

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 126

Approved April 7, 2004

WHEREAS, "Healthy Cat Rooms" were conceived with the goal of providing a humane and rewarding method of housing cats for potential adoption; and

WHEREAS, "Healthy Cat Rooms" allow the animals to live in communal settings once they are found to be free of illness and without behavioral problems, providing environmental enrichment while the animals wait for placement with loving families; and

WHEREAS, Bristol's Animal Shelter has benefited for some time by this method of housing felines, and with proper management and attention to disease control, sanitation and behavior, the staff has done an exemplary job in ensuring the "Healthy Cat Room's" success; and

WHEREAS, It has been determined that the Department of Environmental Management is currently drafting animal health regulations which may significantly impact the way our animals are housed and cared for at the various animal shelters throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council is on record as supporting the "Healthy Cat Room" concept and its continuation in local shelters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council respectfully requests your support in ensuring that the regulations being drafted by the DEM allow for the continuation of this humane method of housing cats and that you notify the appropriate state authorities, as well as your local members of the General Assembly, that you support this practice.

Council President Lombardi (By Bequest)

APPROVED


MAYOR 4/7/04

IN CITY COUNCIL
APR 2004
READ AND PASSED


PRES.

CLERK

TOWN OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

TOWN COUNCIL

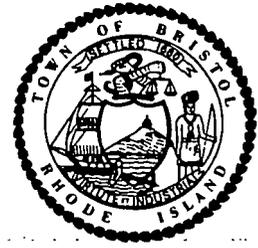
Richard Ruggiero, *Chairman*

David E. Barboza, *Vice Chairman*

Halsey C. Herreshoff

Raymond Cordeiro

Kenneth A. Marshall



Council Clerk

Diane C. Mederos

MEMORANDUM

To: Rhode Island City & Town Councils

From: Diane C. Mederos, Council Clerk

Date: March 4, 2004

Subject: Support for "Healthy Cat Rooms" at Municipal Animal Shelters

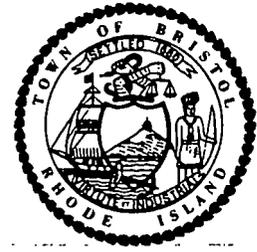
Enclosed is a resolution in support of maintaining "Healthy Cat Rooms" at municipal animal shelters which the Bristol Town Council approved at their meeting of February 18, 2004. Also enclosed is a letter to Christopher Hannafin, the State Veterinarian, concerning this issue.

Regulations regarding animal health are currently being drafted by the Department of Environmental Management, and it is the hope of the Council that the new regulations allow for the continuation of these communal living settings at shelters. It is the position of the Council, after hearing from animal control personnel and professionals, that this is the most humane method of housing cats as they await adoption.

The Town Council respectfully requests that this resolution be placed on your next available Council agenda and that you join them in giving your support in an effort to allow the continuation of "Healthy Cat Rooms" at municipal shelters.

:enclosures

TOWN OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND



TOWN COUNCIL

Richard Ruggiero, *Chairman*

David E. Barboza, *Vice Chairman*

Halsey C. Herreshoff

Raymond Cordeiro

Kenneth A. Marshall

Council Clerk

Diane C. Mederos

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BRISTOL RESOLUTION

In Support of "Healthy Cat Rooms" at Municipal Animal Shelters

Whereas, "Healthy Cat Rooms" were conceived with the goal of providing a humane and rewarding method of housing cats for potential adoption, and

Whereas "Healthy Cat Rooms" allow the animals to live in communal settings once they are found to be free of illness and without behavioral problems, providing environmental enrichment while the animals wait for placement with loving families, and

Whereas, Bristol's Animal Shelter has benefited for some time by this method of housing felines, and with proper management and attention to disease control, sanitation and behavior, the staff has done an exemplary job in ensuring the "Healthy Cat Room's" success, and

Whereas, it has been determined that the Department of Environmental Management is currently drafting animal health regulations which may significantly impact the way our animals are housed and cared for at the various animal shelters throughout the State, and

Whereas, the Bristol Town Council is on record as supporting the "Healthy Cat Room" concept and its continuation in local shelters.

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the Bristol Town Council respectfully requests your support in ensuring that the regulations being drafted by the DEM allow for the continuation of this humane method of housing cats, and that you notify the appropriate state authorities, as well as your local members of the general assembly, that you support this practice.

