

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 126

Approved April 22, 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, On March 12, 2020, Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza declared a state of emergency for the City of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence, like the State of Rhode Island, is committed to helping to stop the spread of this pandemic within our jurisdiction by encouraging common sense measures like social distancing, frequent hand washing, limiting public events, and encouraging community members to stay at home if they are not feeling well; and

WHEREAS, Testing for COVID-19 is critical in stopping the spread of the virus as it assists healthcare professionals in quarantining positive cases and contact tracing to identify other individuals who may have been exposed; and

WHEREAS, The fear of immigration enforcement has a chilling effect on the immigrant community coming forward to be tested, thereby increasing the likelihood of positive cases remaining undetected and spreading the virus further than it otherwise would.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council urges the Governor of the State of Rhode Island to pass an executive order preventing any immigration enforcement activities in and around COVID-19 testing sites, hospitals, or other healthcare facilities so that everyone can feel safe coming forward for the testing that is foundational to protecting the public health of all Rhode Islanders.

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

IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 16 2020

READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

UNHEAVY APPROVE.

Date:   
4/22/20