

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS**

CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TO TAKE ACTION TO ADJUST CLOSING TIMES FOR BUSINESSES IN EAST
PROVIDENCE TO PROVIDE ALL POSSIBLE ECONOMIC RELIEF TO THESE
BUSINESSES**

WHEREAS, in response to the global pandemic related to COVID-19 the State of Rhode has implemented a number of executive orders and health directives to control the rate of infection; and

WHEREAS, one such measure of November 8, 2020, mandates closing times for businesses of 10:00pm on weekdays and 10:30pm on weekends; and

WHEREAS, while these measures were well-intentioned, the East Providence City Council has not been presented with any report, study, or scientific evidence indicating that such measures effectively control the spread of the Coronavirus, or reduce the rate of positive COVID-19 tests, or related hospitalizations and deaths; and

WHEREAS, East Providence businesses are compelled to implement all enacted measures related to facial coverings; social distancing; etc., regardless of their hours of operation; and

WHEREAS, restrictions on closing times have caused significant harm to East Providence businesses already reeling from the economic impacts of COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Providence hereby urges the Governor and the Rhode Island General Assembly to take immediate action to allow East Providence businesses to resume normal operating hours, in accordance with state law; and that the Governor and General Assembly take immediate action to provide additional, substantial financial relief to those East Providence businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the resulting prevention measures.

This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Adopted by City Council: _____

Attest:

City Clerk of the City of East Providence, Rhode Island

Introduced by: Councilman Cahoon