

**TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

CC: 17

Amend No. _____

**Date Prepared: May 13, 2020
Council Meeting Date: May 18, 2020**

TO: Honorable Town Council

FROM: Matthew M. Mannix, Council President

PREPARED BY: Matthew M. Mannix

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Free Enterprise and the
Right to Worship

RECOMMENDATION: **A MOTION to APPROVE a resolution authorizing the
Narragansett Police Department and other Narragansett
law enforcement entities to not enforce the State of
Rhode Island's Coronavirus-related Executive Orders**

SUMMARY and ATTACHMENTS:

See attached resolution.

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE NARRAGANSETT POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER NARRAGANSETT LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES TO NOT ENFORCE THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND'S CORONAVIRUS-RELATED EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- WHEREAS:** The threat of the spread of the Coronavirus led the State of Rhode Island to issue a series of Executive Orders restricting the activities of Rhode Islanders and visitors to Rhode Island since March of 2020; and
- WHEREAS:** Executive Orders 20-14 and 20-23, which imposed stay-at-home orders on Rhode Islanders and visitors to Rhode Island, expired at Midnight on Friday, May 8, 2020, and
- WHEREAS:** Phase One of the plan to reopen the Rhode Island economy includes many cumbersome restrictions on places of worship, restaurants, retail establishments and other small businesses; and
- WHEREAS:** The Town of Narragansett recognizes the threat of the Coronavirus to the physical well-being of its residents; and
- WHEREAS:** The Town of Narragansett also recognizes that the restrictions imposed by many of these Coronavirus-related Executive Orders have imposed substantial harm to the emotional, spiritual and financial well-being of its residents; and
- WHEREAS:** Memorial Day Weekend is typically the unofficial start of the summer season for most Americans, Rhode Islanders and Narragansett residents.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Narragansett Town Council, due to the negative impact of these Executive Orders on the First Amendment right to worship, on the constitutionally recognized right to travel and on our free enterprise economy, does hereby resolve to direct the Narragansett Police Department and other Narragansett law enforcement entities to exercise their discretion and not issue fines or violations based on the restrictions imposed on places of worship, restaurants, retail establishments and other small businesses by the Executive Orders of the State of Rhode Island issued branch since the Coronavirus pandemic began in March of 2020.

Adopted this 18th day of May 2020.

TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT

ATTEST:

Matthew M. Mannix
Town Council President

Theresa C. Donovan, CMC
Town Clerk