

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 440

Approved December 1, 2008

WHEREAS, The victims of domestic violence often face fear, violence, and intimidation as part of an ongoing cycle of abuse; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island's laws for dealing with those who have been convicted of domestic violence are largely reactionary, instituting penalties only once an individual has already re-offended; and

WHEREAS, Twelve states, including Massachusetts, have taken the preventative measure of issuing global positioning satellite (GPS) devices to convicted domestic abusers who pose a high risk of re-offending; and

WHEREAS, GPS devices can monitor when an offender violates his or her probation by entering restricted areas around past victims' homes or places of business, alerting authorities before violence occurs; and

WHEREAS, GPS equipped bracelets cost as little as \$4.00 to \$10.00 a day to operate and monitor; and

WHEREAS, The State can pass the cost onto the offenders; and

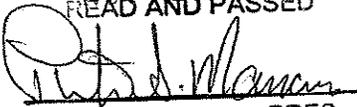
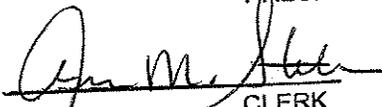
WHEREAS, This precautionary step will enable police and probation officers to better respond to parole violations and potentially dangerous situations, more effectively protecting the people of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, The tracking systems can provide an extra sense of security and peace of mind to victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the City to create an environment where every citizen feels safe and secure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby urge the Rhode Island General Assembly to adopt legislation allowing convicted domestic abusers to be issued GPS monitoring devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon adoption, copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Majority Leaders of the House and Senate, and all Providence representatives and senators.

IN CITY COUNCIL
NOV 20 2008
READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR 12/01/08