

**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 EXPAND THE COMPOSITION OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN 2025 FROM 5 TO 9 MEMBERS WITH ALL TERMS
EXPIRING IN 2027, AND FOR ELECTIVE TERMS BEGINNING IN 2027
TO BE ELECTED TO FOUR YEAR TERMS WITH ONE MEMBER
FROM EACH OF THE CITY'S NINE WARDS**

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, the City of Warwick may be better served by expanding the composition of the school committee by incorporating more voices and perspectives in the decision-making process, and by transitioning its membership to align representation to come from each of the nine wards; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Warwick City Council to propose amendments to the Warwick City Charter to expand the composition of the School Committee in 2025 from 5 to 9 members with all terms expiring in 2027, and for elective terms beginning in 2027 to be elected to

1 four-year terms with one member from each of the City's nine wards, so Warwick voters can decide
2 whether to adopt these amendments.

3
4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Warwick City Council requests the General
5 Assembly approve the following amendments to the Warwick City charter:

6
7 For elective terms commencing January, 2025,

8
9 The School Committee shall consist of three members serving at-large to be elected
10 for a two-year term at the 2024 general election, one district member from each of the
11 three school committee election districts to be elected for a two-year term at the 2024
12 general election, and one district member from each of the three school committee
13 election districts elected to a four-year term at the 2022 general election.

14
15 For elective terms commencing January, 2027,

16
17 The School Committee shall consist of nine members, who shall be elected at the
18 general election in 2026, and every four years thereafter, for a term of four years. One
19 member of the School Committee shall be elected from each of the nine wards, and
20 members shall be residents of the wards they represent. Service on the School
21 Committee shall be limited to three consecutive four-year terms, exclusive of service
22 prior to January, 2027 and any partial term of less than two years previously served.

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that questions appearing on the 2022 ballot shall read as
25 follows:

- 26
27 1. For elective terms commencing January 2025, shall the school committee be
28 expanded from 5 members to 9, by adding one additional member-at-large and one
29 additional district member from each of the three school committee election districts,
30 with all terms expiring in 2027; and for elective terms commencing January 2027,
31 School Committee members shall be elected one from each of the City's nine wards
32 to four-year terms?

33
34 **APPROVE**

DISAPPROVE

35
36
37 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Senators and
38 Representatives from the City of Warwick.

39
40 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

41
42
43 **SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN LADOUCEUR**

44
45 **COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL**