

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 85

Approved February 28, 2013

WHEREAS, Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger was born in Marktl, Germany on April 16th, 1927; and

WHEREAS, In 1945, he entered Saint Michael's seminary in Traunstein, Germany, saying that in the wake of Nazi horrors, the Roman Catholic Church was "a citadel of truth and righteousness against the realm of atheism and deceit"; and

WHEREAS, On June 29th, 1951, he was ordained alongside his brother, Georg, by Cardinal Michael von Faulhaber of Munich; and

WHEREAS, Following his ordination, Ratzinger had a successful academic career, developing a reputation as a brilliant thinker and theologian; and

WHEREAS, While serving as the peritus to the Cardinal of Cologne, he was an important participant in the Second Vatican Council; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, he was appointed Archbishop of Munich and Freising, then elevated to Cardinal three months later by Pope Paul VI; and

WHEREAS, Pope John Paul II honored and elevated Cardinal Ratzinger repeatedly, naming him Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, Cardinal Bishop of Velletri-Segni, and, eventually, Dean of the College of Cardinals; and

WHEREAS, On April 19th, 2005, the papal conclave elected him as the successor to Pope John Paul II, at which time he took the regnal name Benedict XVI; and

WHEREAS, For nearly eight years, Pope Benedict XVI has overseen the billion Catholics worldwide and guided the Roman Catholic Church successfully through a period of transition and turmoil; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI has been called "a justice warrior" and "the most profoundly intellectual pope in centuries"; and

WHEREAS, His papacy has been praised for his efforts to foster understanding between religions and to increase interfaith dialogue; and

WHEREAS, On February 11th, 2013, in an act of great humility, Pope Benedict XVI announced that he would resign his position, becoming the first pope to do so in nearly 600 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby thank Pope Benedict XVI for his years of spiritual guidance and incredible service to Catholics worldwide, and wishes him happiness and good health in his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon adoption, copies of this resolution be forwarded to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI and to The Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Joseph Tobin.

IN CITY COUNCIL

FEB 21 2013

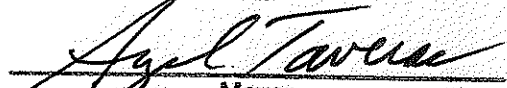
READ AND PASSED



PRES.


ACTING CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor
Date: 2/28/13