

**THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO.....R-25-31.....

DATE 3-25-25

APPROVED .....MAYOR

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REVIEW AND
CONSIDER ADOPTING PROVISIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND CIVIL RIGHTS
ENFORCEMENT ACT**

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Civil Rights Enforcement Act, 2025-H5223 & 2025-S538, is pending legislation before the Rhode Island General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Rights Enforcement Act would provide a remedy for any harm caused due to a deprivation or violation of rights by the State of Rhode Island or its political and/or administrative units or subdivisions, secured by the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Civil Rights Enforcement Act are to ensure that:

- 1) Consistent with the admonition contained in Article I, Section 5 of the Constitution of Rhode Island, every right shall have a remedy; and
- 2) As between an innocent party whose rights have been violated by acts and/or omissions of the State of Rhode Island or its political and/or administrative units and/or subdivisions, and/or agents thereof, it is the State of Rhode Island or its political and/or administrative units and/or subdivisions and/or the agents thereof, that shall bear the cost of any harm caused. By such violation of rights.

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Supreme Court has held that fundamental rights enshrined in the State Constitutional are not "self-executing", and that such violations cannot be remedied through private cause of actions without laws specifying such (*See, e.g., Doe v. Brown Univ.*, 253 A.3d 389, R.I. 2021); and

WHEREAS, the Warwick City Council desires that the Senators and Representatives of the General Assembly review and consider adopting provisions of the Rhode Island Civil Rights Enforcement Act.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Warwick City Council hereby respectfully requests the General Assembly to review and consider adopting provisions of the Rhode Island Civil Rights Enforcement Act, 2025-H5223 & 2025-S538.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Representatives and Senators from the City of Warwick, and the Members of the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL PRESIDENT SINAPI

COMMITTEE: UNANIMOUS CONSENT