

City of Providence
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 219

EFFECTIVE May 31, 2016

WHEREAS, Some municipalities have sought to improve their financial position by selling public resources and utilities, such as water supply infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, A recent report from the National Resources Network (NRN) cited the possibility of the City of Providence selling the Providence Water Supply Board as a potential option; and

WHEREAS, A groundswell of opposition to such a sale has already emerged locally, with nearly 500 Rhode Islanders signing a petition against it within days of the NRN report becoming public; and

WHEREAS, According to the non-partisan consumer advocacy organization Public Citizen, water privatization leads to rate increases, undermines water quality, often causes job losses, and is extremely difficult to reverse; and

WHEREAS, As the elected representatives of the people of Providence, the Providence City Council has a moral obligation to protect the quality and cost of its citizens' drinking water by ensuring the Providence Water Supply Board is publicly controlled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council does hereby maintain that the public water resources and infrastructure of the City of Providence, including systems and facilities related to the supply, storage, treatment, and distribution of water, shall be owned and/or controlled by the City of Providence and shall not be sold, leased, or transferred into private ownership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Chairman of the Providence Water Supply Board, and Executive Director of the Providence Water Supply Board.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 19 2016

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature



Lori L. Hagen
City Clerk