

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 438

EFFECTIVE December 25, 2022

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council passed Ordinance 9-94 entitled "Excessive avoidable false fire alarm fees" to reduce the high incidence of false alarms that tie up significant public safety manpower and resources; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 9-94 stipulates that upon the first offense by their alarm system, residents must be notified via first class mail that subsequent false alarms will result in the owner being assessed fines; and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council has received multiple complaints from residents including many seniors who have received notice of exorbitant fines for violation of the ordinance without prior notification; and

WHEREAS, The purpose and intent of the ordinance is to reduce false alarms, not generate revenue, and our failure to provide appropriate notice undermines the effectiveness of the ordinance by limiting the ability for offending residents to remedy their faulty alarm systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby calls upon the administration to review the enforcement of Chapter 9, Article IV, sec. 9-94 of the Code of Ordinances and to make sure our residents are given appropriate notice before issuing fines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council calls upon the Department of Public Safety to coordinate outreach efforts to educate the community on the existence and requirements of the ordinance, and to avoid unclarities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage, copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of Providence, the Commissioner of Public Safety, and Mayor-Elect Smiley.

IN CITY COUNCIL
DEC 15 2022
READ AND PASSED


JOHN J. IGLIZZI, PRESIDENT

Tina L. Mastroianni
ACTING CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature

Tina L. Mastroianni
Acting City Clerk