For the Bristol Town Council,

Diane C. Mederos
Council Clerk

March 4, 2004

TOWN OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

TOWN COUNCIL

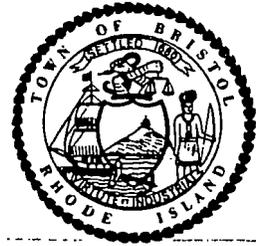
Richard Ruggiero, *Chairman*

David E. Barboza, *Vice Chairman*

Halsey C. Herreshoff

Raymond Cordeiro

Kenneth A. Marshall



Council Clerk

Diane C. Mederos

March 4, 2004

Christopher Hannafin, DVM
State Veterinarian
DEM Division of Agriculture
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

Dear Dr. Hannafin:

The Bristol Town Council heard from various members of the community at their meeting of February 18, 2004 regarding the forecasted changes to the animal health regulations as they pertained to "healthy cat rooms". In addition to Dr. Edward Wakem, Bristol Animal Shelter's veterinarian, and Dyanne Gibree, our Animal Control Officer, several others sent correspondence to the council decrying the possible elimination of healthy cat rooms in the regulations currently being drafted by DEM. After hearing the discussion, the Council took the following action:

Barboza/Herreshoff Voted unanimously to send a letter to the appropriate authority opposing the proposed regulations regarding caging cats, and to also notify the local members of the general assembly; and to send a resolution to other Rhode Island communities asking for their support in this effort.

Your *Letter to the Editor* in our local paper last week in which you cited inaccurate information being circulated in a previous week's letter is acknowledged and appreciated. However, the Council wishes to go on record as supporting "healthy cat rooms" and requesting that any proposed changes in the regulations be published so that those with concerns about the changes will have an opportunity to air them.

(more)

The Council recognizes that with the proper management and attention to disease control, sanitation and behavior, attributes which our shelter is noted for, communal living increases the potential for adoption. It is the Council's position that not allowing such an environment would be detrimental to the mission of the shelter, lessening the probability for adoption and increasing the possibility of euthanasia.

Very truly yours,



Diane C. Mederos
Council Clerk

cc: Kenneth Ayars, Chief
Local members of the General Assembly
Rhode Island Towns & Cities

TOWN OF BRISTOL

10 COURT STREET
BRISTOL, R.I. 02809-2208

★  ★
1763 U.S. POSTAGE PB 2230159
1515 \$00.370 MAR 09 04
1767 FROM ZIP CODE 02809

MICHAEL R CLEMENT
CITY CLERK CITY HALL
25 DORRANCE ST
PROVIDENCE RI 02903

02903+1727 30



FILED

MAR 10 11 18 AM '03

DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R.I.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 127

Approved April 7, 2004

WHEREAS, Rhode Island residents pay the highest health insurance premiums in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island recently experienced one of the largest increases in the number of uninsured; and

WHEREAS, 78,350 Rhode Island residents have no health coverage and 66% of them have a full-time worker at home; and

WHEREAS, Due to these rising costs almost half of Rhode Island's small businesses not cannot afford health coverage for their employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the citizens of Providence, Rhode Island, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- Everyone including the self-employed, unemployed, un-and underinsured, and small business owners, has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and
- That these efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care.

IN CITY COUNCIL
APR 1 2004
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

4/7/04

Cancellation Seal

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK



Michael R. Clement
City Clerk

Claire E. Bestwick
First Deputy

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Anna M. Stetson
Second Deputy

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES REQUESTED

Date: 3-22

Time: _____

Council Person Segal

By Request
Not By Request

Summary: _____

Rhode Island
for Health Care

298 West Exchange Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 274-2003
(401) 331-5266 (fax)
www.RIForHealthCare.com

THE RHODE ISLAND FOR HEALTH CARE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Rhode Island residents pay the highest health insurance premiums in the nation; and
Whereas, Rhode Island recently experienced one of the largest increases in the number of uninsured; and
Whereas, 78,350 Rhode Island residents have no health coverage and 66% of them have a full-time worker at home; and
Whereas, due to these rising costs almost half of Rhode Island's small businesses now cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved

That we, the citizens of *Providence, Rhode Island*, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- *Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, un- and underinsured, and small business owners, has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;*
- *Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;*
- *Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and*
- *That these efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care.*

Taken By: Sept by E-Mail
Ann

Claire Bestwick

From: david@votesegal.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 1:55 PM
To: Claire Bestwick; Anna Stetson
Subject: for april's docket

please email to confirm

-david

A Resolution in Support of the Rhode Island for Healthcare Campaign

The Rhode Island for health care Resolution

Whereas, Rhode Island residents pay the highest health insurance premiums in the nation; and
Whereas, Rhode Island recently experienced one of the largest increases in the number of uninsured; and
Whereas, 78,350 Rhode Island residents have no health coverage and 80% of them have a full-time worker at home; and
Whereas, due to these rising costs almost half of Rhode Island's small businesses now cannot afford health coverage for their employees,
therefore be it resolved

That we, the citizens of Providence, Rhode Island, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, un- and underinsured, and small business owners, has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and
- That these efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care.