

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 190

EFFECTIVE June 15, 2020

WHEREAS, The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is a recognized pandemic that has spread globally and threatens the health, well-being, and financial stability of community members globally; and

WHEREAS On March 9, 2020, Governor of Rhode Island Gina Raimondo declared, by Executive Order 20-02, a Declaration of Disaster Emergency in connection with the outbreak of the novel coronavirus "COVID-19"; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on the local economy, especially small businesses, which has resulted in widespread unemployment and economic harm to a large portion of Rhode Islanders; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to provide Rhode Island's restaurants with a means to operate, the Governor announced that limited outdoor dining would be allowed as part of Phase 1 of reopening the economy; and

WHEREAS, What was intended to be a great opportunity for local businesses has turned into a barrier of red tape for restaurant owners attempting to reopen with outdoor dining; and

WHEREAS, Restaurant owners are faced with a regulatory maze as they are required to complete multiple forms at both the State and local level with no clear guidance on where to turn should they run into difficulties with their applications; and

WHEREAS, At a time where our local restaurants need assistance the most, it is imperative that our governmental leaders provide a clear and easy to navigate regulatory mechanism for these businesses to get back on their feet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council urges the Governor of the State of Rhode Island and the Mayor of Providence to work together to streamline the regulatory process for outdoor dining so that restaurant owners are only required to submit one application that captures all necessary details for both the state and municipal review process and are also provided with a clear outline of the procedural process and timeframes associated with their application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Mayor of Providence, and the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Health.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUN 9 4 2020

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature

Sham Bellor
City Clerk