

# City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

## CHAPTER 1985-37

No. 121 **AN ORDINANCE** IN AMENDMENT AND IN ADDITION TO ARTICLES VII AND VIII OF CHAPTER 14, ENTITLED "LICENSES", OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, AS AMENDED.

Approved February 22, 1985

### *Be it ordained by the City of Providence:*

SECTION 1. Article VII of Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances is amended by the addition thereto of the following:

"Section 14-145. Any person licensed under this Article who shall violate any of the conditions or restrictions imposed upon the issuance of such license, or any rules and regulations governing the conduct of any such licensee, established by the Bureau of Licenses, or by the State, shall suffer revocation of his or her license; in addition, such license may be revoked at any time for causes other than those specified above, including violation of any other provision of this Code of Ordinances. Said penalties shall be in addition to any other penalty which may be imposed as a result of violation of this Code of Ordinances."

SECTION 2. Articles VII and VIII of Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances is each, in both, amended by addition of the following language:

"(a). IDENTIFICATION OF SELLER OF GOODS OR MERCHANDISE.

"Every person licensed as herein provided shall require the seller of any goods or merchandise to present a valid motor vehicle operator's license containing his or her photograph or such other suitable identification containing his or her photograph."

"Additionally, such licensee shall obtain a clear and identifiable print or impression of the seller's right thumb.

"The licensee shall maintain a record of the same, together with any other records required by law.

"Any person who violates any provision hereof, shall be subject to those penalties provided in Section 1-10 and/or 14-145; or Section 1-10 and/or 14-159, respectively of the Code of Ordinances."

No.

CHAPTER  
AN ORDINANCE

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage, and all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 21 1985

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 7 1985

FIRST READING  
READ AND PASSED, *as amended*

*Rose M. Henderson* CLERK

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 21 1985

FINAL READING  
READ AND PASSED

*Michael W. Eaton*  
PRESIDENT

*Rose M. Henderson*  
CLERK

APPROVED  
FEB 22 1985  
*[Signature]*  
MAYOR

AN ORDINANCE IN AMENDMENT AND  
IN ADDITION TO ARTICLES VII  
AND VIII OF CHAPTER 14,  
ENTITLED "LICENSES" OF THE  
CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE  
CITY OF PROVIDENCE.

THE COMMITTEE ON  
ORDINANCES  
Approves Passage of  
The Within Ordinance, *as amended*

*James M. McInerney*  
Chairman  
*January 14, 1983*

THE COMMITTEE ON  
ORDINANCES  
Recommends *as amended*

*James M. McInerney*  
Clerk  
*9/25/84*

IN CITY COUNCIL  
Nov. 12, 1983  
FIRST READING  
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES  
COUNCIL

COLONEL ANTHONY J. MANCUSO  
CHIEF OF POLICE



JOSEPH R. PAOLINO, JR.  
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

October 18, 1984

Mr. Michael R. Clement, First Deputy  
City Clerk  
Department of City Clerk  
City Hall  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Clement:

Please be advised that I am in receipt of your correspondence of September 27th relative to the amendment to Article VIII of the Code of Ordinances dealing with pawnbrokers.

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to both you and the Committee on Ordinances for requesting our input regarding this matter. The ease with which the criminal element preys upon the public by transferring stolen goods through licensed businesses has long been a concern of the entire law enforcement community. I am pleased that the City Council is seeking to tighten the restraints upon this type of illegal activity which, when left unchecked, only fosters the commission of more serious crimes.

The provisions of the proposed ordinance dealing with proper identification and thumbprinting of sellers of merchandise and placing a requirement on the licensee to maintain a record of same are excellent tools with which to assist police in the investigation of stolen property cases, and should serve to reduce the incidence of such occurrences.

However, while the public perception of pawnshop transactions is that of a constant source of illegal activity, this perception is somewhat faulty. In actuality, 60 to 80 percent of the business conducted by the two (2) active pawnshops in the City of Providence consists of renewal contracts on merchandise previously pawned by the same individual.

There are, however, 53 active secondhand stores and 31 precious metal buyers within the City of Providence, among whom the likelihood of stolen property transactions is far greater. The passage of this proposed ordinance would certainly serve to regulate the activities of the two active pawnshops, however, it does not address the larger problem we encounter with secondhand stores, junk dealers and precious metal buyers.

Michael R. Clement, Deputy City Clerk  
Page Two  
October 18, 1984

For this reason, I respectfully suggest that the Committee on Ordinances consider making the proposed amendment applicable to both Article VIII - Pawnbrokers and Article VII - Junk and Secondhand Dealers.

Again, thank you for presenting us with the opportunity to comment on this matter; if I may be of further assistance to you in this regard, please don't hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,



ANTHONY J. MANCUSO  
Colonel  
Chief of Police

DEPT. OF CITY CLERK  
PROVIDENCE, R.I.  
OCT 22 2 22 PM '84

FILED