

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

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO..... DATE.....

APPROVED.....MAYOR

**RESOLUTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REQUESTING AMENDMENT OF
THE WARWICK CITY CHARTER TO ESTABLISH NEW ELECTED TERM
LENGTHS AND TERM LIMITS FOR MAYORAL AND COUNCIL
ELECTIVE TERMS BEGINNING JANUARY, 2025**

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, Article XIII, § 8 of the Rhode Island Constitution allows for the legislative body of any city or town to propose amendments to that city or town’s charter, which said proposed amendments shall be submitted for approval in the same manner as provided for the adoption of a charter; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 10-29 of the Charter of the City of Warwick provides that all amendments to the Charter be submitted to the voters of the City for approval thereof at a general or special election and said amendments shall not become effective unless a majority of the persons voting upon said question shall approve said amendment or amendments; and

WHEREAS, upon the approval of the General Assembly, the qualified electors of the City of Warwick shall have the opportunity to vote to ratify the proposed amendments at the 2022 general elections; and

WHEREAS, persons elected as Mayor of the City of Warwick may better serve the general public through a four-year term length which better enables long-range planning and execution of comprehensive long-range goals for the City; and

WHEREAS, term limits for the City Council and Mayor would foster a rotation of people serving in public office, allow for new perspectives during debates on issues; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Warwick City Council to propose amendments to the Warwick City Charter on term lengths and limits for the City Council and Mayor so Warwick voters

1 can decide whether to adopt these amendments.
2

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Warwick City Council requests the General
4 Assembly approve the following amendments to the Warwick City charter:
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6 For elective terms commencing January, 2025,
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8 The term of office for the Mayor of Warwick shall be four years in length instead of
9 the current two-year term, with a limit on service as Mayor of two consecutive terms,
10 exclusive of service prior to January, 2025 and any partial term of less than two years
11 previously served, and service on the Warwick City Council shall be limited to five
12 consecutive two-year terms, exclusive of service prior to January, 2025 and any
13 partial term of less than one year previously served.
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that questions appearing on the 2022 ballot shall read as
16 follows:
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- 18 1. For elective terms commencing January 2025, shall the term of office for Mayor be
19 increased from two to four years with service as Mayor limited to two consecutive
20 four year terms, exclusive of service prior to January 2025 and any partial term of
21 less than two years, and shall service on the City Council be limited to five
22 consecutive two year terms, exclusive of service prior to January 2025 and any partial
23 term of less than one year?
24

25 **APPROVE**

26 **DISAPPROVE**
27

28 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Senators and
29 Representatives from the City of Warwick.
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31 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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34 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN MCELROY

35
36 COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL