

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 95

Approved March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, In response to having one of the lowest funded pension plans in the nation and limited City-controlled options to address these challenges, Mayor Elorza, the Providence City Council, The Providence Foundation, The Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, and the Rhode Island Public Expenditures Council convened a Pension Working Group of leaders from the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors to review the funding status of the City of Providence Employee Retirement System (the "ERS"), identify risks and benefits of meaningful options to stabilize the ERS, and provide recommendations to inform policy deliberations for elected and appointed leaders and the public; and

WHEREAS, Following six months of review, discussion, deliberation and public meetings, the Pension Working Group presented a report on January 31, 2022 stating that it supports the City seeking state legislative authorization and voter approval to issue pension obligation bonds that would deposit \$500,000,000, net of expenses of issuance, into the ERS if advantageous borrowing conditions and terms are met; and

WHEREAS, Legislation that would authorize the City to issue not to exceed \$515,000,000 general obligation pension obligation bonds is pending in the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, The Providence City Council wishes to place the question of the issuance of pension obligation bonds before the electors of the City of Providence prior to enactment of the legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That there shall be submitted to the electors of the City of Providence at a special city-wide election to be held on May 17, 2022 the following non-binding referendum question in substantially the following form:

"Shall the City of Providence finance a contribution towards the unfunded pension liability of the Employee Retirement System of the City of Providence by the issuance of general obligation bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$515,000,000?" (THIS QUESTION IS NON-BINDING).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Clerk and the Clerk of the Providence Board of Canvassers forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Secretary of State, with a notice that the above question be placed on the ballot at a special city-wide election to be held on June 7, 2022.

This Resolution shall be effective upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 03 2022
READ AND PASSED


JOHN J. IGLIAZZI, PRESIDENT

CLERK

ACTING

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor
Date: 3/11/22