

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 333

Approved July 31, 2025

WHEREAS, In the summer of 1847, on the West African coast, the Republic of Liberia was founded, born of struggle and aspiration and sustained ever since by the resolve of its people; and

WHEREAS, Over generations, Liberia has endured periods of great hardship and transition, yet its people have carried forward their story with strength, dignity, and faith, and many have found a new chapter of that story here in Providence; and

WHEREAS, Providence is home to one of the largest Liberian communities in the United States, and Rhode Island has, per capita, the highest Liberian population of any state in the country; and

WHEREAS, The people of Liberia, and their sons and daughters now living among us, have shaped the life of this city, building businesses, enriching our churches, enlivening our neighborhoods, and creating community; and

WHEREAS, This year's observance will include the raising of the Liberian flag and a program in the Council Chambers at City Hall on July 25, along with a weekend of celebration featuring a community field day, a parade, a concert, an after-party, and a festive brunch, all of which show the pride and energy of the Liberian community and bring real cultural and economic benefit to the life of the city; and

WHEREAS, These celebrations honor a proud national history and also speak to the lasting place the Liberian community holds in the life of our city; and

WHEREAS, This Council affirms that the story of Providence has always been shaped by those who arrive from elsewhere, and that honoring this day is part of honoring the city we are still becoming together.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby recognizes July 26, 2025 as Liberian Independence Day in the City of Providence and extends its sincere congratulations to all who mark this occasion; and

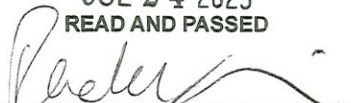
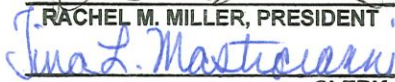
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council invites the people of Providence to take part in the commemorations and to join in honoring the history, culture, and presence of the Liberian community among us; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Brett Smiley, Mayor of the City of Providence, and to Bliss Gives, in recognition of their role in organizing and hosting this year's commemorative events.

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUL 24 2025

READ AND PASSED


RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor

Date: 7/31/25