

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 281

Approved May 23, 2019

WHEREAS, The City of Providence passed a single-use plastic bag ban in April 2019;
and

WHEREAS, This resolution, sponsored by Council Majority Leader Jo-Ann Ryan, seeks to exclude the uniformity clause from the bills proposed in the State legislation which allows for the distribution of thicker, single-use plastic bags, and will strengthen the intention of the ordinance which was to reduce the amount of plastic bags in circulation overall; and

WHEREAS, Plastic pollution has been recognized as a global crisis, dangerous to the health of our, ocean species, environment and wildlife, contributes to climate change, puts Rhode Island's fishing industries and aquatic ecosystems at risk, human health at risk and is the major component of litter; and

WHEREAS, Bills proposed in both Rhode Island Senate (SB 410) and the House of Representatives (HB 5671) called "Plastic Waste Reduction Act" have been proposed to help eliminate single-use plastic bags; and

WHEREAS, We, the members of Providence City Council, applaud the intent of these bills to reduce the amount of plastic pollution in our State, in our environment, in our ocean and waterways and in our single landfill; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Providence City Council supports these bills provided the uniformity clause is excluded or they are amended so as to compliment municipal plastic-bag reduction ordinances already in place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the City of Providence's State Senators and State Representatives in the Rhode Island General Assembly, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House, the City of Providence's Mayor Jorge Elorza, the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Leagues of Cities and Towns, the Governor of the State of Rhode Island and specifically to the municipalities of Barrington, Warren, Bristol, Portsmouth, Middletown, Newport, Jamestown, South Kingstown, North Kingstown and New Shoreham as well as Westerly, Cranston and Providence, all municipalities with uniform and consistent plastic bag bans (some pending) and to the remaining Cities and Towns in the State of Rhode Island.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 16 2019

READ AND PASSED

Sabrina Mato
PRES.

Shawn Selleck
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

Jorge Elorza
Mayor
Date: *5/23/19*

A true copy,
Attest

Shawn Selleck

Shawn Selleck
City Clerk