

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 48*

**Approved February 9, 2024**

WHEREAS, Dr. Bennie Fleming is a distinguished Rhode Island resident and a brave war Veteran who served as a 1st Lt. in the Army Nurse Corp during World War II, caring for the wounded and saving lives; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fleming is a Texas native who overcame the challenges of racial segregation in the armed services in the 1940's, where she met her future husband, Lt. Theodore Fleming, a doctor from Rhode Island and they moved to Rhode Island to start a family and serve the community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fleming has been a loyal and active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for 82 years and is a Charter Member of the Providence Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc, supporting the sorority's mission of public service, sisterhood, and scholarship; and

WHEREAS, She continued her work as an educator and leader, becoming the first Black nurse to teach at Rhode Island College where she inspired and mentored young people for more than 40 years before retiring at 71; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fleming was the Science Area Administrator Supervisor for Providence Public Schools from 1987 through 1996, enhancing the quality and standards of science education for the students and teachers; and

WHEREAS, She was honored as one of 350 Outstanding Citizens in Providence during the City's 350 Anniversary Celebration, reflecting her remarkable contributions and achievements; and

WHEREAS, On March 21st, 2003, Mount Pleasant High School named the new school-based health center in honor of Dr. Fleming, acknowledging her legacy and impact on the health and well-being of the school community; and

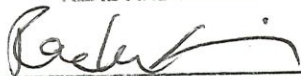
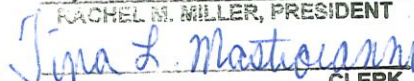
WHEREAS, Dr. Fleming is still vibrant and healthy as she walks two miles every day and is an avid gardener, enjoying the beauty of nature; and

WHEREAS, Our City has become more resilient and inclusive by the work of Dr. Bennie Fleming, who exemplifies the values of courage, compassion, and excellence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence proudly recognizes and celebrates Dr. Bennie Fleming for turning 100 on November 19, 2023, wishing her a happy birthday and many more years of happiness and fulfillment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this Resolution be sent to the office of Mayor Brett Smiley, the office of Rhode Island College President Jack R. Warner, the office of Principal of Mount Pleasant High School Wobberson Torchon, the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Providence Public School Department, and Dr. Bennie Fleming.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 01 2024  
READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Mayor

Date: 2/9/2024