

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 93

Approved March 8, 2010

WHEREAS, Using bicycles as forms of transportation and recreation are being promoted in many cities and states in the United States, including Rhode island due to the increased price of gasoline, to reduce emissions and pollution and to enhance the health of riders; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, 770 bicyclists died on U.S. roads in 2006, 90% of which were crashes involving motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 540,000 bicyclists visit emergency rooms with injuries each year; and

WHEREAS, Increased awareness of bicyclists on the road by motorists and tougher laws regarding safe distances between motor vehicles and bicycles on roads are needed to reduce the number of these tragic accidents; and

WHEREAS, Other states, such as Florida and New Hampshire, have passed a three foot passing law which requires a safe distance between a bicycle and a motor vehicle when passing the bicycle; and

WHEREAS, Building a bicycle safe America is a giant task and the Providence City Council recognizes that legislation is necessary in the State of Rhode Island to follow the New Hampshire and Florida laws on safe passing distances; and

WHEREAS, This is a matter of importance to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Providence as well as the entire State of Rhode Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence hereby requests the General Assembly to enact legislation similar to the laws that have been enacted in the States of Florida and New Hampshire to require a three foot passing distance between motor vehicles passing bicycles, and if it is impossible to achieve the three foot passing distance, then the vehicle shall reduce its speed to 10-20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit and to provide for a penalty requiring a fine, community service and license suspension for violation of the law, which should be known as "Frank's Law".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Senators and Representatives from the City of Providence and to other city and town councils in the State of Rhode Island.

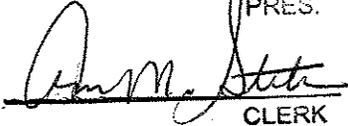
IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 4 2010

READ AND PASSED

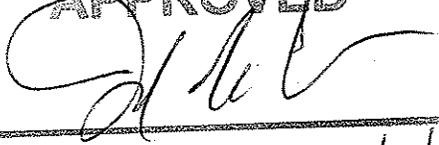


PRES.



CLERK

APPROVED



MAYOR

3/8/10