

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 87

EFFECTIVE ~~Approved~~ February 17, 2003

WHEREAS, The President has failed to present convincing evidence that Iraq poses a credible military threat to the United States, and

WHEREAS, The Bush administration has failed to articulate a clear strategic objective or outcome of a military attack against Iraq, and such an attack fails enjoy the support of many of our important allies, and

WHEREAS, Though Saddam Hussein's rule is tyrannical, there is no assurance that his ouster would result in the installation of a free and democratic government in Iraq, and

WHEREAS, A war with Iraq would endanger the lives of Providence residents, and loved ones thereof, who serve in the United States Armed Forces – a disproportionate number of them racial and ethnic minorities from economically disadvantaged neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, The UN has estimated that hastily implemented unilateral action would risk 500,000 or more Iraqi casualties, and

WHEREAS, Such an effort would not ensure an improvement in national security, and

WHEREAS, It has been estimated that the cost to the City of Providence of a war with Iraq would be \$28,000.00, and

WHEREAS, The considerable amount of money required for military action would be far better spent in attending to ongoing crises within Providence and other American cities, and

WHEREAS, The expenditures necessary for war would result in reduced investment in the domestic economy, yielding a deterioration of the public infrastructure, and

Councilman Segal, Councilmen Oporto, Jackson, Hune, Mancini, Councilmen Williams
and Young.

WHEREAS, Many labor union locals throughout the country are publicly opposing a U.S. invasion in Iraq and calling for international multi-lateral action that is sanctioned by the United Nations, and

WHEREAS, The Bush administrations saber rattling has distracted the public's attention from many issues of domestic importance, and

WHEREAS, It is not at all clear that the UN weapons inspections have been, or will be, unsuccessful, and

WHEREAS, International diplomatic efforts should be the preferred means to resolved international conflicts, and

WHEREAS, War should be that last resort, and

WHEREAS, This City Council has been compelled by many organizations and citizens of Providence to speak out about this pressing issue,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence hereby opposes a U.S. invasion of Iraq, but supports instead a genuinely multi-lateral diplomatic approach to the Iraq situation, sanctioned and directed by the United Nations hereby supports the promotion of improved national and international security via: the multi-lateral monitoring of potential threats to world peace; a commitment to world courts and international justice; and support for international civil rights and environmental watch groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council directs the Clerk to provide copies of this resolution to President Bush and our Congressional delegation.

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 6 2003
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

Effective without the
Mayor's Signature:

Michael R. Clement
City Clerk

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING UNITED STATES MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ

WHEREAS, the President has failed to present convincing evidence that Iraq poses a credible military threat to the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Bush administration has failed to articulate a clear strategic objective or outcome of a military attack against Iraq, and such an attack fails to enjoy the support of many of our important allies; and

WHEREAS, though Saddam Hussein's rule is tyrannical, there is no assurance that his ouster would result in the installation of a free and democratic government in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, a war with Iraq would endanger the lives of Providence residents, and loved ones thereof, who serve in the United States Armed Forces — a disproportionate number of them racial and ethnic minorities from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the UN has estimated that hastily implemented unilateral action would risk 500,000 or more Iraqi casualties, and

WHEREAS such an effort would not ensure an improvement in national security; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that the cost to the City of Providence of a war with Iraq would be \$28,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the considerable amount of money required for military action would be far better spent in attending to ongoing crises within Providence and other American cities; and

WHEREAS, the expenditures necessary for war would result in reduced investment in the domestic economy, yielding a deterioration of the public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, many labor union locals throughout the country are publicly opposing a U.S. invasion in Iraq and calling for international multi-lateral action that is sanctioned by the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, the Bush administration's saber rattling has distracted the public's attention from many issues of domestic importance; and

WHEREAS, it is not at all clear that the UN weapons inspections have been, or will be, unsuccessful; and

WHEREAS, international diplomatic efforts should be the preferred means to resolve international conflicts; and

WHEREAS, war should be the last resort; and

WHEREAS, this City Council has been compelled by many organizations and citizens of Providence to speak out about this pressing issue;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Providence:

HEREBY, opposes a U.S. invasion of Iraq, but supports instead a genuinely multilateral diplomatic approach to the Iraq situation, sanctioned and directed by the United Nations.

HEREBY, supports the promotion of improved national and international security via: the multilateral monitoring of potential threats to world peace; a commitment to world courts and international justice; and support for international civil rights and environmental watch groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council directs the Clerk to provide copies of this resolution to President Bush and our Congressional delegation.