

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

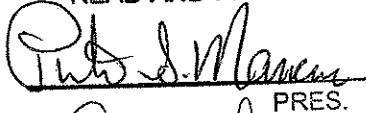
No. 112

EFFECTIVE ~~XAPPROVED~~ March 16, 2009

RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council hereby Endorse and Urge Passage by the General Assembly of Senate Bill 2009-S 0026, to approve, publish and submit the Electors a proposition of amendment to the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island.

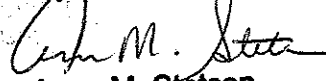
IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 5 2009  
READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature:

  
Anna M. Stetson  
City Clerk

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2009

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH, AND SUBMIT THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Metts, and Pichardo

Date Introduced: January 14, 2009

Referred To: Senate Constitutional & Regulatory Issues

1 WHEREAS, Slavery and its vestiges is an egregiously immoral practice. However, our  
2 state constitution proclaims the official state name as the "State of Rhode Island and Providence  
3 Plantations." The term plantation in our state name is morally reprehensible and offensive to all  
4 Rhode Islanders who share in the promise of freedom. Therefore, in order to preserve and carry  
5 out the essential and unquestionable rights and principles as stated in our state constitution, we  
6 hereby resolve to amend the constitution by deleting all references to "Providence Plantations" in  
7 our constitution and proclaim our official state name as the "State of Rhode Island"; now,  
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That a majority of all members elected to each house of the general  
10 assembly voting therefor, the following amendment to the Constitution of the state be proposed to  
11 the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the  
12 constitution for their approval and that it take the place of the Title and the Preamble to the  
13 constitution and Article III, Section 3, which are hereby amended to read as follows:

14 CONSTITUTION

15 OF THE

16 STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

17 PREAMBLE

18 We, the people of this State which state shall henceforth be known as the State of Rhode  
19 Island, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long

1 permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and to  
2 transmit the same, unimpaired, to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this  
3 Constitution of government.

4 ARTICLE III  
5 OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

6 Section 3. Oath of general officers. - - All general officers shall take the following  
7 engagement before they act in their respective offices, to wit: You being by the free vote of the  
8 electors of this State of Rhode Island, elected unto the place of do solemnly swear (or, affirm) to  
9 be true and faithful unto this state, and to support the Constitution of this state and of the United  
10 States; that you will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties of your aforesaid office to  
11 the best of your abilities, according to law: So help you God. [Or: This affirmation you make and  
12 give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury.]

13 RESOLVED, That this amendment shall take, in the Constitution of the State, the place  
14 of the Title and the Preamble to the constitution, and of Article III, Section 3, of the constitution;  
15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the said proposition of amendment contained in this resolution shall  
17 be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection at the next statewide general election to  
18 be held in November, 2009. The voting places in the several cities and towns shall be kept open  
19 during the hours required by law for voting therein for the members of the general assembly and  
20 such other officials as may be up for election; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendment to  
22 be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said  
23 meetings of the electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices to be  
24 issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward, or  
25 district meetings, and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward or district clerks to the  
26 electors in the town, ward or district meetings to be held as aforesaid; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the town, ward and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be  
28 warned, and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward and  
29 district meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town,  
30 ward and district meetings for the election of members of the general assembly and such other  
31 officials as may be up for election.

=====  
LC00291  
=====