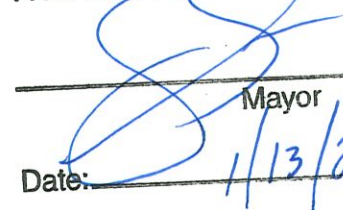
WHEREAS, Haitian Americans have made significant contributions and influenced the history, culture, and achievements of the country as a whole, the State of Rhode Island, and to the City of Providence, and it is important for all of us to gain a greater appreciation for Haitian history and traditions and their impact on our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby acknowledges January 1 as Haitian Independence Day in perpetuity, and further joins Haitians in the United States and abroad in commemorating the remarkable event in the history of the Latin American nation, its people, the Americas and the world.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
JAN 06 2022  
READ AND PASSED

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

I HEREBY APPROVE

  
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Mayor  
Date: 1/13/22