

THE CITY OF CRANSTON

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

“COMMEMORATING THE 181ST ANNIVERSARY OF DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC INDEPENDENCE ON FEBRUARY 27, 2025”

Resolution No. 2025-

Passed:

Jessica M. Marino, Council President

WHEREAS, It is the tradition and practice of this body to commemorate historical events that exemplify the diversity, spirit, and struggle of the people in Cranston and throughout the world who have achieved independence and live in peace and freedom; and

WHEREAS, The Dominican Republic, occupying the eastern half of the island of Hispaniola, has a rich history dating back to the arrival of Cristopher Columbus in 1492, who established La Navidad as the first European settlement in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, The seat of the original capital of the Spanish New World, the Dominican Republic proclaims a host of American firsts: the first European settlement, the first university, the first church, the first hospital, and the first royal court in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, The people of the Dominican Republic, led by Juan Pablo Duarte, Francisco del Rosario Sanchez, and Ramon Matias Mella, gained their independence from occupying Haitian forces on February 27, 1844, becoming a sovereign nation; and

WHEREAS, Each year, this occasion is celebrated and provides an opportunity for all people to reflect upon the rich history of the Dominican Republic and the many contributions that Dominicans have made to the United States and the world in the arts, sports, science, and education; and

WHEREAS, This February 27th, the people of the Dominican Republic and all free people will celebrate 181 years of Dominican Independence; and

WHEREAS, The Dominican Republic enjoys close diplomatic, trade, and strategic relationships with the United States of America; and

48 **WHEREAS**, Since the Vietnam War, thousands of Dominican Americans have proudly
49 served in the United States military, including those who have made the ultimate sacrifice
50 defending America's liberty, security, and freedoms; and
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52 **WHEREAS**, Rhode Island is home to approximately 54,000 Dominican Americans, with
53 the City of Cranston having the second-largest number of Dominican Americans after
54 Providence;
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56 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that** the Honorable Cranston City Council
57 hereby commemorates on February 27, 2025, the 181st Anniversary of Dominican
58 Republic Independence. This body proudly recognizes the significant contributions that
59 Dominicans have made to the City of Cranston, the State of Rhode Island, and the United
60 States of America.
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63 Sponsored by Councilman Andujar, Councilwoman Haroian, and Councilwoman Graziano