

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 204

Approved May 8, 2024

WHEREAS, The City of Providence recognizes the rich tapestry of ethnicities that shape the cultural, economic, and social framework of our community, among which Jewish Americans in Providence have played a vital role; and

WHEREAS, Since the first Jewish settlers arrived on American shores in the 1600s, Jewish Americans have enriched our nation as scholars, public servants, entrepreneurs, artists, and activists, contributing to the fields of science, education, law, arts, and more; and

WHEREAS, Jewish American Heritage Month has been nationally observed every May since 2006, celebrating the contributions and achievements of Jewish Americans and educating the public about their historical and cultural legacies; and

WHEREAS, Providence is home to significant historical Jewish sites including Temple Emanu-El, established in 1927, and Temple Beth-El, built in 1911, both of which symbolize the longstanding presence and endurance of the Jewish community in the city of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The Jewish community has been instrumental in philanthropy and civic leadership in Providence, notably through contributions to organizations such as the United Way, the Rhode Island Foundation, and the American Civil Liberties Union, and through cultural contributions like the founding of Trinity Repertory Company at the Jewish Community Center; and

WHEREAS, Jewish Rhode Islanders like Daniel Robbins and Irving Fain have left indelible marks on our state's artistic and legislative landscape, through leadership in the arts at the Rhode Island School of Design and advocacy for fair housing laws respectively; and

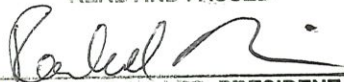

WHEREAS, Amidst a troubling rise in antisemitism both nationally and globally, celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month not only honors this integral part of our city and national identity but also serves as a powerful counter to ignorance and hatred, fostering a community of inclusivity and mutual respect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of Providence hereby proclaims May 2024 as Jewish American Heritage Month in Providence and we send our best wishes to all city officials, residents, and institutions who observe this month via programs, activities, and ceremonies that celebrate the history, culture, and contributions of Jewish Americans; and

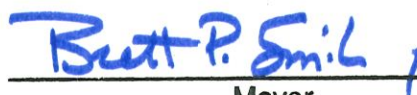
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proclamation be distributed among all civic and educational institutions in Providence, and that we wish local Jewish organizations well as they celebrate the recognition of this significant month.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 02 2024

READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
Jina L. Mastromarino  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Brett P. Smith  
Mayor

Date: 5/8/2024